

Citizens of Noble County,

Since the vote center concept became a reality in Indiana elections in 2007, Counties all over Indiana have been carefully observing its effect on voters, county budgets, and on the election process.

The following pages layout our plan to make vote centers a reality in Noble County. The vote center concept gives any voter in Noble County the opportunity to cast their ballot at any vote center location throughout the county. No one is restricted to one polling place on Election Day. In addition to making it easier for voters on Election Day, the vote center concept also calls for increased early voting opportunities at what are called "satellite vote centers" that are open prior to Election Day.

The most common question we hear in elections is "Where is my polling place?" or "Why can't I just vote at the polling place across from where I work or drop off the kids for school?" A common complaint we hear is "I can't make it back to the polls by 6:00 pm on Election Day." Vote centers address these common voter concerns.

Another important part of the vote center concept is the financial impact it will have on Noble County. Having to staff fewer locations and provide less equipment and support on Election Day will help the county to realize a cost savings on items such as poll worker costs and equipment cost.

By moving to vote centers, voter convenience is improved; election administration is streamlined and made simpler; and this improves the county's long-term fiscal stance when it comes to elections.

Vote Centers represent a major step forward and bring elections into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

I look forward to being part of this committee that is helping to make changes that improve our system in Noble County.

Respectfully,



Shelley Mawhorter

Noble County Clerk

INDIANA ELECTION DIVISION  
2013 DEC 19 AM 8:30

**NOBLE COUNTY ELECTION BOARD**

ORDER 2013- 1

**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 Noble County Election Board so approves the Noble County plan for the implementation vote centers in Noble County.

**BE IT THEREFORE ORDERED BY THE NOBLE COUNTY ELECTION BOARD:**

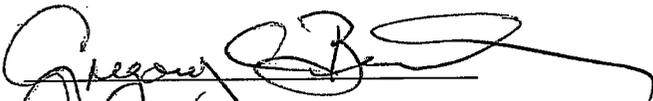
The Election Board of Noble County adopts this order to approve the County Vote Center Plan, which is incorporated in the Order by reference.

ADOPTED THIS 12 DAY OF NOV, 2013

**NOBLE COUNTY ELECTION BOARD**

"AYES"

"NAYS"


\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION 2013-05

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

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

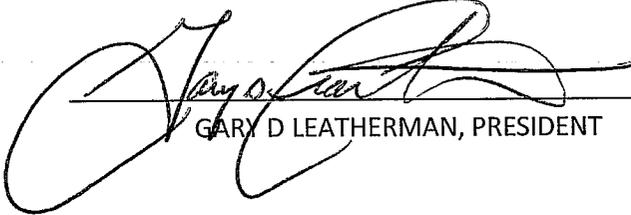
**WHEREAS**, the County Board of Commissioners of Noble County approve the designation of Noble County as a vote center county and,

**WHEREAS**, the county properly drafts a vote center plan for Noble County and the plan be properly filed with the Indiana Election Division.

**BE IT SO RESOLVED AND CERTIFIED BY THE NOBLE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR NOBLE COUNTY** that Noble County is approved to operate as a vote center county starting with the May 6, 2014 ELECTION:

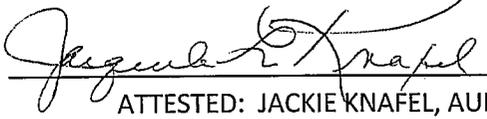
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF NOBLE COUNTY**

DATED: Nov 18, 2013

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
GARY D LEATHERMAN, PRESIDENT

DAVID DOLEZAL, VICE PRESIDENT  
  
\_\_\_\_\_

CHAD KLINE, MEMBER

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
ATTESTED: JACKIE KNAFEL, AUDITOR

RESOLUTION 2013-2

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

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

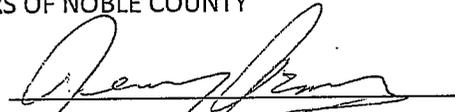
WHEREAS, the County Council Members of Noble County approve the designation of Noble County as a vote center county and,

WHEREAS, the county properly drafts a vote center plan for Noble County and the plan be properly filed with the Indiana Election Division.

BE IT SO RESOLVED AND CERTIFIED BY THE NOBLE COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR NOBLE COUNTY that Noble County is approved to operate as a vote center county starting with the May 6, 2014 ELECTION:

COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS OF NOBLE COUNTY

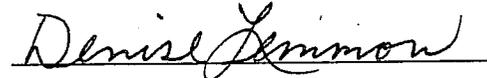
  
WAYNE CLOUSE, PRESIDENT

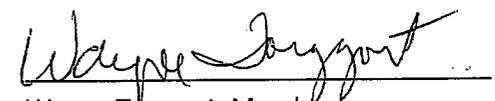
  
Jerry Jansen

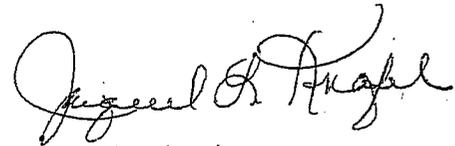
  
Joy LeCount, Member

  
Michael Toles, Member

  
Tom Janes, Member.

  
Denise Lemmon, Member

  
Wayne Targgart, Member

Attested:   
12/2/13

65 036.69  
 - 25 740.11  
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 39,296.69

Election Day					
Vote Centers					
Bridgeway (Kendallville)	8 machines	1 inspector	4 clerks/judges	1 greeter	\$625
Cross Point (Kendallville)	8 machines	1 inspector	4 clerks/judges	1 greeter	\$625
Cross Walk (Ligonier)	16 machines	1 inspector	4 clerks/judges	2 greeters	\$745
Calvary UM (Avilla)	8 machines	1 inspector	4 clerks/judges	1 greeter	\$625
Rome City Fire (Rome City)	8 machines	1 inspector	4 clerks/judges	1 greeter	\$625
Cromwell Community	6 machines	1 inspector	4 clerks/judges		\$505
Blessed Sacrament (Albion)	6 machines	1 inspector	4 clerks/judges		\$505
Merriam Christian Chapel (Noble)	6 machines	1 inspector	4 clerks/judges		\$505

Election Day \$4760.00

TOTAL Machines on Election Day 66 machines

Plan A

Machines used  $8 + 66 = 74$

Plan B

Machines used  $14 + 66 = 80$

Plan B-1

Machines Used  $8 + 66 = 74$

Plan C

Machines Used  $16 + 66 = 82$

NOT including mileage  
 in office  
 Total cost  
 12,870.00

Plan B	
Vote Center Locations	
Satellite voting	
Noble County Courthouse except for the Monday before Election Day will be 8am to Noon)	28 days 2 Saturday's before (8am to 4pm <i>4480.00</i>
Bridgeway Church Election Day Noon to 7pm)	6 days before/Election Day (days prior to <i>8 hrs x 10. = 80 x 2 = 160 x 6 = 960.</i>
Crosswalk Church Election Day Noon to 7pm)	6 days before/Election Day (days prior to <i>960.00</i>
Satellite traveling voting	
Cromwell Community Center Election Day)	Monday April 21, 2014 from Noon to 7pm (and <i>8 x 10 = 80 x 2 = 160 x 6 = 960.</i>
Merriam Christian Chapel Election Day)	Tuesday April 22, 2014 from Noon to 7pm (and
Avilla Calvary United Methodist (and Election Day)	Wednesday April 23, 2014 from Noon to 7pm
Avilla Calvary United Methodist (and Election Day)	Monday April 28, 2014 from Noon to 7pm
Merriam Christian Chapel Election Day	Tuesday April 29, 2014 from Noon to 7pm (and
Cromwell Community Center (and Election Day)	Wednesday April 30, 2014 from Noon to 7pm

**TUESDAY**

July 9, 2013

**Weather**

Cloudy today, with rain possible.

High 86. Low 72.

Rainy Wednesday.

Page A6

**LaGrange Fair**

4-Hers show  
champion animals

Page A2

**Our View**

New law aims to  
improve child services

Page B4

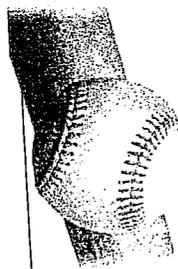
**Baseball**

Tigers, Phillies,  
Rays win games

Page B1



Noble & LaGrange Counties



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# THE NEWS SUN

## County moves toward vote centers

**BY BOB BRALEY**  
bobb@kpcnews.net

**ALBION** — The Noble County Election Board voted 3-0 Monday to declare the county a vote-center county.

The move would save the county money on election days and would eliminate voting at precinct sites. That would mean fewer poll workers would be needed, said Noble County Clerk Shelley Mawhorter.

County Auditor Jackie Knafel agreed. "We have trouble getting poll workers all the time. This will eliminate some of that," she said. Noble County has 27,594 registered voters, Election Board president Greg Bricker said.

Currently, the county has 29 precincts and 21 polling places, Mawhorter told a bipartisan vote center study committee that met just before the Election Board vote. All three Election Board members were part of the 10-person study committee.

Vote centers would reduce the number of polling places to six or seven, Mawhorter estimated. The county has budgeted \$45,000 for possible conversion to vote centers this year, including software and equipment for up to nine centers.

This is a good year to make the transition, since there are no scheduled elections, Mawhorter said. It makes it more possible to have everything in place for the

2014 primary election. In addition to the vote centers on Election Day, traveling satellite voting locations would be set up at sites around the county, Mawhorter said. Since early voting can be done by any registered voter with no special reasons, that would help those who might have a hard time reaching vote centers on Election Day.

Existing options for absentee voting would continue with vote centers, Mawhorter said. Precincts would continue to exist, but would be used in determining which ballot to pull up for each voter, Mawhorter said. Wi-Fi technology would be used to make sure people got the right

ballots, sign them in to vote and make sure each voter votes no more than once per election. Several steps need to be completed before vote centers would be approved in the county, Mawhorter said, adding, "A plan has to be sent to the secretary of state for approval."

Also, the resolution to be a vote center county must be approved by the Noble County commissioners and Noble County Council, Mawhorter said. To establish vote centers, the county must complete its approval process at least 60 days before the next primary election, or wait a year, Mawhorter said. The next primary election will be in May 2014.

### GOOD MORNING

**Lower man dies**

**Under fallen car**

**HOWE** — A man was pronounced dead Saturday after a car apparently fell on him while he was working on a LaGrange County police aid.

Gilberto Barajas, 21, of Howe was found under the car and unresponsive near LaGrange C.R. 100E just south of C.R. 700N. Police had been sent to the address for a reported accident.

Officers arrived to find Barajas trapped underneath a car. Police called the death accidental.

**Country band visits fair**

# U.S.

# OPIN

## Looking Back



100 years ago

• The Wawaka band played at the race track, fourth of July, and gave a creditable program, the balance of the musicians being good.

THE NEWS SUN  
25 years ago

• Ronda Rigsby, 16, of Swan, was named Avilla's Miss Teen at the Avilla Days festival. The other competitors were Susan Ley, 17, of Albion; first runner-up Monica Griffiths, 17, Avilla; Suzanne Coons, 18, Avilla; Joann Hippenhammer, 17, Avilla; and Sherry Gamble, 17, Kendallville.

THE EVENING STAR  
25 years ago

## Our View

# Vote centers: Positive impact is expected

We applaud the Noble County Election Board's 3-0 vote Monday to endorse vote centers.

Centralized voting locations have been shown to help voting run more smoothly, at less cost to taxpayers.

John Ketzenberger, an Auburn native, is president of the Indiana Fiscal Policy Institute, which in 2010 co-authored a report detailing the advantages of counties creating vote centers.

*When central voting locations are used, the expensive voting machines can be used more cost-effectively, and fewer poll workers are needed.*

When central voting locations are used, the expensive voting machines can be used more cost-effectively and fewer poll workers are needed. Often poll workers are hard to obtain.

The report listed the Hoosier counties with a high number of registered voters per precinct that would benefit most from vote centers. LaGrange, Noble and Steuben were on the list.

Indiana Secretary of State Connie Lawson said that the initial costs for computer software

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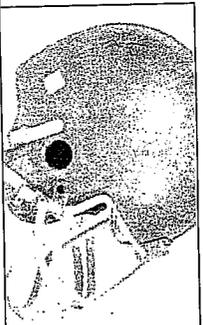
# ATURDAY

November 2, 2013

## Weather

Cloudy, chance of rain, high in the low 50s. Tonight's low in the 40s. Cooler Sunday.  
Page A6

**Changing Their Tune**  
Grant allows WVN students to enjoy guitars  
Page A2



### Football Scoreboard

East Noble	10	Dwenger	45	Woodlan	32
Leo	7	Angola	7	Prairie Heights	6
Bremen	35	Carroll	42		
Churubusco	28	Warsaw	7		

# THE NEWS SUN

Kendallville, Indiana

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## GOOD MORNING

**Age clocks when go to bed tonight**  
ASHINGTON (AP) —  
me to fall back.  
st Americans will be  
o get an extra hour of  
this weekend thanks  
annual shift back to  
rd time.  
e change officially

# Dem locked out of vote center meeting

BY BOB BRALEY  
bbraley@kpcmedia.com

ALBION — Thursday's meeting of the Noble County Board of Elections included only a discussion of establishing vote centers in the county, but a prominent Democrat disputes their implementation.  
Vote centers were discussed for about an hour in an election board meeting that began in the Noble County Courthouse Thursday at 4 p.m., the same time the courthouse closed.

Courthouse security officers kept the door open and unlocked until about 4:30 p.m., but closed and locked the courthouse at that time with the meeting still under way.

Third District Democratic Party Chairwoman Carmen Darland, who lives in Noble County, arrived at about 4:45 p.m. and was unable to join the meeting due to being locked out.  
During the meeting, Noble County Clerk Shelley Mawhorter proposed a different structure for

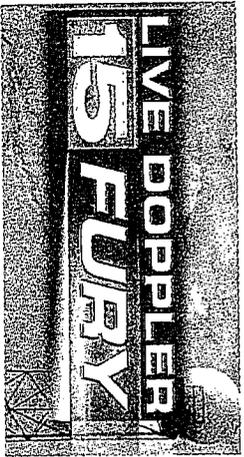
implementing vote centers than she had suggested previously.

In a vote center system, any county resident can vote in any center countywide, but fewer centers are open, with more voting machines in each, Mawhorter said. Not every precinct has a polling place in the system.

The law allowing vote centers says there must be at least one center for every 10,000 voters, Mawhorter said. With more than 27,000 voters in the county, that would mean Noble County would

need a minimum of three vote centers.

But it makes more sense to establish a total of eight vote centers, Mawhorter said. In her current plan, there would be two centers in Kendallville and one each in Albion, Avilla, Cromwell, Rome City, Lagoner and Merriam. Mawhorter proposed Thursday that a vote center in each community would be open on the Thursday, Friday and Saturday before Election Day to facilitate  
SEE MEETING, PAGE A6

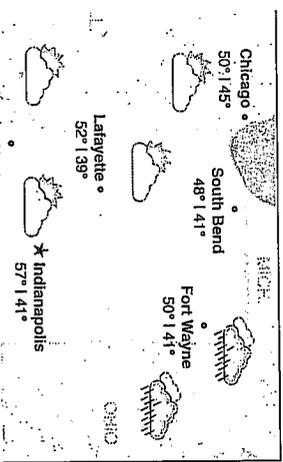


Today skies will be cloudy with a chance of showers. Highs will be in the low 50s. Low tonight of 32 degrees. Partly sunny and cooler Sunday with a daytime high of 49 and in overnight low of 33 expected. Monday will be partly cloudy. High temperature of 51, low of 42 degrees.

**Friday's Statistics**  
 Deal HI 49 LO 42 PRC: 0 South Bend HI 48 LO 42 PRC: 0  
 Fort Wayne HI 51 LO 42 PRC: 0 Indianapolis HI 57 LO 40 PRC: 0

**Today's Forecast**

Forecast for Saturday, Nov. 2



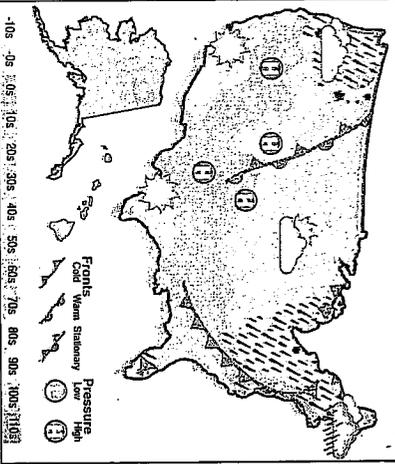
SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
52	49	51	58	58	49	46	46

Sunrise Sunday 7:15 a.m.

Sunset Sunday 5:34 p.m.

**National forecast**

Forecast highs for Saturday, Nov. 2



Today's drawing by:

**MEETING: Next year's turnout unlikely to match '08**

FROM PAGE B1  
 early voting.

Noble County Democratic Party Chairman Robert Holbrook suggested that the centers be open for two Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays before the election. Mawhorter said that was a possibility. Darland emailed board members some statistics about Noble County voting, including the highest election turnout in the county at 17,447 voters in 2008.

Mawhorter said in the meeting that Darland's statistics are correct, but that the 2008 Obama-McCain presidential election resulted in unusually high numbers not likely to be repeated in 2014's "off-year" election. The number of voters probably would be thousands fewer in 2014 without a presidential election to drive turnout, Mawhorter said. That made

2014 a better year to try to start a vote center format. Mawhorter said the election board will need to meet and vote on whether to go forward with a plan. It could alter or override her plan, she said.

Darland said in a news release after the meeting that the board must approve the plan unanimously for it to proceed.

"Public discussion on vote centers has been limited until this point," Darland said. "Everyday voters have not been adequately heard on this issue."

"Under the proposed plan, Swan Township, which had been voting at the LaOtto Wesleyan Church, and Green Township, which had been voting at the Green Community Building, will no longer have voting locations in their townships. Folks will need to drive to Avilla or Albion to vote on

Election Day, which will present a significant issue for voters living in Swan or Green Township and commuting to Fort Wayne," Darland said.

"Of all of the townships impacted by the dramatic changes that vote centers will bring, Swan and Green township voters should be familiar with the issues," Darland said. "Limited parking and long lines have been hallmarks in these two precincts for a few cycles. Now, long lines and limited parking could become the norm for voters across Noble County."

Darland also announced a public forum on vote centers to be held at the LaOtto-Swan Township Fire Station Sunday at 2 p.m., at which people will be encouraged to share stories about voting on Election Day in Noble County and their views on vote centers.

# MONDAY

November 4, 2013

## Weather

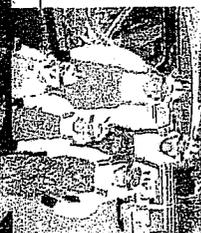
Mostly sunny skies with a high of 53 and an overnight low of 42.

Page A6

## Winners

Albion costume contest held

Page A3



## New Look

Ligonier auto dealer makeover completed

Page A2



## NASCAR

Jimmie Johnson wins Texas race

Page B1

# THE NEWS

Kendallville, Indiana

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## GOOD MORNING

to charged with hitting meth in

jekeka home

BOB BRALEY

bbraley@kpcmedia.com

OPPEKA — Two area

were charged with alleged felony offenses after methamphetamine in a Topeka home park, the range County Sheriff's department said.



Christopher Douglas Hollowell, 33, of Topeka and Justin M. Handwerker

# Benefits of vote centers promoted

BY BOB BRALEY  
bbraley@kpcmedia.com

LAOTTO — Approximately 20 people gathered Sunday afternoon at the LaOto Fire Station for a discussion about a proposal to start using vote centers in Noble County.

Event organizer Carmen Darland, the Third District chairwoman and Noble County vice chairwoman of the Democratic Party, said the goal of the session was to hear more voices from voters.

In the current system, 19 polling places serve the county's 29 precincts, Darland said. The proposal made by Noble County Clerk Shelley Mawhorter is to

shift to eight vote centers for the 2014 election.

Darland was concerned that Swan and Green townships wouldn't have vote centers, since they have experienced long lines and parking problems in the past.

John Bender, who has served as a precinct worker in Swan Township, said the largest volume of people seems to come in late in the voting day, starting between 2-3 p.m. "It's a mad rush at the end to get in and get your vote in," he said.

Bender noted that another aspect of the vote center plan is to open centers for early voting as well as on Election Day. "That's the best thing you can do," he

said.

Homer Smith said he's spoken to handicapped voters who've said they won't change voting locations. "People just won't vote," he said.

Noble County Councilman Jerry Jansen said the move to vote centers will save money long-term, and that the biggest problem in recent years has been getting enough precinct people to work the polls. Vote centers need fewer workers, he said.

Mawhorter estimated the savings in poll workers at \$17,000 per year, she said there would be about \$25,000 in start-up costs. Each center will have a tablet connected to Wi-Fi that will sign

voters in, guaranteeing a person can vote only once, Jansen said. With early voting, people could vote before or after work, or even on a Saturday.

Another advantage to vote centers is that any voter registered in Noble County could vote at any vote center in the county, Mawhorter said.

"I think this has been pretty well thought out," Jansen said. "Noble County has 82 voting machines," Mawhorter said. About 15-20 of those machines would be used for early voting. By law, those machines couldn't be used in the general election for that cycle. All others would, she

SEE CENTERS, PAGE A6



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	<b>WARSAW</b> 574-269-6555	<b>HUNTINGTON</b> 260-356-2220	<b>WABASH</b> 260-563-6333

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## CENTERS: Voters to be notified twice by mail of all changes

FROM PAGE A1  
said.

Mawhorter said she plans to send at least two postcards to each registered voter in Noble County. One would be sent before the beginning of absentee voting, and the other about a week before the vote centers would open, she said.

Absentee voting would begin at the Noble County Courthouse 28 days before the election and include two Saturdays, Mawhorter said. Early voting at vote centers would take place on at least one Thursday, Friday and Saturday before the election.

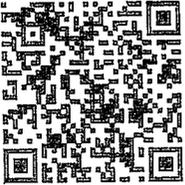
Mawhorter said hours

probably would be noon to 7 p.m. for early voting. She's open to having it run for two weeks ahead of time, she said.

Both Noble County Republican Chairman Randy Kirkpatrick and Noble County Democratic Chairman Robert Holbrook said the political parties help get voters who wish to vote but need transportation to the polls on Election Day, and that won't change.

The question is whether people will take advantage of early voting to avoid long lines, Darland said, adding, "We don't know if they're going to vote early or not."

Bill Knott  
Neil Smith  
of the De  
County  
Horseme  
Associat  
more car  
draft hor



Video: Horse sense

Like his Percherons, LaOtto's Bill Knott stays bi

NEIGHBORS  
DEKALB COUNTY

"They're just very fascinating," he said. "It's amazing how docile

LAOTTO — For a man who hasn't stayed far from his roots, Bill Knott sure seems to get around. There's Knott, 71, of rural Dekalb County, in a parade. There he is at the Apple Festival

BY MATT GETTS  
mgetts@kpcmedia.com

adapational charge of visiting a common nuisance, a Class A misdemeanor. Both were held at the LaGrange County Jail without bond Sunday. The arrests were the result of a joint investigation between the LaGrange County Sheriff's Department, Topeka Police Department and LaGrange County Prosecutor's office over several weeks, a press release

City of  
*Kendallville*

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Phone (260) 347-0352

Fax (260) 347-7058

E-mail: [mayor@kendallville-in.org](mailto:mayor@kendallville-in.org)

[www.kendallville-in.org](http://www.kendallville-in.org)

October 29, 2013

Noble County Clerk  
Ms. Shelley Mawhorter  
101 N. Orange Street  
Albion, IN 46701

Dear Ms. Mawhorter:

The City of Kendallville supports the concept of voting centers. We have noticed a decline over the past twenty years in voter turnout for elections. This could be attributed to several things including many local industries in Kendallville work 12 hour shifts; some shifts are from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. In addition, several workers live on one side of the County and work on the other side. With the polls being open those same hours it makes it impossible for some workers to make it to the polls.

Unfortunately, we are in the age of convenience. If it's not convenient, it is an afterthought. Many families are overwhelmed with work schedules, children events and school activities. Taking time to drive over to the court house may not be desirable or affordable. Also, some citizens may remember (at the last minute) it is Election Day, on that day!

My understanding is voting centers will allow registered voters to vote at precincts that may not be there home district. They may also have the voting centers set up prior to the election to make it convenient for the voter. I have worked the polls in years past and remember having to turn voters away because they were at the wrong precinct, which probably lost a vote!

I am recommending that Noble County go to voting centers. Anything we can do to engage the citizens to vote is positive for the County and our Country.

Sincerely,



W. SuzAnne Handshoe  
Mayor

**"Kendallville... Proud of Our Past, Growing for Tomorrow"**

October 30, 2013

To: Noble County Election Board

In Re: Vote Centers

From: Candy Myers

I am the most recent former Clerk of Noble County. During my terms as Noble County Clerk, Vote Centers came into being. The Vote Center plan became pilots in 3 counties in 2007, which was Tippecanoe, Cass and Wayne. These counties have continued to use the "vote center" system with each election since 2007.

Since the Vote Center pilot counties were very successful between 2007-2010, the State decided to open the option to become a "vote center" to all counties in Indiana. Since that "open option time", many counties have become "vote center" counties.

I have visited several "vote center" counties, asked questions and observed their procedures. Noble County is a good candidate for this plan. Based on this information, I feel Noble County would be successful with a minimum of 7 voting locations.

**Why vote centers?:**

**All machines will be programed at each vote center location with all ballots for the entire county.** This will make it very convenient, no matter where you live or work for voting purposes. (during a period of time prior to Election Day, there will be "satellite" locations set up, much like the absentee voting at the Court House. This will enable voters to vote if they are not going to be available on Election Day, again, just like the absentee voting at the Court House location.)

**All voting machines that the county owns will be in use on Election Day.**

**Accessibility and efficiency: for people traveling across the county on Election Day, whether it be for work or pleasure will be a plus, since they will be able to vote at ANY voting location and on ANY machine.**

**Cost effect: Less poll workers** will be needed because of less locations to man. Which means the County will not have to pay out as much for the cost of elections.

**Changes:**

Change is always hard for people. But in this instance, **the only change will be the way a voter signs in** with the poll clerk on Election Day (or at a satellite location or absentee voting).

The voting machines will stay the same. That is a plus for the voter. What will change is the process by which the voter will sign in on the poll book. The poll book will now be an "electronic" poll book. The voter will hand some form of acceptable photo ID to the poll clerk and it will be scanned into the e-poll book. The voter will sign the e-poll book, the information will then be processed internally and be

recorded on each e-poll book across the county to insure the voter cannot vote at another location on Election Day. Each e-pol book will have a battery backup.

That is why pilot counties were created to work out the "bugs". The counties that I visited said they would never go back to precincts because the cost savings was too great and the efficiency and effectiveness was increased.

**Will voters not vote because a location may be farther from their home?**

This should not affect the voter. **The voter can vote anywhere in the County**, on their way to work, on their way to a Dr. appointment or grocery shopping. Maybe they will not be available to vote on Election Day at any "new" voting location....options have increased, not decreased. The voter can still vote by mail, vote absentee at the court house or at the new addition of "satellite locations" that will be available.

**Cost for change:**

This savings and effectiveness does not come without an initial cost for the new e-poll books. This is one of those situations that **money would have to be spent up front to save money in the future**. The e-poll books and soft-ware does come at a cost, but what it can accomplish will out way the cost in the future.

**Will the change cause people to not want to vote:**

Getting changes out in the media far in advance of the election will help answer this question. Voters could also be notified by mail of the change. **All efforts will be used to inform voters of the "vote center" locations.**

People never like change, but there is still the option of voting absentee by mail if the voter so chooses.

Voters centers were not created to lessen the amount of voters. It was created to increase voter turn out, efficiency for voters and cut costs for the County.

It is my opinion that "vote centers" is the way to go for Noble County.

Respectfully,

Candy Myers *CM*

October 30, 2013

Noble County Election Board  
Albion, IN 46701

Dear Election Board Members,

I wanted to take the opportunity to give you my opinion on Noble County going to Vote Centers. After some preliminary research and with information provided to the public through the media and at meetings I have attended, I do feel this change would be positive for all involved. Certainly as a "voting citizen" and as an "elected official" of the county (County Treasurer), I understand the need to insure the integrity and efficiency of each election. With consideration given to the costs of each election, the desire to improve voter turnout, and the need to reduce the risk of voter fraud, this I feel, is certainly a step in the right direction. Things I particularly like about the Vote Center concept:

- Voting will be easier with the flexibility of locations for early voting and voting on Election Day.
- Increase voter participation by allowing voters to take advantage of voting at a location where they spend their day rather than being limited to where they live in the county.
- Better management of voter flow by improving the planning for heavy turnout centers and peak hours, giving election officials the flexibility to have more voting machines available at these sites and hours.
- Poll book scanning of voter cards or photo ID's to improve the sign-in process, reduce human error and immediately provide information to all vote centers of a voter signing in to vote thereby reducing the risk of someone attempting to vote multiple times. Voter fraud is an increasing concern.
- Reducing the costs of elections, by better managing the number of workers required, improving the complexity of machine programming and the number of voting machines required.

Although Vote Centers are a relatively new concept across the state and the country, there are benefits being achieved. It is a given that there is always resistance to change and the fear of the unknown but with a comprehensive "education process" being part of the equation, it only makes sense to benefit from making the voting process easier, more accessible and flexible for the voting public. Current research of Vote Centers does not indicate there is any partisan disadvantage. Improving the voting process for everyone only makes sense.

Sincerely,

  
Michele J. Bricker  
County Treasurer



*Shelley Mawhorter*  
Noble County Clerk of the Courts  
101 N. ORANGE STREET  
ALBION, INDIANA 46701

(260) 636-2736 Office  
(260) 636-4000 Fax

E-mail: [smawhorter@nobleco.us](mailto:smawhorter@nobleco.us)

November 13, 2013

The Honorable Connie Lawson  
Secretary of State  
201 Statehouse  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Secretary Lawson,

The Noble County Board of Election is happy to become a Vote Center County. We look forward to this progressive move in Noble County.

Enclosed please find Noble County's Vote Center Plan for 2014.

Sincerely,

*Shelley Mawhorter*  
Shelley Mawhorter  
Noble County Clerk



*Shelley Mawhorter*  
Noble County Clerk of the Courts  
101 N. ORANGE STREET  
ALBION, INDIANA 46701

(260) 636-2736 Office  
(260) 636-4000 Fax

E-mail: [smawhorter@nobleco.us](mailto:smawhorter@nobleco.us)

November 13, 2013

The Honorable Connie Lawson  
Secretary of State  
201 Statehouse  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Secretary Lawson,

The Noble County Election Board met on November 12, 2013 at 4:00 pm in a public meeting. At the meeting the board approved the filing of an application to be considered as a Vote Center in Noble County, Indiana. The vote was a unanimous decision.

Thank you for the opportunity to be part of this process.

Respectfully submitted,

*Michelle Mawhorter*  
Michelle Mawhorter

## Overview of the Process

Noble County has had "mini" vote centers for some time. At one point Noble County had 29 locations for voting; Candy Myers the previous Clerk started the process of combining those locations. At this time we are at 19 locations. Also, during absentee voting Noble County already uses a vote center type system. We use one administrative unit to produce and track all ballot styles for all our precincts.

Instead of 19 polling places in a typical election, Noble County will have 7 poll sites. This will reduce the expenses for supplies, forms, and mobile offices we prepare for each election. Many times we staff a poll site that habitually has a very low turn-out.

This plan will take a bi-partisan effort to execute properly. We have seen evidence of this working by the way both the Republican and Democratic Chairmen have supported the consolidation of our polling places in the past, and by the cooperation they exhibit as we discuss the pros and cons of the Vote Centers for the future. Noble County is very fortunate to have a wonderful working relationship with both party chairmen. We are all focused on providing the best possible opportunity for our Noble County voters.

Although it will take a considerable amount of coordination and work, I feel that Noble County has a good head start because of the mini-combined voting location we already use. Our workers handle multi-precinct ballot-styles now.

In order to help with the change from traditional one-day election, to satellite Absentee Voting and Election Day Vote Centers, the County Election Board will be meeting on a regular basis to discuss progress and decisions. Members of the public will be welcome to attend.

### Voting Equipment

At present we have Micro-vote machines and we will continue to use those as our voting machine. We believe that we will be able to hold all our ballot styles in each machine. Noble County presently has 22 in the primary and 14 in the general (for 2010) different ballot styles. With school boards now during the General these numbers will change.

We have chosen Election Administrators EA Tablet Live System as our e-poll book vendor. We feel that one (1) administrative unit can service up to 10 vote stations effectively.

At present we have some individual precinct locations in various townships and a few that have more than one (1) in one location. The difference will be that with Vote Centers all locations will vote any precinct. We are at this time considering seven (7) Vote Centers. We are looking to use 6 of these for satellite voting the 28 days prior to Election Day.

### Poll Workers

As we consider the changes in how many poll workers we will need to accommodate the voters in the Vote Center, Noble County will be using the same voting system that we have used for a number of elections. But, we will need to have at least one (1) high tech person as a poll worker in every location. This will be done besides the usual Inspector, a team of Judges who check-in the voter, and poll clerks who will be used to help with provisional voters or anyone needing a name/address change.

This will be another area for the County Election Board to consider as we begin to estimate how many people might frequent a particular poll location. Extra people will be trained so that we have people ready to be deployed if needed.

#### Poll Worker Training

With less poll sites, we will greatly alleviate a serious problem that Noble County has with not nearly enough computer literate poll workers. Much of our training will be the same, as we have used this voting system for some time. We will have training on the e-poll books and how those will work and be used for every voter.

#### Voter Education Outreach

For the Vote Center concept to be successful we believe that much effort will need to be made to make sure voters over the whole county are aware of the new voting times and locations. This could be done by not only the use of radio and newspaper, but also by contacting local organizations, community bulletin boards,, missions, family services, and churches, etc. asking their help in announcing these changes. Candidates will be given information cards to be passed out as they campaign, listing the dates, times and locations of Vote Centers. Some paid advertising and at least one (1) mailer would also need to be done.

We would send post cards to all eligible voters two (2) weeks prior to the election, their card will tell them that they are a registered voter in this County and where the Vote Centers are located and that they can vote at any one of these locations. These would be on a very bright colored post card with bold letters announcing this information.

#### Efficiency

As stated we have the vote system (machines) to make Vote Centers work. As for poll workers, in some cases we find we have poll sites trying to keep up with the lines, while another poll site with the same number of required workers had a minimal amount show up. The expense is the same – building, janitorial, meals, and pay – yet they had nothing to do for much of the day.

I understand that this may take a few elections to be able to estimate which Vote Centers will require more or less workers. We will need to train extra workers in order to have will-call workers to recruit as the need arises. By having extra workers trained and available, we can adjust for a Vote Center that is

more popular than expected and needing extra workers. I feel that these needs will become more evident after a couple of years. We will be better able to gauge the expected turn-out of each vote center.

Another advantage of Vote Centers is that fewer poll workers would be needed. We will take advantage of the fact that some present day poll workers have more energy and computer experience than others. Now we must use some workers whether they are qualified or not. By having fewer poll sites for more days, we can utilize those better qualified workers for more days. We could also take advantage of the state law permitting poll workers to work split shifts. It is hard to get poll workers to work the long hours required on Election Day. With the Vote Centers, workers could work 4 shorter days in two shifts if they so desired. This would utilize part of the workers who had days free, and perhaps some that could only work after their regular working hours. Of course, we could still use the person who felt up to the longer workday required during election time.

#### Benefit to Political Parties and Voters

Another advantage with the new electronic poll book is that my office can provide both parties with a download of those voters who have voted. This could eliminate poll book holders/watchers at each polling place. This will benefit both poll workers who find this annoying during their busy day and the political parties who are trying to conduct a more efficient and less intrusive get-out-the-vote effort.

Perhaps the biggest benefit of the Vote Centers is that the voter has many convenient times and locations in which to go vote. Today's young voting population just doesn't seem willing to go out of their way to exercise their important right to vote in a free America. For many workers, Vote Centers near their workplace could provide people who otherwise do not make the effort to get back to their "home" poll place, a very convenient way to vote. By giving busy people more days to vote and locations where they are likely to be, Vote Centers seem to be an ideal situation.

#### Current Precincts and Voters in Noble County

Noble County currently has 29 precincts; when Noble County goes to Vote Centers no drastic changes will need to be made in order to accommodate this project. We do have 2 precincts that have school splits. We have previously been dealing with this so Vote Centers should have no effect on the way we handle these splits.

#### Vote Center Locations and Set-up

The final locations of Vote Centers will be decided in the near future. As of this time we have not made a formal decision although contact has been made with the previous and/or new places.

#### Location requirements

To be considered as a vote center in Ligonier (Crosswalk) and Kendallville (Bridgeway), the location must be available April 24, 25, 26 and May 1, 2, and 3<sup>rd</sup>, plus Election Day. Traveling satellite centers will be used on April 21, 22, 23, 28, 29 and 30<sup>th</sup>. Voting will take place noon to 7pm on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and 8am to 3pm on Saturday prior to Election Day and on Election Day 6 am to 6 pm. See attached schedule.

Also important, the sites must be compliant with the American Disabilities Act (ADA) standards for voting, and have adequate parking. The location must have high speed Internet available. Due to security issues, Noble County will not plan to use schools.

### Setting up the Voting Machines

Micro Vote couldn't be better suited for Vote Centers. Each machine can be programmed to display all ballot styles. Election equipment is loaded the night before election and delivered to each site. One big change using the Vote Center concept will be that instead of 19 locations, only 8 will be needed. Set-up technicians then assemble the voting stations and connect the e-poll book. The machines are then turned on again to make sure that all connections are made and the voting system comes up and is ready for use. The electric cords are taped and made secure to the public. The cards are taken back to the Clerk's office, secured in a two key locked facility until distribution to the proper inspector according to poll location each morning before the satellite polls open.

The computers necessary to connect the electronic poll book to Election Central will also be set by the IT department at this time. Cable connections and connectivity to the office will be tested to make sure it is ready to go.

On Election Day poll workers open the Voting Center, run zero tapes, and verify that the seal and serial number are correct. They check to make sure the machines will run on battery back-up, and then plug the unit into the wall. Despite detailed cheat sheets, it is difficult to get some workers to read and follow the plan. With Vote Center, we will have fewer inspectors to rely on. We will then be able to employ our best workers for this important duty.

When Election Day is over, the poll workers close the polls; workers unplug the machines and a bi-partisan team returns the official tally to Election Central. Final totals are distributed to the inspector and opposite party judge at this time. The machine tapes are stapled to the appropriate Pre-forms in the area marked. This has eliminated incorrect totals being delivered to party headquarters before the election board has released the actual totals.

### Setting up voting machines with Vote Centers

For Noble County changes will need to be only minimal. The changes that are made are definitely to our advantage. The Election Board will use stats from previous elections as they try to judge how many stations for each Vote Center. Although it would be nice to be able to gauge this beforehand, it is

anticipated that some adjustments may need to be made as we learn how the voting population flows. Some elections are smaller elections, with fewer ballot choices. A complicated referendum will also need to be considered.

#### Assignment of Electronic Poll Books to Vote Centers

The number of check-in stations must also be considered as we finalize our plans regarding Vote Centers. We will begin with 2 EPB at each voting location. This is easy to change at any time. Direct telephone line communication could temporarily be used to alleviate line problems until another unit is deployed to any Vote Center requiring more equipment. We are prepared to adjust these numbers as we settle into what to expect at each center.

#### Certification of Accessibility Requirements

The Noble County Election Board will only recommend or use Vote Centers that meet the ADA accessibility requirements set forth by the State under IC 3-11-8. Indiana's ADA checklist for polling places will be used as the guiding standard. Only buildings that meet these criteria will be considered as a Vote Center.

#### Satellite Absentee Voting (Early Voting)

Although Noble County has never used Satellite Voting as permitted under current law, the idea of the convenience given to the voter with Vote Centers also plays well with giving them a longer time period to vote. A resolution under IC 3-11-1-26.3 has been established by unanimous vote of the County Election Board.

The usual 28 days prior to Election Day to absentee vote in the Clerk's office will still be in effect. Recommendations are still being considered by the Election Board.

Noble County plans to have at least 6 stationary locations including the long established government building used for absentee voting and perhaps a couple mobile voting units. Voters who come to the Courthouse to absentee vote during the regular hours will vote e-poll books also. We will print labels after the voter verifies and stick them on the absentee ballot and then have the voter sign.

#### The process in brief

The absentee voting process will be quite similar to our current approved in-office absentee procedure. After physical set-up of equipment is complete, the JBC is connected to an AC power outlet. This action causes the internal software to run a power-up self-test. Next the poll workers, according to directions on the JBC screen, input the polling location into the JBC and electronically assign booth numbers to the e-poll books. At this point, a Zero Tape Report is printed from the JBC, confirming that no votes have been cast on the equipment. The Zero Tape Report is placed in an envelope and secured according to the instructions provided by the Election Office.

After the Zero Tape Report is printed, the poll worker, again following the on-screen instructions, selects Open Polls by pressing the appropriate arrow button on the perimeter of the JBC screen. After the polls are open, each e-poll/micro-vote machine is available to receive voters, indicated by the green color of the JBC's status light for that unit. To protect against operator error only after the Zero Tape Report is produced, does the JBC display the option to open the polls.

To begin the voting process, a voter presents the necessary identification to the poll worker for validation of eligibility to vote. The poll worker looks up the voter's name in the electronic poll book, which associates a precinct number with the voter. The poll worker selects "add voter" by pressing the appropriate arrow button on the perimeter of the JBC screen. In polling places with more than one ballot style, as with Vote Centers, the appropriate precinct number may be put into JBC directly by the poll worker or may be selected from a list displayed on the JBC menu screens.

After the voter verifies all information on the screen and signs their name a slip of paper prints and is handed to the voter the voter then hands it to a poll worker and the poll worker programs the micro vote machine with the correct precinct and leaves the voter to vote. Micro-vote machines allow you to go back and check or go back and change your vote that will not change with Vote Centers. If you need help you can turn to ask the poll worker.

In the 2012 General Election, 11% of all eligible voters voted by absentee ballot. Because of busy lives, long lines at the polls and political parties encouraging voters to vote absentee in recent years, we expect to see this increase continue. Hopefully, with the opportunity to vote at your convenience we will see not only an increase in absentee/early voting, but also an increase in the percentage of eligible voters exercising their important right to vote. Considering this, we anticipate that the move to Satellite Centers will increase the number of people voting absentee/early. Our hope is that convenience to the voter, decreased voting lines and vote percentage will all be improved by the move to Vote Centers.

Noble County will address Satellite absentee Voting; State law requires that the absentee ballot of a voter who dies prior to Election Day cannot be counted. The law also permits the voter to override their absentee ballot by appearing at the polls on Election Day. This means that the system used must permit election officials to exclude ballots if a voter dies or votes in person on Election Day.

For Noble County this will not be an issue. With Micro-vote (which are the voting machines we have used for many years) we are already able to do this. We use a specific PIN number to each voter (which is normally their Driver's License Number; this number is attached to the ABS-1 form during check in. Although it is impossible for any person to make this connection, the voting machine can track down and exclude a ballot until such time that the vote totals are tabulated. At that time, the operator is given the option to track and exclude a particular vote if it is proved to be an ineligible vote. Procedure changes will not be necessary for satellite voting. The options will remain the same as absentee in-office voting now.

Staffing of Vote Centers

Noble County has already dealt with combined precincts for many elections. As new laws have evolved, we have learned to readjust our workers with worker needs, always keeping one Supervisor/Inspector in charge. Inspectors are always appointed by the political party whose candidate for Secretary of State received the most votes during the most recent election for that office. IN order to maintain the bi-partisan control of our elections, each party will be responsible for appointing one-half of the remaining poll workers at each Vote Center. The number of judges and clerks will be adjusted by the projection of voter turnout in that particular Vote Center. As an example, Kendallville may require many more workers than a smaller area of population.

The skill of the average poll worker will certainly play a much more important part in recruiting poll workers than ever before. While it is technically the responsibility of the precinct committeeperson to find election workers for each election, usually one person of each party's Central Committee handles most recruitment of poll workers. Noble County is extremely fortunate to be able to work closely with both parties; they are very receptive to our suggestions about capability and personality history of our workers. As usual, the goal will be to recruit poll workers from both parties with the necessary skills committed to maintaining fair and honest elections.

All applicable Indiana law will apply to the nomination of poll workers; if the appropriate parties have not nominated workers, the Election Board will make the nominations as authorized by IC 3-6-6-13.

The Noble County Election board feels that the move to Vote Centers will require very few skills different from our recent past Election Day procedures. While the computer check-in process is very simple, poll workers must have at least some basic computer skills. However, the addition of greeters will allow those long-time poll workers who want to continue working in the election to do so as those positions will not require any computer skills.

#### Training Materials and Training

In Noble County it is required that poll workers attend training. If they cannot attend, they are removed from the roster and not allowed to work this election. We have continued to develop a solid poll worker-training program as the years have passed. Again, because so many of our precincts locations are combined, most poll workers will not find any difference in dealing with multi-precincts and multi-ballots under the Voter Center plan.

Poll workers are given election manuals and handouts during training classes and one is provided for each polling place. We try to provide step-by-step instructions and "cheat-sheets" for use by our poll workers. We have to incorporate power point, role-play, and other methods of keeping the attention of our poll workers. Workers also experience actually using the e-poll book equipment.

Our classes will be divided by position and experience. The training for an Inspector who has been doing a good job for several years will spend less times on filling out the paper work, and more time on perhaps trouble shooting some basic problems they may encounter, or handling a handicap voter.

As an added training help, we would encourage our poll workers to work one day in the traditional Absentee Courthouse Voting Site. Since this facility will be open for 28 days prior to the election and Vote Centers will be for only 6 days, this will provide ample opportunity for Supervisor/Inspectors to get hands on experience with the Vote Center changes during the Satellite Absentee Voting.

#### ESTIMATED Staffing Requirements

The next pages of this section detail the specific number of poll workers by type that will be required in each election. We have assumed that all permanent Vote Centers will require one size election team and the Satellite will require another. Will-Call team workers will help with last minute adjustment of needs. As time goes by, these figures will become more apparent. IN addition the vote center workers, on Election Day, the Clerk, the Election Deputy, the Election Board, 2 election technicians, a representative from the opposite party, and all Deputy Clerks are also on board. Estimated personnel pay are provided in the attachments following this section.

#### Number of Election Workers and Job Titles required administering the Vote Centers

Vote Center	Location	Inspector	Judge	Clerk	Total # days
Permanent 1	Courthouse		2		28
Permanent 1	Kendallville	1	2	2	7
Permanent 2	Albion	1	2	2	1
Permanent 3	Rome City	1	2	2	1
Permanent 4	Cromwell	1	2	2	3
Permanent 5	Ligonier	1	2	2	7
Permanent 6	Avilla	1	2	2	3
Permanent 7	Kendallville	1	2	2	1
Permanent 8	Merriam	1	2	2	3

On Election Day all Vote Centers that have 8 machines or more will also have a greeter.

#### Voter Outreach and Education

The Noble County Election Board and Board of Commissioners realize that voter outreach and education must be a top priority. It will be important for voters to be well informed as early as possible of the Voter Location Changes. Noble County will have to go to great lengths to get the word out.

It is imperative that the Election Board be ready to act quickly and strongly in the area of outreach to inform all of Noble County about Vote Centers.

## Public Forums and Speaking Opportunities

Due to the new voting equipment being used for the first time (e-poll books/EPB in Noble County we have many opportunities to visit local organizations and communities to demonstrate our new equipment. The newspaper continues to inquire about the process. We know that there are some voters that will not get the message by radio or newspaper.

We have to speak at every organization that will have us; postcards X 2 will be sent to every registered voter; flyers will be prepared as handouts and delivered to several entities. Candidates will be asked to use these as they make their door to door campaigns. This flyer would explain the process of satellite absentee voting and the locations and schedule. Getting the cooperation of factories and businesses will also help spread the word to the general population.

In the past when it was necessary to move a poll site we have posted signs at the entrances. These signs will be placed as far in advance of the election as possible.

Satellite absentee voting and Vote Center locations will be posted on Noble County's Web page as well as the area Chamber of Commerce's page.

As a final effort, the postcard mailed to every registered voter would be sent about one week before Satellite voting begins and again a week prior to the election.

We will post surveys at all Vote Centers so voters at the polls can be given the opportunity to critique our Voter Center Efforts.

We hope to purchase signs to put at the road and use on days the traveling Satellite Vote Centers are in certain places.

## Security and Disaster Planning

The major focus of our security planning is to make certain that the election is fair and free. To that end, we focus our planning on the security of the election materials, the security of poll workers and the security of voters. Security of our election workers is one of the high priorities; training time is devoted to making sure that poll workers understand how to deal with certain situations.

### Security of election materials

We devote a great deal of effort to maintaining secure and bipartisan control over election materials. Security of the election materials begins with the preparation of the election database. The database is prepared on an isolated computer located behind a double-locked door.

Each day/night after absentee/early voting takes place the machine are locked down and compared to the poll book. The next day the machines are brought back up by a Democrat and Republican and the numbers are compared to the previous nights and the systems are back in use.

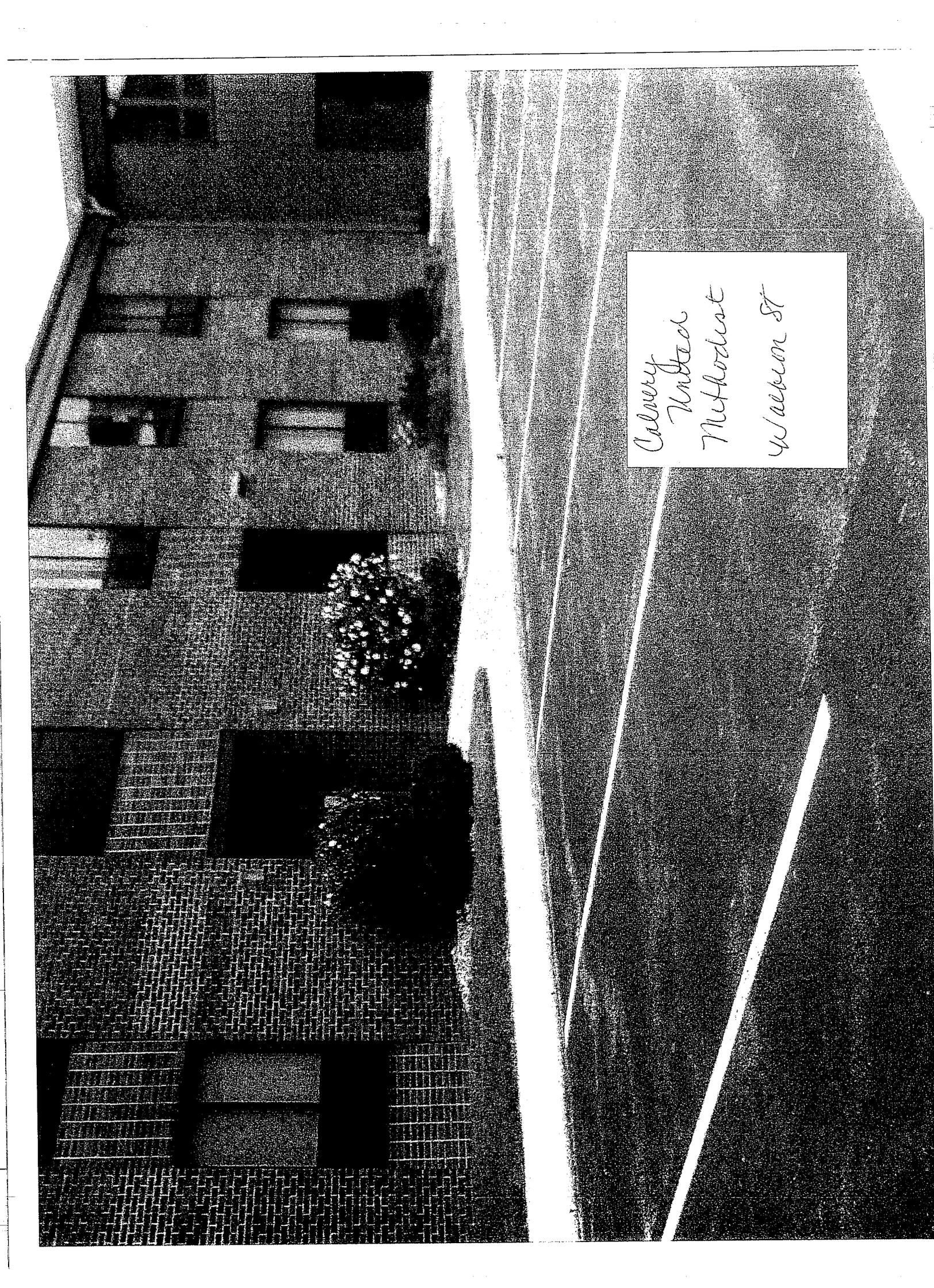
#### Security of Election Materials and Machines on Election Day

We strive to maintain the integrity of the election process on Election Day. The first line of defense against any type of election fraud is well-trained and honest poll workers from two different political parties. While it is remotely possible that members of the two parties could secretly join together to commit election fraud, we consider the risk to be very small.

The safeguards built into the process – sealed machines, verification of zero tapes, reconciliation of the number of votes at a polling place with the number of voters who signed in – make it unlikely that vote fraud will be committed by members of the Election Board. The fact that voters must show photo ID and sign in make I unlikely voters will commit much election fraud – as a general rule, it's not a good idea to show a photo ID if you are planning to commit a crime. While we cannot rule out the potential of fraud, it is remote.

Budgway  
Kranzke





Calvary  
United  
Methodist  
Wabicon St



210 High-Locate  
Crossing

599-0895

Street

Kendallville  
Cross Point

GREAT!  
LEONIER  
Cross Walk

466 Jonnberck  
Leonier  
894-3765

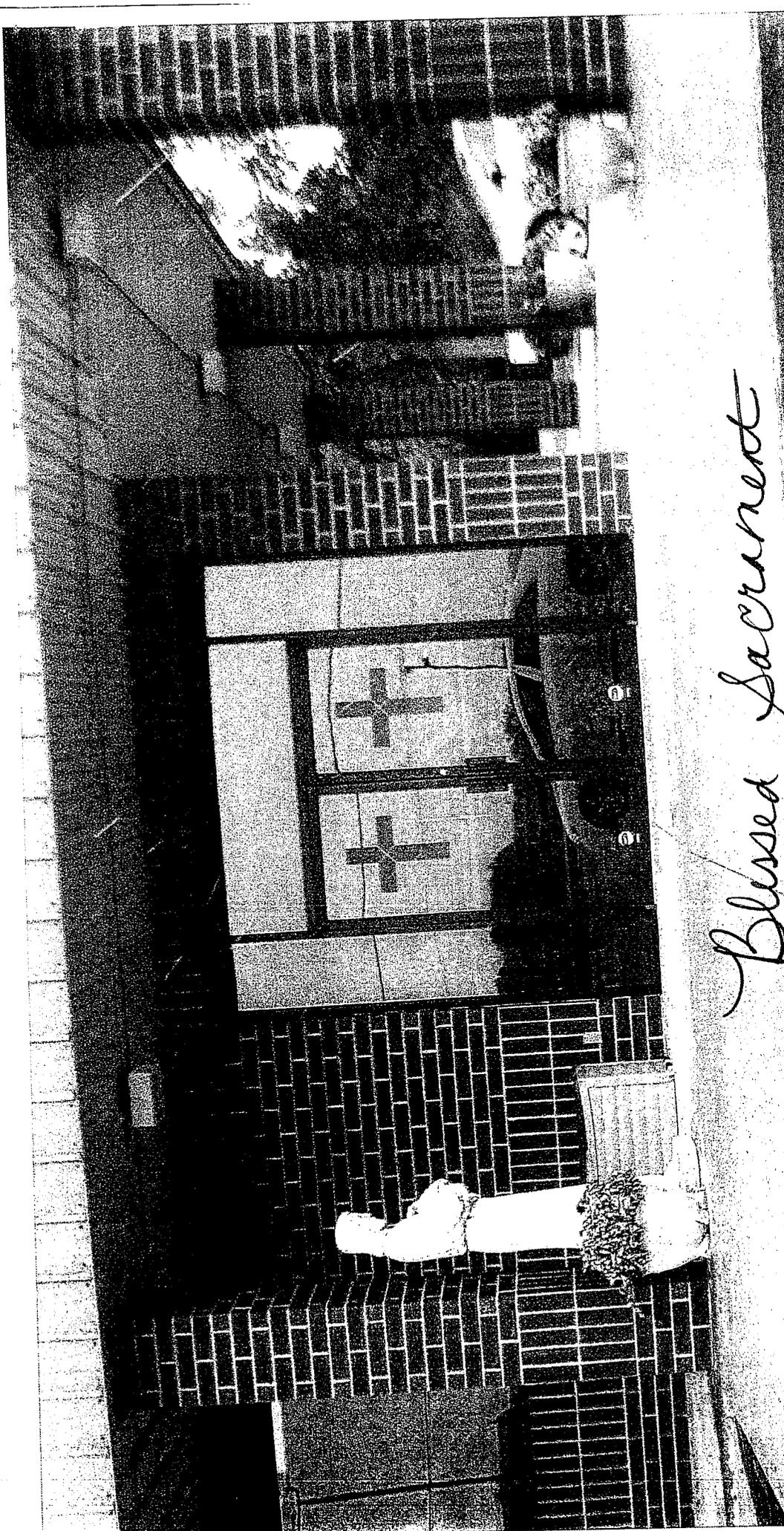
Commwell  
Community

353 N Baker  
St

856-4501

Commwell

HIGH SCHOOL



*Blessed Sacrament*

2240 N Sky  
Auburn  
636-3163



245 Martin St  
R/c George  
260 585  
0403  
854-3875

Rome City File

Merriam Christian Chapel

Merriam  
Christian  
Chapel

3985 A 26533  
ACBION

636-7266

MERRIAM  
CO.

LAOTTO  
JOY BEHAVIOR  
EST. 1971

LAOTTO FIRE

Laotto Fire  
11595 Judiana  
305  
Laotto  
897-2286





election administrators

### EA Tablet Live System™ Agreement

Shelley Mawhorter, Clerk of the Circuit Court  
Noble County, IN  
Mailing Address: 101 N Orange St., Albion, IN 46701  
Shipping Address: , , IN 0  
October 31, 2013 - Pricing valid for 30 days

**EA Tablet Live System™ Agreement:**

The EA Tablet Live System™ includes one (1) EA Pollbook Manager™ software seat that allows for communication between the EA Tablet(s) and the EA Pollbook Manager™

**EA Tablet Live™ Packages: \$1095 each**

Package includes a 10 inch tablet, micro SD card, stylus, carrying case, setup of unit, installation of EA Tablet Live™ software, custom stand designed by EA, EA Tablet Live™ licensing, testing and shipping. First year subscription is included in price. All hardware carries a manufacturer's warranty.

Quantity of EA Tablet Live Packages:	10	Quantity of EA Tablet Live Packages:	8
Voter Ticket Printers (\$350):	10	Voter Ticket/Label Printers (\$500):	8
Total Initial Investment:	\$14,450	Total Initial Investment:	\$12,760

**EA Tablet Live™ Annual Subscriptions (Subsequent Years Only):**

Annual subscriptions include the EA Tablet™ software licensing, version updates, database updates for every election, and toll free phone support. Subscription term is five years. The first year is included in the cost of the EA Tablet Live™ Package. The annual subscription cost starts after the first year of service.

Quantity of EA Tablet Live Subscriptions:	18	
Annual Recurring Subscription Cost:	\$149	Per Unit
Total Annual Subscription Cost (Subsequent Years Only):	\$2,682	

**EA Data Converter™:**

The EA Data Converter™ allows the County to convert voter data files "in-house" to create the EA Tablet database file within minutes. **Total Investment: \$0, INCLUDED**

Term of subscription, subject to acceptance of **End User Software License Agreement**, will be a five (5) year agreement. The subscription term begins on the effective date below. The term of this Agreement shall be automatically renewed for another 5 years unless Election Administrators, LLC or Client gives written notice of non-renewal at least thirty (30) days before the end of the initial or renewal term.

Effective Date of Subscription (first Election to utilize software) \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment:** Taxes not included if County is not tax exempt. County will be invoiced after signing the EA Tablet Live System Agreement™ and on the anniversary date of the signing of this agreement. Payment is due within thirty (30) days of invoice. Invoice will list the number of EA Tablet Live™ packages and any other charges, if applicable. First invoice will include all EA Tablet Live™ Packages, which include your first year annual subscriptions.

**I accept the terms of the EA Tablet Live System™ Agreement and End User Software License Agreement:**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

## NOBLE COUNTY ELECTION STATICS

Year	Type	Registered Voters	Absentee	Machine	Provisional	Voted Total	Voter Turn Out %	Costs	State Wide Voter %
1992	General	NA	1009	13010		14019			
1994	Primary	18272	261	6619		6880	37.65%		
1994	General	17341	701	10051		10752	62%		
1995	City Primary	5276	68	1414		1482	28.09%		
1995	City General	7757	199	3199		7757	43.81%		
1996	Primary	20057	268	5594		5862	29.23%		
1996	General	21375	938	12904		13842	64.76%		
1998	Primary	23739	257	5581		5838	24.59%		
1998	General	24288	886	9960		10846	44.66%		
1999	City Primary	7387	68	1246		1314	17.79%		
1999	City General	NA							
2000	Primary	NA							
2000	General		1017	13424		14514			
2002	Primary	27007	274	6842		7116	26.35%		
2002	General	27402	618	9951		10569	38.57%		
2003	City Primary	11208	34	1093		1127	10.06%		
2003	City General	13870	184	2981		3165	22.82%		
2004	Primary	23665	244	5423		5667	29.95%		
2004	General	23903	1305	14629		23903	66.66%		
*2006	Primary	NA	259	4714		4973	16.65%		
2006	General	28852	887	11066		11959	41.45%		
2007	City Primary	8632	77	1575		1652	19.14%		
2007	City General	9726	207	2945		3152	32.41%		
2008	Primary	26730	594	9446		10042	37.57%	\$35,163.17	
2008	General	27668	2817	14633		17450	63.07%	\$37,721.47	
2010	Primary	28431	520	7207		7727	27.18%	\$34,085.16	
2010	General	28423	1300	10236		11536	40.59%	\$31,721.12	
2011	City Primary	4629	50	730		780	16.85%	\$11,470.05	
2011	City General	11420	144	1614		1758	15.39%	\$16,417.68	
2012	Primary	28949	619	6105		6724	23.23%	\$31,418.81	22%
2012	General	29570	3154	13476	1	16631	56.24%	\$34,817.88	

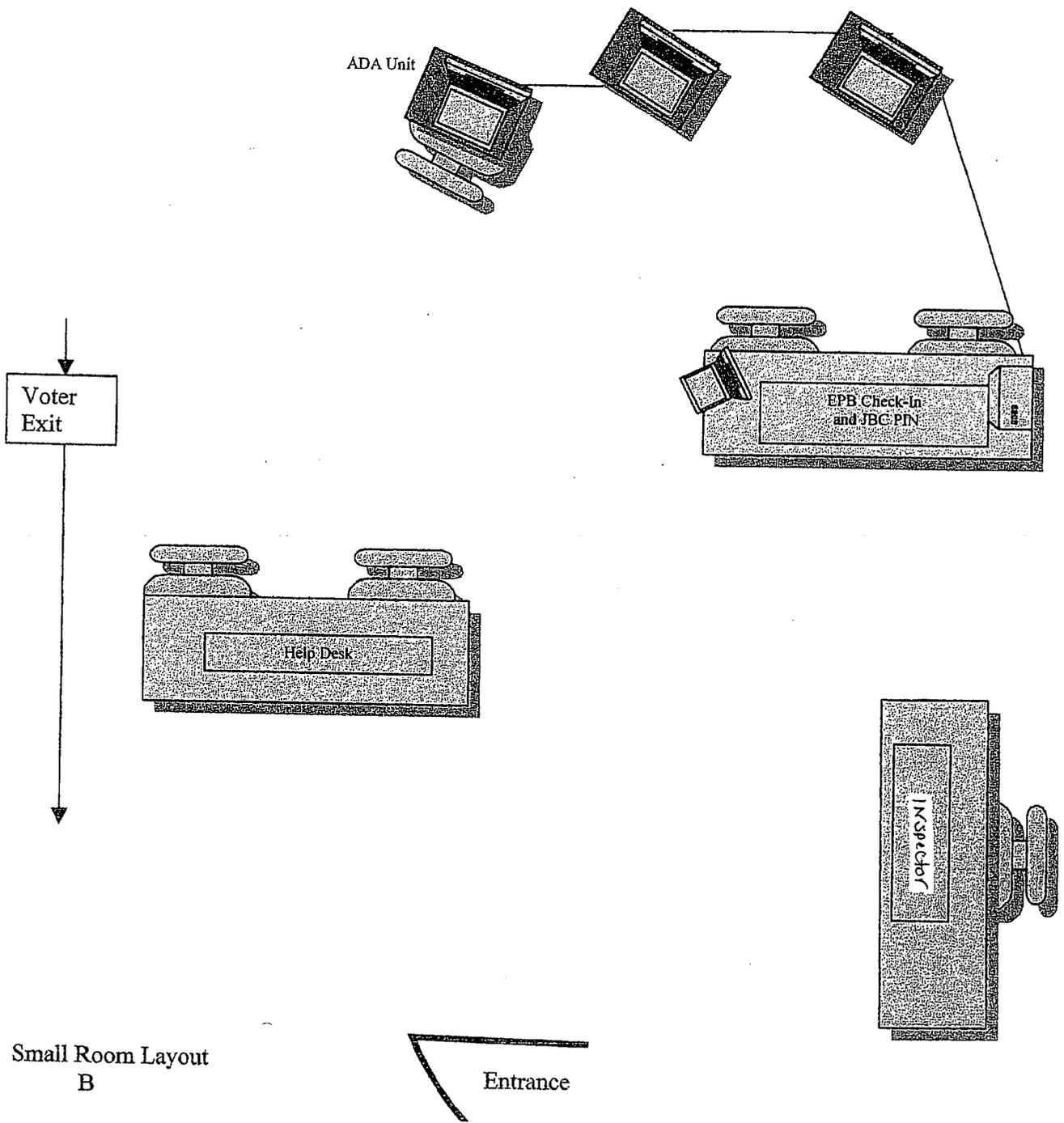
MicroVote software & DRE machines

1986 - 2004 using Model 464 machines with Paper ballot inside push button machine

\*2006 - current using Infinidty machines - all electronic screens

2005 SVRS (State Voter Registration System)

ACTUAL VOTERS PER PRECINCT 2012				
	PRECINCTS #	MACH BALLOTS	PROVISIONAL	ABSENTEE
WASHINGTON	1	414	0	66
SPARTA	2	773	0	126
PERRY	3	423	0	54
LIGONIER	4	181	0	18
LIGONIER	5	164	0	15
LIGONIER	6	425	0	57
ELKHART	7	453	0	70
YORK	8	509	0	151
NOBLE	9	571	0	132
GREEN	10	675	0	257
JEFFERSON	11	555	0	213
ROME CITY	12	426	0	73
ROME CITY	13	588	0	167
WOLCOTTVILLE	14	210	0	20
WAYNE	15	402	0	81
WAYNE	16	756	0	308
KENDALLVILLE WAYNE	17	267	0	81
KENDALLVILLE WAYNE	18	606	0	162
KENDALLVILLE WAYNE	19	331	1	47
KENDALLVILLE WAYNE	20	229	0	15
KENDALLVILLE WAYNE	21	455	0	53
KENDALLVILLE WAYNE	22	67	0	14
KENDALLVILLE ALLEN	23	463	0	62
ALLEN	24	525	0	118
AVILLA	25	605	0	84
AVILLA	26	515	0	100
SWAN	27	853	0	253
ALBION	28	557	0	238
NOBLE	29	478	0	119
TOTAL		13476	1	3154



Small Room Layout  
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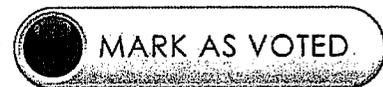
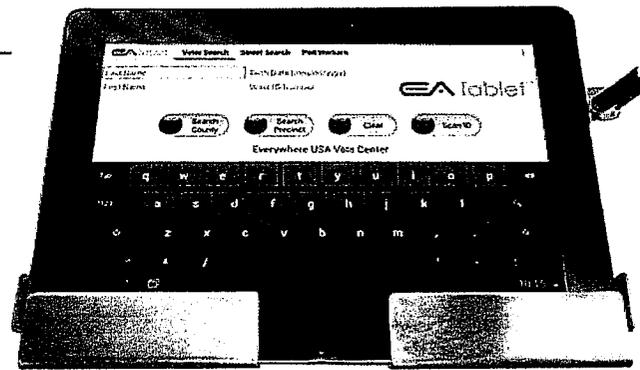
Election

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Products

Election Administrators, LLC(EA) has been the leader in mobile election technologies since 2004. Above you will find links to various software applications developed and serviced by EA. Our electronic poll book line includes the EA Tablet™, the Android tablet based electronic poll book and the EA Pollbook™, the Windows laptop/netbook based electronic poll book. You can rest easy knowing that we take pride in servicing our customers as much as we do in software development. Our electronic poll books and look up devices are being used in over 170 counties in 14 states.

Millions  
of voters



across the  
United States

Election Administrators, LLC 7531 Ravensridge Saint Louis, MO 63119 • Direct (U.S. only): 314-226-1643 • Toll Free (U.S. only): 1.800.670.4090  
FAX: 314.596.9986 • Email: info@eavote.com • ©2010 Election Administrators, LLC. All rights reserved

First Regular Session 117th General Assembly (2011)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2010 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

## SENATE ENROLLED ACT No. 32

AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning elections.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

SECTION 1. IC 3-5-2-49.8 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 31, 2010 (RETROACTIVE)]: **Sec. 49.8. "Vote center" means a polling place where a voter who resides in the county in which the vote center is located may vote without regard to the precinct in which the voter resides.**

SECTION 2. IC 3-11-8-10.3 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 31, 2010 (RETROACTIVE)]: **Sec. 10.3. (a) As used in this section, "electronic poll list" refers to a poll list that is maintained in a computer data base.**

**(b) An electronic poll list must satisfy all of the following:**

- (1) An electronic poll list must be programmed so that the coordinated action of two (2) election officers who are not members of the same political party is necessary to access the electronic poll list.**
- (2) An electronic poll list may not be connected to a voting system.**
- (3) An electronic poll list may not permit access to voter information other than information provided on the certified list of voters prepared under IC 3-7-29-1.**

SECTION 3. IC 3-11-18.1 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE

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AS A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 31, 2010 (RETROACTIVE)]:

**Chapter 18.1. Vote Centers**

**Sec. 1. (a)** This chapter applies to a county designated as a vote center county under this chapter.

**(b)** On January 1, 2011, a county designated as a vote center pilot county under:

- (1) IC 3-11-18 (before its expiration);
- (2) P.L.164-2006, SECTION 148 (before its expiration); or
- (3) P.L.108-2008, SECTION 4 (before its expiration);

is automatically redesignated as a vote center county under this chapter.

**Sec. 2.** As used in this chapter, "active voter" means a voter who is not an inactive voter under IC 3-7-38.2.

**Sec. 3. (a)** A county must comply with this section to become a vote center county.

**(b)** As used in this section, "board" refers to any of the following:

- (1) The county election board.
- (2) The board of elections and registration established under IC 3-6-5.2 or IC 3-6-5.4.

**(c)** The board shall hold a public hearing to present a draft plan for administration of vote centers in the county.

**(d)** After presentation of the draft plan under subsection (c), the board shall accept written public comments on the draft plan.

**(e)** At least thirty (30) days after the hearing held under subsection (c), the board shall hold a public hearing to consider the following:

- (1) The draft plan.
- (2) The written public comments.
- (3) Any other public comment that the board may permit on the draft plan.

**(f)** After consideration of the draft plan and the public comments, the board may do the following:

- (1) Adopt an order approving the draft plan.
- (2) Amend the draft plan and adopt an order approving the amended draft plan.

The board may adopt the order to approve a plan only by unanimous vote of the entire membership of the board.

**(g)** All members of the board must sign the order adopting the plan.

**(h)** The order and the adopted plan must be filed with the

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election division and must include a copy of:

- (1) a resolution adopted by the county executive; and
- (2) a resolution adopted by the county fiscal body;

approving the designation of the county as a vote center county.

Sec. 4. The plan required by section 3 of this chapter must include at least the following:

- (1) The total number of vote centers to be established.
- (2) The location of each vote center.
- (3) The effective date of the order.
- (4) The following information according to the computerized list (as defined in IC 3-7-26.3-2) as of the date of the order:
  - (A) The total number of voters within the county.
  - (B) The number of active voters within the county.
  - (C) The number of inactive voters within the county.
- (5) For each vote center designated under subdivision (2), a list of the precincts whose polls will be located at the vote center consistent with section 12 of this chapter.
- (6) For each vote center designated under subdivision (2), the number of precinct election boards that will be appointed to administer an election at the vote center.
- (7) For each precinct election board designated under subdivision (6), the number and name of each precinct the precinct election board will administer consistent with section 12 of this chapter.
- (8) For each vote center designated under subdivision (2), the number and title of the precinct election officers who will be appointed to serve at the vote center.
- (9) For each vote center designated under subdivision (2):
  - (A) the number and type of ballot variations that will be provided at the vote center; and
  - (B) whether these ballots will be:
    - (i) delivered to the vote center before the opening of the polls; or
    - (ii) printed on demand for a voter's use.
- (10) A detailed description of any hardware, firmware, or software used:
  - (A) to create an electronic poll list for each precinct whose polls are to be located at a vote center; or
  - (B) to establish a secure electronic connection between the county election board and the precinct election officials administering a vote center.
- (11) A description of the equipment and procedures to be used

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to ensure that information concerning a voter entered into any electronic poll list used by precinct election officers at a vote center is immediately accessible to:

- (A) the county election board; and
- (B) the electronic poll lists used by precinct election officers at all other vote centers in the county.

(12) For each precinct designated under subdivision (5), the number of electronic poll lists to be provided for the precinct.

(13) The security and contingency plans to be implemented by the county to do all of the following:

- (A) Prevent a disruption of the vote center process.
- (B) Ensure that the election is properly conducted if a disruption occurs.
- (C) Prevent access to an electronic poll list without the coordinated action of two (2) precinct election officers who are not members of the same political party.

(14) A certification that the vote center complies with the accessibility requirements applicable to polling places under IC 3-11-8.

(15) A sketch depicting the planned layout of the vote center, indicating the location of:

- (A) equipment; and
- (B) precinct election officers; within the vote center.

(16) The total number of vote centers to be established at satellite offices that are established under IC 3-11-10-26.3 to allow voters to cast absentee ballots in accordance with IC 3-11. However, a plan must provide for at least one (1) vote center to be established as a satellite office under IC 3-11-10-26.3 on the two (2) Saturdays immediately preceding an election day.

(17) The method and timing of providing voter data to persons who are entitled to receive the data under this title. Data shall be provided to all persons entitled to the data without unreasonable delay.

Sec. 5. A plan must provide a vote center for use by voters residing within the county for use in a primary election, general election, special election, municipal primary, or municipal election conducted on or after the effective date of the county election board's order.

Sec. 6. When the total number of active voters in the county equals at least twenty-five thousand (25,000), the following apply:

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(1) The plan must provide for at least one (1) vote center for each ten thousand (10,000) active voters.

(2) In addition to the vote centers designated in subdivision (1), the plan must provide for a vote center for any fraction of ten thousand (10,000) voters.

Sec. 7. Before adopting an order designating a county as a vote center county under this chapter, the county election board must determine the following:

(1) That the secure electronic connection as described under section 4(10)(B) of this chapter is sufficient to prevent:

(A) any voter from voting more than once; and

(B) unauthorized access by any person to:

(i) the electronic poll lists for a precinct whose polls are to be located at the vote center; or

(ii) the computerized list of voters of the county.

(2) That the planned design and location of the equipment and precinct officers will provide the most efficient access for:

(A) voters to enter the polls, cast their ballots, and leave the vote center; and

(B) precinct election officials, watchers, challengers, and pollbook holders to exercise their rights and perform their duties within the vote center.

Sec. 8. (a) The designation of a county as a vote center county takes effect immediately upon the filing of the order with the election division, unless otherwise specified by the county election board.

(b) The designation of a county as a vote center county remains in effect until the county election board, by unanimous vote of its entire membership:

(1) rescinds the order designating the county as a vote center county; and

(2) files a copy of the document rescinding the order with the election division.

Sec. 9. The county executive shall publish notice of the location of each vote center in accordance with IC 3-11-8-3.2.

Sec. 10. Except as otherwise provided by this chapter, the county shall administer an election conducted at a vote center in accordance with federal law, this title, and the plan adopted with the county election board's order under section 4 of this chapter.

Sec. 11. Notwithstanding any other law, a voter who resides in a vote center county is entitled to cast an absentee ballot at a vote center located at a satellite office of the county election board

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established under IC 3-11-10-26.3 in the same manner and subject to the same restrictions applicable to a voter wishing to cast an absentee ballot before an absentee board located in the office of the circuit court clerk or board of elections and registration.

Sec. 12. Notwithstanding any other law, the electronic poll list used at each vote center:

- (1) must comply with IC 3-11-8-10.3;
- (2) may include an electronic image of the signature of a voter taken from the voter's registration application, if available; and
- (3) may be in a format approved by the secretary of state.

Sec. 13. Notwithstanding any other law, including IC 3-11-8-2 and IC 3-14-2-11, a voter who resides in a vote center county is entitled to cast a ballot at any vote center established in the county without regard to the precinct in which the voter resides.

Sec. 14. The precinct election board administering an election at a vote center shall keep the ballots cast in each precinct separate from the ballots cast in any other precinct whose election is administered at the vote center, so that the votes cast for each candidate and on each public question in each of the precincts administered by the board may be determined and included on the statement required by IC 3-12-4-9.

Sec. 15. (a) A county may amend a plan adopted with a county election board's order under section 4 of this chapter.

(b) For a county to amend its plan:

- (1) the county election board (or board of elections and registration established under IC 3-6-5.2 or IC 3-6-5.4), by unanimous vote of the entire membership of the board, must approve the plan amendment;
- (2) all members of the board must sign the amendment; and
- (3) the amendment must be filed with the election division.

(c) A plan amendment takes effect immediately upon filing with the election division, unless otherwise specified by the county election board.

SECTION 4. An emergency is declared for this act.

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## ELECTION TERMINOLOGY

### How do I know the difference between Vote Centers and Satellite Absentee Vote Offices?

#### VOTE CENTERS

***What are "Vote Centers"?***

Vote Centers replace traditional Election Day polling places. Once a county adopts the Vote Centers model, any voter can visit a Vote Center located anywhere in their county and receive the correct ballot for their precinct on Election Day.

***Who decides to open a Vote Center?***

The County Election Board must decide unanimously to apply to become a Vote Center county. Indiana law requires that the application must specify the exact location of each Vote Center within the county. Currently, Indiana law only permits 3 vote centers counties: Cass, Tippecanoe, and Wayne.

***When are Vote Centers open?***

Vote Centers are only open on Election Day.

***How do Hoosiers use Vote Centers?***

A Hoosier will go to a Vote Center in his or her county to cast a regular official ballot on Election Day.

***How do Vote Centers work?***

Each Vote Center is electronically linked to the county election board. This precaution prevents double voting. There are no traditional precinct poll lists for voters to sign. Instead, each voter signs a pre-printed card retained by Vote Center poll workers.

Vote Centers are staffed by Election Day poll workers nominated by county party chairs and appointed by county election boards. Vote Center poll workers may have different titles and jobs than poll workers in traditional polling places.

#### SATELLITE ABSENTEE VOTE OFFICES

***What are "Satellite Absentee Vote Offices"?***

Satellite Absentee Vote Offices are temporary offices of the county clerk designated for absentee voting. These offices can be open from 29 days before Election Day until noon on the day before Election Day.

***Who decides to open a Satellite Absentee Vote Office?***

The County Election Board will decide if a Satellite Absentee Vote Office is appropriate for the county. Indiana law requires that the County Election Board must make a unanimous decision to open any Satellite Absentee Vote Offices.

***When are Satellite Absentee Vote Offices open?***

Satellite Absentee Vote Offices can be open 29 days before Election Day. These temporary offices will close at noon the day before Election Day.

***How do Hoosiers use Satellite Absentee Vote Offices?***

A Hoosier who wants to cast an absentee ballot can do so in person at a Satellite Absentee Vote Office. Upon arrival, the voter completes an absentee ballot application. Then the absentee board determines if the applicant is registered to vote. If so, and the application is approved, the voter may cast an absentee ballot that is set aside to be counted on Election Day.

***How do Satellite Absentee Vote Offices work?***

Satellite Absentee Vote Offices are open on the days and hours agreed on by the county election board (which could be alternate Thursdays or Saturdays, from 10-3, for example). At the close of each day, the sealed absentee ballots are taken to the county clerk's office by the bipartisan absentee board members. The absentee board also transmits the absentee applications and other election documents to the county to be secured.

***Bottom line: Satellite Absentee Vote Offices are not the same as Vote Centers.***