

Fayette County Clerk



Fayette County Government Center
401 Central Avenue
Connersville, IN 47331

Phone: 765-825-1813
Fax: 765-827-4902
Email: clerk@co.fayette.in.us

August 16, 2011

Co-Directors
Indiana Election Division
Indiana Government Center South
Room E204
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Directors:

Please accept the following vote center plan on behalf of the Fayette County Board of Election. It means a great deal to the Board and to myself to be involved in this innovative, progressive change for our county.

It is our intention to continuously modify this plan to fit current Indiana legislation and also to revise based on our experiences with vote centers and the needs of our voters.

Please let me know if you have questions or concerns regarding any of our documentation.

With Regards,

Melinda Sudhoff
Fayette County Clerk

FAYETTE COUNTY VOTE CENTER PLAN

August 10, 2011

VOTER STATISTICS AND PRECINCTS

According to the 2010 census, Fayette County has a total population of 24,277 and is divided into 28 precincts. Our only City, Connersville has 16 precincts and is a 3rd class city by statute. Currently the total number of registered voters in Fayette County is approximately 16,721; while the City has 9123, which is approximately 55% of the number of total registered voters. The upcoming election on November 8th is a City Election only. Generally, voter turnout is about 35% in Fayette County, but it is hoped that this plan will make voting more convenient and increase our percentages. No voter should feel disenfranchised because of this change. Voting by absentee, mail or travel board is still available. This will expand the voter's capabilities by not limiting them to a certain polling location on a certain day.

POLLING PLACES AND ACCESSIBILITY

Fayette County will have two (2) voting centers for the upcoming City election. In a Presidential election, four (4), possibly five (5) centers will be utilized. Absentee voting will begin as required by state statute, approximately four (4) weeks before the election, but will be located in conjunction with the vote center located at 401 Central Ave. The centers will be open for eight (8) days prior to the election from 9:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. If a person wishes to vote in person within that 8 day period, that person will be voting under the vote center rulings and not as an absentee voter. ID numbers will be assigned to each voter in conjunction with the absentee applications in order to retract a vote if needed. Absentee applications will also be accepted for mail out ballots until the deadline and for travel board until noon, the day before the Election. Should that person miss the deadline for these voting options they will still have the opportunity to vote in person at one of the vote centers on Election Day. The centers will also be open on Election Day from 6:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. as required by law. In the future the number of days and hours may be reduced, but at this time, every opportunity will be given to the voters to exercise their right to vote. Once accustomed to the idea of the vote centers, it is the hopes of the Election Board that the voter will utilize them in an efficient and timely manner.

VOTE CENTER FLOW CHART

The centers will be located at the Fayette County Government Center/Courthouse at 401 Central Ave., Connersville In 47331 and the Miller Building, 2900 Park Road which is located at the intersection of Park Rd. and 30th St. These facilities are fully ADA accessible and have ample, easily accessible parking. There will be at least six voting machines at each center. In order to avoid waiting, more machines will be programmed if the need arises.

Since this is such a new concept for Fayette County, there will be five (5) election workers at each center. The Inspector will also serve as a greeter and verify that the voter has his/her government issued photo ID and their vote center card that was mailed to them prior to the Election in order to proceed. The mailed undeliverable vote center cards which are returned to the Clerk's office will also help to eliminate inactive voters in the future. This will help give a more true count of the number of voters in Fayette County. If the voter doesn't have their card, paperwork will be utilized to replace it.

Hopefully, in the future the mailing of these cards can be eliminated and the voter will be accessed by scanning their ID which in turn will print a label for the voter to sign thus creating the poll list. In order to avoid lines, two (2) election workers (clerks) will be made available to utilize the electronic poll book and check the voter in. The clerk will scan or type the voter name to view poll book data. Once verified, the voter will sign the card or the label. The voter is instructed to proceed to the Judge's lane. The clerk will document any necessary information into the ePollbook as required by statute.

The judge will receive both the card and/or the ABS form (when applicable), and proceed to the Infinity voting machine. The vote center card will indicate which ballot the voter is to receive. The Judge will then activate the machine and select the appropriate ballot in order to verify it with the voter. The voter will then proceed with voting on the Infinity machine in the same manner as always. The Judge will keep the signed voter's card which will serve as hard copy documentation (the poll list) that the voter has voted in addition to the electronic information.

Once the voter and the worker become accustomed to the vote center concept, we will probably drop the number of hours open and the number of employees at each vote center to three (3) which will consist of one employee of each party and the Inspector, whose party is based on the candidate receiving the most votes in the county for the Secretary of State's position.

Signed: Nancy W. Lengle

Nancy Lengle, Election Board President

Signed: _____

Jackie Pyle, Election Board Vice President

Signed: Melinda Sudhoff

Melinda Sudhoff, Election Board Secretary

FAYETTE County Election Board

Order 2011- 001

WHEREAS, Indiana Code 3-11-18.1 grants permission for any Indiana county that so chooses to implement vote centers in their county and,

WHEREAS, the FAYETTE County Election Board so approves the FAYETTE county plan for the implementation vote centers in FAYETTE County,

BE IT THEREFORE ORDERED BY THE FAYETTE COUNTY ELECTION BOARD:

The Election Board of FAYETTE County adopts this Order to approve the County Vote Center Plan, which is incorporated in this Order by reference.

ADOPTED THIS 19th DAY OF July, 2011

FAYETTE COUNTY ELECTION BOARD

“AYES”

“NAYS”

Nancy D. Lingle, Pres.
NAME

NAME

Jackie Pyle
NAME

NAME

Melinda Suckoff
NAME

NAME

Resolution 2011-R-05

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE DESIGNATION OF FAYETTE COUNTY
AS A VOTE CENTER COUNTY**

WHEREAS, Indiana Code 3-11-18.1 allows counties to adopt the vote center model and,

WHEREAS, the County Board of Commissioners of Fayette County approve the designation of Fayette County as vote center county and,

WHEREAS, the county properly drafts a vote center plan for Fayette and the plan will be properly filed with the Indiana Election Division,

BE IT SO RESOLVED AND CERTIFIED BY THE FAYETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR FAYETTE COUNTY that Fayette County is approved to operate as a vote center county, starting with the November 8, 2011 ELECTION :

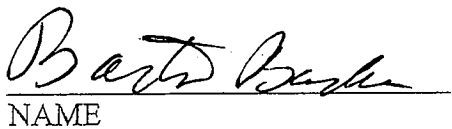
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF FAYETTE COUNTY

“AYES”

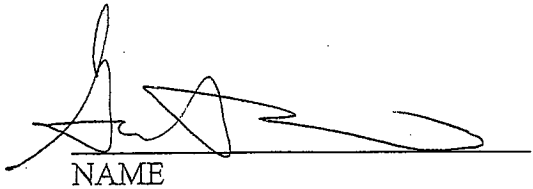
“NAYS”


NAME

NAME


NAME

NAME


NAME

NAME

Adopted this 16th of AUGUST, 2011

ATTEST:



County Auditor

Resolution 2011-R-06

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE DESIGNATION OF FAYETTE COUNTY
AS A VOTE CENTER COUNTY

WHEREAS, Indiana Code 3-11-18.1 allows counties to adopt the vote center model and,

WHEREAS, the County Board of Commissioners of FAYETTE County approves the designation of FAYETTE County as vote center county and,

WHEREAS, the county properly drafts a vote center plan for FAYETTE COUNTY, and the plan will be properly filed with the Indiana Election Division,

BE IT SO RESOLVED AND CERTIFIED BY THE FAYETTE COUNTY COUNCIL FOR FAYETTE COUNTY that Fayette County is approved to operate as a vote center county, starting with the NOVEMBER 8, 2011 ELECTION :

COUNTY COUNCIL OF FAYETTE COUNTY

"AYES"

"NAYS"

Ronald C. Cox
NAME

NAME

Jim Welf
NAME

NAME

Dale L. Stone
NAME

NAME

Mark L. Brockman
NAME

NAME

Shirley Wise

NAME

NAME

Russ Addey

NAME

NAME

Mark J. Tobbe

NAME

NAME

Adopted this 6th of September, 2011

ATTEST:
Debra Shaw Wise

County Auditor