AUGUST 1, 2013

The Hancock County Vote Center Plan

Bringing Hancock County Elections into the 21st Century

Office of the Hancock County Circuit Court Clerk
Marcia Moore, Clerk
MESSAGE FROM THE CLERK

Vote centers represent a major step forward, bringing elections into the 21st Century.

Citizens of Hancock County,

Since the vote center concept became a reality in Indiana elections in 2007, County leaders have been carefully observing its effect on voters, county budgets, and on the election process. In Hancock County voting has been under the same basic process since Elections began in 1859. Today's society and lifestyle has shifted dramatically in this century; so it only stands to reason that the voting process should change to accommodate the populace.

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 6:00pm on Election Day.” Vote centers address these common voter concerns.

The following pages layout our plan to make vote centers a reality in Hancock County. The vote center concept gives any voter in Hancock 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; thus reducing a common problem which is issuing a Provisional Ballot. In addition, the vote center concept calls for increased early voting opportunities at what are called “satellite vote centers” so there will be more options than just the Court House open prior to Election Day.

Elections are one of the most significant costs to Hancock County’s Budget. 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 costs over time. 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.

Thank you to every community leader, church, library, community center, and business that recognized the need to be more efficient and assist with the vision to allow Hancock County to become a Vote Center Community.

Sincerely,

Marcia R. Moore
Clerk of the Hancock Circuit Court
Ex-Officio – Secretary: Hancock County Election Board
Overview of the Process to Convert to Vote Centers

It is essential to have bi-partisan and community support for a county to convert from traditional precinct voting to Vote Center style voting; therefore, the Hancock County Election Board sought the support of community leaders prior to undertaking such a large endeavor. Change is difficult, even change for the better causes stress and in some instances, skepticism. Some members of the public believe that voting is, “fine just the way it is” and that the county does not need more convenience for the voter, but instead, requires a more educated voter.

The Hancock County Election Board would like to see a more informed voter; however, the board’s mandate is to serve the community at large by providing free and fair elections in the most economical and efficient manner possible. Therefore, the board sought support from the county executive board and the county fiscal board in addition to support from the largest municipality. Having garnered said support, the board by unanimous vote established a bipartisan steering committee to lead the way into the future of Vote Centers.

Steering Committee

In the March 24, 2011 meeting of the Hancock County Election Board, the board unanimously agreed to create an exploratory committee to reveal the advantages and disadvantages of becoming a Vote Center community. During the June 2, 2011 Hancock County Election Board meeting, the Wayne County Clerk facilitated a discussion and an informal presentation to several members of the public and other county clerks. In the July 21, 2011 Hancock County Election Board meeting it was determined that the Vote Center Steering Committee be diversified with representation for the entire county.
It was decided that the Hancock County Election Board would sit on the Vote Center Steering Committee, as well as, each major party chairman would nominate a citizen. In addition, it was decided that the county’s Information Technology Director should have a prominent role to insure compliance with the layers of technology and security requirements of the law. Moreover, a member of the Hancock County Council was invited to participate on the Steering Committee.

The Steering Committee will be an advisory board only, as the legal obligation sits firmly in the control of the governing bodies of the county such as the Election Board, the Executive Branch and the Fiscal Body.

**What is a Vote Center?**

A Vote Center is a place where any registered voter in the county can vote on Election Day. Vote centers bring new technologies to revolutionize the voting process. Instead of traditional precinct-based polling sites on Election Day, the Vote Center concept calls for locations throughout the county where any registered voter from any precinct location can go cast their ballot and receive the correct ballot style.

**Why Hancock County?**

Voting in Hancock County has primarily been the same process since elections began in 1859. Lifestyles over the last 150 years have significantly changed. There is a desire by community leaders for all citizens of Hancock County to be able to participate in free and fair elections; in fact, a recent Ball State University study cited that voter turnout would be one of the most significant impacts on the community.

**What is required to become a Vote Center County?**

Indiana Code 3.11-18.1-3 sets forth the requirements for a county to become a vote center county. The first step to becoming a vote center county requires a draft vote center plan which details specifics of how such a transition would occur. This document serves as the vote center
plan for Hancock County. Indiana Code 3-11-18.1-4 sets forth the requirements of a county’s vote center plan. Once a draft plan is submitted for public review and comment at a public meeting of the County Election Board, the opportunity for the public to review the draft plan and submit comments must remain open for 30 days.

After 30 days of opportunity for the public to review and comment on the draft plan, the County Election Board must hold another public meeting to consider all public comments and then vote to adopt the vote center plan as is or as amended. In order for the county to become a vote center county, the County Election Board, must by unanimous vote, approve a vote center plan. In addition, the County Commissioners and County Council must approve a resolution approving the status of the county as a vote center community by majority vote.

Once these events happen, the plan is required to be filed with the Indiana Election Division and Hancock County will officially become a vote center county. The plan will be in effect immediately upon the filing of the order with the Indiana Election Division pursuant to I.C. 3-11-18.1-8.

Any future amendments or a decision to the return to traditional precinct-based elections must be by unanimous vote of the Hancock County Election Board and filed with the Indiana Election Division of the Secretary of State’s Office. The plan is to commence with the Election Cycle beginning May 2014.

**Voting Technology**

Hancock County currently uses ES&S Software/Hardware. ES&S is certified with the State as an authorized vendor. The County uses M-100 tabulating machines which were recently certified to hold all precincts and every ballot style; these units were purchased in February of 2002. On October 18, 2011 ES&S demonstrated to the Hancock County Election Board, the Steering Committee and members of the public how current
equipment could be utilized to run Vote Centers. It is anticipated that Hancock County will utilize existing equipment in conjunction with a ballot-on-demand printer to print the voter's unique ballot based off the information in the SVRS for that voter's precinct.

However, there are concerns the tabulating system that the county owns is obsolete as it is over 10 years old and the county has experienced more frequent ballot reading errors especially as it pertains to a folded ballot or a ballot that has been bent. Moreover, since a new investment is required to update the current system, it may be better to purchase an entirely new system to accommodate future elections. Hence, Hancock County decided to enter a lease agreement with ES&S so that a re-evaluation of the equipment and method could be conducted.

Hancock County has an information technology department that will oversee the set-up of Internet connections in the Vote Centers. Furthermore, the IT department will assist in purchasing sufficient election product to set-up the Vote Center check-in stations and e-poll book connections.

It is anticipated that there is no significant difference in the preparation of pc computer cards for the current M-100 machines as to the all card pc card or a computer flash-zip drive. The current card has a maximum of ten (10) precincts and the county did utilize adding more than one precinct per card in the 2012 Election cycle. A change to either an all card system or a flash-zip drive system would not cause a significant impact to the voter as the county transitions to Vote Centers.

Voter Education Efforts

Educating the public is essential to the success of Vote Centers in Hancock County. The newspaper has issued several articles about Vote Centers and kept the public informed about dates and time of public
meetings. A Vote Center informational card was placed in both major political parties’ fair booth to be distributed to the constituency.

Even though working with the local paper will broadcast our cause, it is not wise to rely solely on that medium; hence, advertising may be published on the local government channel, the local cable channel, direct mail, billboards and the like. Furthermore, signage will be placed at all former precinct voting sites directing voters to the nearest Vote Center.

In addition the Clerk and the Secretary of State met jointly with a group of concerned citizens known as the Conservatives of Greenfield regarding Vote Centers; moreover, the Clerk has spoken to Tea Party groups and major party groups. The clerk has also spoke with public radio, community service groups and the like.

**Satellite Voting**

While satellite Vote Centers have been allowed by law for some time, to date this provision has not been utilized in Hancock County. Satellite Vote Centers are locations where a registered voter of Hancock County may vote early absentee-in-person. As required under IC 3-11-10-26.3 and IC 3-11-18.104(16), Hancock County will designate at least one satellite Vote Center in addition to the courthouse, and at least one of those sites will also be a Vote Center on Election Day and will be open for voting the two Saturdays preceding the election.

Hancock County recognizes that each election cycle is unique and the demands for Vote Center locations in a Municipal or Primary Election may be different than the need during a Presidential General Election. Therefore, the Hancock County Election Board has determined that during a Municipal Election Year, no Vote Center location would be open in that City or Town if that City or Town does not have an election. However, if that City or Town has an election then a Vote Center location will be located within 5 miles of the City or Town.
In addition, during a Municipal Election cycle the following location is designated as the satellite Vote Center which will be open the 2 Saturdays prior and Wednesday through Friday prior to the Election. The satellite location will operate no less than seven (7) hours each day and the required 6:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. on Election Day.

<table>
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<tr>
<td>Hancock Public Library</td>
<td>900 W McKenzie Road</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Greenfield, IN</td>
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During a County wide or Presidential Election cycle, the following location is designated as the satellite Vote Center which will be open the 2 Saturdays prior and Wednesday through Friday prior to the Election. The satellite location will operate 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m and Election Day.

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Factors such as local contested races, perceived closeness of races and voter interest in the issues or candidates can alter voter turnout; therefore, the Hancock County Election Board may open additional early Vote Center locations to accommodate a potential higher than normal voter turnout. In the event that additional Vote Center locations are deemed necessary and if the Hancock County Election Board votes unanimously to open additional locations then the Hancock County Election Board shall notify voters in compliance with IC 3.11-83.2.

To obtain more information about early voting percentages by county and election, visit the Secretary of State’s website at http://www.in.gov/sos/elections/2400.htm.
Efficiency - Financial Value

Although the Election Board was warned that, “cost savings will be realized over time” it is the belief of the Board that cost savings will have a significant impact on this community for recurring expenses such as the cost of ballots, poll workers training and labor. Generally speaking, the current precinct voting method has a team of 5 poll workers per precinct. The disparity comes when one team of poll workers processes 537 voters in Sugar Creek-1 while the M-2 precinct team processes only 123 voters [Data from Presidential Primary Election May 2012.] In addition, precinct teams are bound by precincts so even when a county takes advantage of joining precincts, it is possible for one precinct location to have high voter turn out while another precinct has a low turn out.

Utilizing a Voter Density Precinct map, Hancock County was able to concentrate Vote Centers in areas that have the highest voter turn out and yet locate Vote Centers in the rural area that should not disenfranchise the country resident. For example, in Hancock County the western portion of the county that borders Marion County and the city of Greenfield tends to have the largest concentration of voter turn out while the eastern part of the county is more rural. In addition, a circumference map illustrates that many voters are within 8 miles of multiple Vote Center locations.

Another avenue of slight savings is expected in the area of poll worker expenditures. In the May 2012 Primary, Hancock County had 43 voting precincts at a cost of $18,748 for training and one Election Day. Compare this to 6 Large Vote Centers with 8 poll workers and 5 Small Vote Centers with 6 poll workers; the cost for training and putting on the same Primary would be $14,360. There are two significant factors in this figure, first, the Vote Center Plan calls for an increase in poll worker stipend and second, the plan has the flexibility that Hancock County could take
advantage of utilizing the provision that allows part-time poll workers; therefore, schedules could be manipulated so that the poll workers would provide their own meal. In addition, it should be noted the statistics mentioned above are from the 2012 primary and based on the county’s current population Hancock County has 15 precincts that need to be corrected bringing the total to 58 precincts to be in compliance with Indiana Code.

Further benefit from taking advantage of poll workers splitting their shift is in the area of attracting people to work. In the current precinct voting process, a person has anywhere from a 12 to 14 hour shift and because of this length of a day many citizens do not want to give up this much of their time. Even though it is currently allowed for poll workers to split shifts, this administration has been reluctant to jump through the administrative hoops to recruit double the staff for just one day of voting. While on the other hand, the effort to hire more poll workers in an effort to reduce the length of day and to alleviate meal allowance would have value for both the county and the poll worker.

Another significant savings is in the area of ballot waste. It will be a primary savings not only to the community but also to the environment.

**Benefit to Political Parties and Voters**

As a part of the Ball State study, voter turnout was cited as one of the most significant opportunities to improve elections in Hancock County. Today’s society and lifestyle has shifted dramatically in this century compared to the 1950’s; so it only stands to reason that the voting process should change to accommodate the populace. Gone are the days of the men being the majority bread winners and all stores closed on Sundays. Today, the strain and stresses in the ordinary life travel at warp speed; consequently, it is reasonable to offer voting opportunities by
means of Vote Centers to accommodate the demands of the modern voter.

Often times in the current precinct voting process, a constituent inadvertently is given “the run around” in that the poll worker may erroneously not find the voter on the poll book and send them to another precinct to vote or the poll worker might accidently send the voter to the wrong precinct. This goose chase to find the correct precinct is eliminated under the Vote Center concept because a constituent can vote at any center since ballots will be created on-demand.

Further advantage for both political parties is that on a Vote Center model, the Election Division could provide both parties with a report of what voters had cast a ballot. The reports provided to the political parties would eliminate poll book holders at each polling location; thus helping the parties to work more efficient and less intrusive in the “get-out-the vote” effort.

Current Precincts and Voters in Hancock County

Hancock County has 45 precincts. These precincts breakdown as follows: two non-voting precincts, 43 voting precincts. There are three joined precincts and other precincts that share locations to equal 30 physical locations for voting on Election Day. There is one third-class city and a variety of towns in Hancock County. The largest are as follows:

- City of Greenfield
- Town of Spring Lake
- Town of New Palestine
- Town of McCordsville
- Town of Fortville
- Town of Wilkinson
- Town of Charlottesvile
Although not required by law, as a result of the 2011 Redistricting requirement, the County Executive Board aligned many precincts to equal a city or town council district to help reduce confusion on behalf of the voter that typically does not understand the difference between their precinct and their district; however the City of Greenfield’s 2012 ordinance did split the redistricted precincts. These types of splits confuse the voter in a precinct-based voting method; however, have little effect on the constituent in a Vote Center county.

The advantage in a Vote Center county is that the size of a precinct (although the requirement will not be done away with) or the need to create new precincts will not be the financial burden that it is under current practice. In a Vote Center model, the Hancock County Executive Board could more readily respond to creating or splitting precincts based on need without factoring in the additional cost of equipping and manning another precinct location. In fact the January 2010, Indiana Fiscal Policy Institute study indicates that due to high number of registered voters per precinct Hancock County would benefit from Vote Centers.

**Precinct Style: machine and site set-up**

Under the current precinct style voting process, several steps are required to insure adequate equipment and proper material available at a precinct. Simply the logistics of delivery and pick up of voting equipment to 43 precincts takes planning and attention to detail so that the precinct is ready to go on Election Day. The election office gathers precinct location contact information and sends correspondence to each location to advise the site coordinator that the county highway department will deliver the equipment.

Prior to the highway department picking up the equipment, based on typical voter turnout, the election office determines the approximate number of voting booths that a location requires. Along with the voting
booths, an M-100 scanner and Secrecy Ballot Box must be sent to each precinct. Each M-100 uses a media card specific to each precinct; therefore, it is critical that each Poll Inspector is given the correct pc card for their precinct.

In order to deliver the equipment, the county highway department rents a straight-cargo-box truck with a lift gate from the local rental company. The county must rent the equipment twice for each election delivery-pick-up plus purchase fuel for each truck used; typically, two (2) trucks are used in a Presidential or County Election. Moreover, the election office must reimburse the highway department for the meals and the labor of the highway workers used to deliver the equipment.

On the Saturday immediately preceding Election Day, the precinct inspector attends a special training meeting to pick up supplies and a sealed bag. The sealed bag contains the precinct pc card and other material that is required to be sealed. On Election Day, the inspector and the precinct officers unlock the secrecy ballot box and remove the M-100 computer and assemble this piece of equipment. The Auto-mark machine used to assist voters with special needs should be set-up and turned on. In addition, the precinct workers are required to put together the voter box stands and the rest of the polling location, tables, chairs etc.

Having the poll workers set-up a precinct can cause difficulties because the poll workers tend to be elderly women that do not have the physical strength to move tables and equipment into place. I have been asked if these workers could have their spouse come into the precinct before and after the opening and closing of the polls to set-up and tear down the precinct which is not allowed by Indiana law.

Another complication can be that the precinct inspector does not always set-up the polling room in the best logical order or set-up. For example, there is one location that has an entire Junior High School
the room is only set-up using the front half of the gym. This becomes an issue because the restroom facilities are right outside the gym, in the scenario of the front half of the gym being used it causes the 50’ chute rope to extend past the restrooms and so candidates or their poll workers are prohibited from using the facilities.

The opening and the closing of the poll procedures follow the guidelines in the State Handbook. Inspectors and Judges run the opening and closing reports and ensure that materials are ready to be transported back to the Election Command Center at the close of the polls. Generally speaking, the majority of early morning telephone calls are from inspectors because the machine or the pc card has malfunctioned. Most often the machine needs to be adjusted or powered off and back on. Occasionally, the Democrat and Republican member of the Election Board will take a new machine or pc card out to the precinct.

**Vote Center Locations and Set-Up**

Utilization of a Voter Density map assisted the committee to strategically concentrate Vote Center locations in areas of high volume; yet, place Vote Centers in the rural area to accommodate the countryside. The Vote Center plan proposes changing the number of Vote Center Locations to adjust for volume and type of election, such as municipal, county or presidential. It is anticipated that there will be a maximum of 12 Vote Centers for a presidential or county election while during a municipal election a Vote Center in or near the municipality should suffice.

Due to the State’s mandate for “safe schools” and since the security requirements to keep children safe and the high volume of foot traffic would conflict the steering committee avoided using schools. The steering committee reviewed many locations but was inclined to use municipal buildings, libraries or churches.
Furthermore, for a site to be considered for a Vote Center location, the steering committee researched a variety of conditions such as, Internet availability, parking, hours of accessibility, compliance with Federal ADA regulations, and extent of the parking area and the distance of the parking area to the spot of voting.

**Vote Center: machine and site set-up**

It is anticipated that in a Vote Center many of the same logistical issues will need to be addressed, such as, delivery and pick-up of equipment and so forth; however, coordination of these efforts should be less burdensome due to the reduced number of locations even though all precincts will be represented in all Vote Centers. The committee envisions that a Vote Center will be designed in a similar style as the traditional precinct; the voter will check-in by signing the electronic signature pad attached to the e-pollbook, the voter’s unique ballot will print on the ballot-on-demand printer, the voter will go vote on a traditional ballot. Using the design set up of a precinct should give the voter the assurance that the Voter Centers are “just like” their precinct with few adjustments.

There are two significant differences between a vote center and the traditional precinct. First, the Vote Center will utilize an electronic pollbook and second, the Vote Center will utilize a ballot-on-demand printer instead of pre-printed ballots. This system will allow for a physical paper trail in the event of a recount. The electronic poll-book is an essential component of a Vote Center. The electronic poll-book or e-poll book, replaces the traditional paper poll book providing each Vote Center with a list of registered voters.
Electronic Poll Book and Security

Electronic poll-books are safe and provide instant notification if a voter has already voted. Electronic poll-books transmit voter information via secure encrypted dedicated servers. In addition to the advantage of real-time voter information, electronic poll-books are fast and efficient; they reduce human error, provide immediate voter history and eliminate the need for printing paper poll books.

Electronic poll-books have a password that is required to be entered by each bipartisan team member. The county’s IT department will control the secured Internet and dedicated server by placing the server in the server room which is protected by a 8kva UPS. The County has selected Verizon Wireless as our Internet provider.

Indiana Code 3-11-8-10.3 sets the requirements for equipment; Hancock County has selected ES&S’ as the election vendor. Upon the proper certification of the Express Poll-5000 Electronic Poll Book, Hancock County will use this equipment in conjunction with existing equipment. The hardware and software are designed to function as a secure voter validation system. The ExpressPoll-5000 uses a dedicated hardware enclosure which provides a strong, secure enclosure for the unit.

Data stored in the ExpressPoll-5000 redundant compact flash memory can be encrypted using sophisticated RC-4 data encryption. In addition, Hancock County can deploy VPN routers on WAN to provide native data encryption to transmissions.

The Voting Equipment and Security

Similar to electronic poll-books, the ballot-on-demand system with the M-100 Optical Scan will eliminate waste. The ballot-on-demand system will also reduce the fret of not ordering sufficient ballots in some precincts while ordering too many for another precinct. The ballot-on-demand will cost slightly more per ballot to produce, but because there will be no
waste, the cost will be less. Finally, with the ballot-on demand system the county will utilize the current M-100’s and will continue to use the AutoMarks to assist those with special needs. In addition, while at the Vote Center location, the voting machine will be stored in a dedicated room for exclusive use until the Election is over. Any pc card or flash drive required will be installed and sealed by the Election bipartisan team prior to the equipment being delivered.

**Equipment Compliance**

On February 24, 2012, the Indiana Election Commission certified the new hardware/firmware/software versions that will be used for vote centers in Hancock County, as listed below:

**HARDWARE:** AutoMARK Voter Assist Terminal (VAT): 1.0 (OS 5.0.14.00, PEB 1.65, SBC 1.0), 1.1 (OS 5.0.14.00 PEB 1.65 SBC 2.0), 1.3.1 (OS 5.0.00.19, PEB 1.65 & 1.70 SBC 2.5); Model 650 Central count tabulator (Green visible light sensor, right and left response sensors): 1.2; Model 100 Precinct Scanner: 1.3.0 M100 Ballot Box with Diverter and without Diverter

**FIRMWARE:** AutoMARK VAT v.1.3.2907; Model 650 v. 2.2.2.0; Model 100, v. 5.4.4.5.

**SOFTWARE:** Audit Manager (AM) v. 7.5.2.0; Log Monitor v. 1.0.0.0; Election Data Manager (EDM) v.7.8.1.0; ES&S Image Manager with Ballot on Demand (ESSIM), version 7.7.1.0; VATPreviewer v.1.3.2907; Hardware Programming Manager (HPM) v.5.7.3.0; Election Reporting Manager (ERM) version 7.5.7.0

**NOTE:** ES&S has applied for certification of the Express Poll 5000

**Certification of Accessibility Requirements**

All Vote Center locations in Hancock County will meet or exceed the accessibility requirements applicable under IC 3-11-8. Hancock County Highway Department surveys all the polling locations using the Department of Justice “ADA Checklist for Polling Places.” For additional information on the check list please see: http://www.ada.gov/votingchecklist.htm

Resolution by Hancock County Commissioners: Appendix A
Vote Center Locations: These locations meet the requirements and have a designated room for voting

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address/Telephone</th>
<th>Quadrant of County</th>
<th>Style/Use</th>
<th>Estimated Non-Absentee Voters Primary</th>
<th>Estimated Non-Absentee Voters General</th>
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<tr>
<td>McCordsville Town Hall</td>
<td>6280 W 800 North McCordsville</td>
<td>Northwest Corner</td>
<td>Large Vote Center</td>
<td>1522</td>
<td>4980</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fortville Municipal Building</td>
<td>714 Broadway Fortville, IN</td>
<td>North</td>
<td>Small Vote Center</td>
<td>623</td>
<td>1506</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ninestar Connect</td>
<td>2331 E 600 North Greenfield, IN</td>
<td>North Central</td>
<td>Large Vote Center</td>
<td>1122</td>
<td>2649</td>
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<td>Wilkinson Church of Christ</td>
<td>7293 N St Rd 109 Wilkinson</td>
<td>Northeast Corner</td>
<td>Small Vote Center</td>
<td>581</td>
<td>1234</td>
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<td>Brown's Chapel Wesleyan</td>
<td>994 N 600 East Greenfield</td>
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<td>Small Vote Center</td>
<td>773</td>
<td>1637</td>
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<td>Bell Mortuaries</td>
<td>1512 W US Hwy 52 Carrolton, IN</td>
<td>Southeast</td>
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<td>Brookeville Road Community Church</td>
<td>7480 W US Hwy 52 New Palestine, IN</td>
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<td>1000</td>
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<td>Washington Village Apartments</td>
<td>4211 W Potomac Drive Greenfield, IN</td>
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<td>Vineyard Community Church</td>
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<td>Hancock County Annex</td>
<td>111 American Legion PL, Greenfield, IN</td>
<td>Central</td>
<td>Large Vote Center</td>
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<td>Hancock Public Library</td>
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<td>Large Vote Center</td>
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Voter Density Map to assist in placement of Vote Centers:

Population Density and Voting Center Locations

Map Key
- Vcing Center
- Corporate Limits
1 Dot = 25
- Pop_Total
- Townships

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7 Mile Radius: Many Voters have multiple Vote Center Locations

Map Key
-圈Voting Center
-Corporate Limits
-Townships

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FID</th>
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<td>INNESTAR CONNECT</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>FORTVILLE MUNICIPAL BUILDING</td>
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<td>WASHINGTON VILLAGE APARTMENTS</td>
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<td>HANCOCK COUNTY COURT HOUSE ANNEX</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>VINEYARD COMMUNITY CHURCH</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>BROOKVILLE ROAD COMMUNITY CHURCH</td>
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Vote Center Layout and Design: Large Room - Small Room

Figure 1

8 Poll Workers
1 Greeter: checks identification and directs
4 Check In Judges - e-poll book stations
2 Provisional Team Members: Helpers
1 Checkout station to verify voter placed ballot in ballot box

Large Room
6 Poll Workers
2 Greeters-Check-out: checks identification and directs verifies ballot got in secured box
2 Check In Judges - e-poll book stations
2 Provisional Team Members/Helpers

Small Room Set-Up
**Processing the Voter**

The Hancock County Election Board will continue to host Absentee Balloting at the Hancock County Courthouse prior to an Election as required by law. In addition, at least one satellite Vote Center will be open on the two Saturdays prior to the Election. Processing a voter in a Vote Center community will differ from the traditional Precinct Voting; however, it is felt that sufficient similarities will remain that the voter will feel confident when casting their ballot at a Vote Center.

In compliance with IC 3-11-18.1-9, 10 days prior to the Election, the Hancock County Commissioners will publicize in the local newspaper a list of all Vote Center locations and hours of operation. In addition, the Hancock County Election may elect to mail out a Vote Center card which is available on the State’s SVRS system for Vote Centers to assist the voter with Vote Center hours and locations.

Starting 5 days prior to Election Day, voting could commence at a variety of Vote Center locations, but specifically at the named Satellite Vote Center. The Vote Centers will be manned with bi-partisan teams equipped with electronic poll books as described elsewhere in this plan. The Vote Centers could have a variety of hours of operations and will be staffed by poll workers working hourly shifts.

The voter will enter the Vote Center and be welcomed by a Greeter who will advise the Voter to have their identification readily available. The voter will proceed to the check-in station where their ID will be checked and they will be asked to sign the electronic poll book. At this time the correct ballot style will be generated. The voter will cast their vote in the traditional method and proceed to the exit where they will place their ballot in the Optical Scan Reader/secured ballot box next to the checkout station. The voter will then exit the building.

Should the voter not have proper identification, the voter will be encouraged to leave and return with proper documentation. However; should the voter insist, the provisional ballot fail-safe procedure will be followed: the
voter will be directed to the Provisional/Help Team where the team can assist the voter and verify eligibility.

**Vote Center Hardware/Software and Technological Security**

Hancock County is fortunate that it has an IT professional that has an intricate understanding of the need for secure Internet connection in the Vote Centers. As a member of the Vote Center Planning team, the IT professional understands that technology will drive Vote Center placement especially in the more rural areas of the county. Hancock County will work with Verizon Wireless to obtain the necessary secured internet networking plan.

The backbone of the Vote Center is the Electronic Poll Book (e-poll book). The e-poll book database will be populated by a download from the SVRS as close to the election as possible to ensure the most recent information is available to the workers at the Vote Center. The vendor and the Election Office will work in coordination with the State’s Quest Information System to be certain that the information for the voter is accurate.

Hancock County will integrate a system that will utilize current equipment. The Vote Center will have no less than 1 ballot-on-demand printer, two (2) laptops tied to the e-poll book, one (1) Automark Machine, one (1) M-100 Optical Scanner, one (1) Secrecy Ballot Box and eight (8) voting stations.
Key Players

Election Board

The Election Board in Hancock County is made up of a representative of each of the major political parties and the Clerk of the Circuit Court as the Ex Officio, Secretary to the Board. The Hancock County Election Board and the employees of the Election Office will continue to oversee the operations of the Election process.

Poll Workers

Hancock County will require fewer poll workers to administer the Election Day Vote Centers. However, the use of poll workers will increase during the week(s) prior to an Election Day in order to staff early and satellite Vote Centers. Each early or satellite Vote Center and Election Day Vote Center will have at least one traditional precinct election board made up of an Inspector called a Greeter, election judges and poll clerks will be known as check-in judges and provisional team/helpers. There will also be an Exit Assistant that will direct the voter to scan their ballot in the M-100 Scanner and to please exit the poll. Depending on the election size and location of the Vote Center these numbers may increase or decrease. Hancock County intends to use no more than 8 workers at a larger Vote Center and no more than 6 workers at a smaller Vote Center. Training procedures for poll workers will remain largely the same. On Election Day, there will be one check-in judge of the opposite party to [known as the Check-in Judge/Lead Opposite] that will accompany the Greeter Inspector on Election Day with the ballots and the electronic file for tabulation.

Poll Book Watchers

Common parties to an election who are primarily used by the major parties are the Poll Book Watchers. The Poll Book Watcher verifies who has cast a vote for that particular election. In order to assist the Poll Book Watcher with the list of voters who have cast their ballot, the e-poll book features the ability to print out lists of voters who have voted.
Emergency Procedures

General Scenarios

There are approximately five general scenarios that exist in which decision-making may occur regarding the election process and an emergency activity in Hancock County:

- **Situation Normal** – the status quo exists and the process moves forward according to normal laws and procedures,
- **Isolated Emergencies** – individual precinct, vote center or part of the county experience disruption to the election process and local agencies respond accordingly,
- **Regional Emergencies** – an emergency involving Hancock County and neighboring counties exists and a state-level response is required,
- **Catastrophic Emergencies inside Indiana** – a large disaster exists that diverts the resources and attention of the citizenry and a state-level response in cooperation with the federal government is required, and
- **Catastrophic Emergencies outside Indiana** – a large disaster exists in the United States that diverts the resources and attention of the citizenry and a federal-level response is required.

Local Preparation and Response

The Hancock County Commissioners have worked closely with the local emergency management director, the county sheriff and other local public safety departments to ensure Hancock County is prepared for emergencies. Should an emergency occur on or surrounding the election process; the Hancock County Election Board and the Hancock County Commissioners will stay in close communication to make certain the citizens are safe.

In this endeavor to be prepared for an emergency that could happen during this time, the following steps prior to each Election Day are reviewed:

- Review of IC 3-11-8-3.2 procedures for emergency changing of a poll location,
- Contact is made with the power companies to validate contact lists and emergency procedures so that all locations have power or that power can be restored,
- A field consultant or maintenance representative from the vendor will be on stand-by,
- In the event of a power failure at a vote center location, the vote center will close and the public would be directed to another vote center location until such time as the power could be restored,
- In the event the Internet is inaccessible at a vote center location, the eligibility of a voter will be ascertained from records maintained by the Hancock County Voter Registration office via telephone/cell phone.

In addition to the above named review process, Hancock County will place the dedicated server for the e-poll books in the server room which is protected by a 8kva UPS.

Further, note that the election equipment does have a feature for battery back-up as follows: the Auto-Mark’s battery pack allows continuous operation after loss of AC power for up to two hours. The M-100’s battery can power an active scanner for up to one hour and an idle scanner for up to three hours. (Scanner considered active when counting ballots or printing reports.)
I.C. 3-11-18.1 Chapter 18.1. Vote Centers

Compliance Checklist

Explanation

The following points indicate a cross-reference to ensure compliance with the requirements of the law as it pertains to the establishment and security of Vote Centers.

1. Total Number of Voter Centers to be established: page(s) 13
2. The location of each vote center: page(s) 17, 18 and 19
3. The effective date of the order: page(s) 4
   a. And upon the filing of the plan with the Indiana Election Division pursuant to the law.
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 — Appendix-E
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 13 of this chapter: page 4
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: page 4
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 13 of this chapter. See page 4 “Note” for explanation that all precincts will be located at all vote centers. Therefore, all precinct election boards will administer elections for all precincts in the county. Appendix-E and Appendix-F
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. See Page 8 “Note” for an estimation of the number of precinct election officials at each vote center location. Titles for precinct election officials will be similar in that there will be an Inspector/Greeter and then Check-in Judges and Clerks (pages: 20 through 23).
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.
   See Page 4 “Note” for the explanation that every ballot style will be available at each satellite vote center and each vote center. The exact number of ballot styles will vary by election. See Page 15 “The Voting Equipment” for a description of how ballots will be provided to voters. Provisional ballots will be issued [see page 22 & 23] Provisional Ballot fail-safe procedure will remain largely the same as in precinct method, should the voter be issued a provisional ballot the ballot will be placed in a secrecy envelope so that the provisional team can determine if the voter is eligible to vote.
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.
   See Pages: 16 & 23 for a complete description of the e-poll book equipment and procedures to be used in Hancock County.
11. A description of the equipment and procedures to be used to ensure that information concerning a voter entered into any electronic poll list used by precinct election officials
Compliance Checklist Continued

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: See Pages 14, 16 through 25 for a complete description of the e-poll book equipment and procedures to be used in Hancock County.

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

Each vote center will have every precinct’s poll list in electronic form. At least two electronic poll books will be available at each vote center. See Page 23

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.

See Pages: 25 & 26 for a description of Hancock County’s security process. See Pages 25 and 26 for a description of the security relating to the electronic poll book that will be used in Hancock County.

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

See Appendix A.

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:

See Pages: 20 and 21

16. The total number and locations of satellite offices to be established under IC 3-11-10-26.3 at vote center locations designated under subdivision (2) 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.

See Page 7.

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: See Page 24.
APPENDIX

A) Resolution Certifying Vote Center and Satellite Vote Center Accessibility
B) County Commissioners’ Resolution
C) County Councils’ Resolution
D) Public Education and Public Comments
E) Current Precincts, Total Voters, Total Active Voters, Total Inactive Voters
F) Current Polling Places
G) Vote Center Locations
Appendix A
Resolution Certifying Vote Center and Satellite Vote Center Accessibility

Resolution 2013-4-9

A RESOLUTION CERTIFYING VOTE CENTERS AND SATELLITE VOTE CENTERS AS ACCESSIBLE UNDER I.C. 3-11-8

WHEREAS, Indiana Code 3-11-18.1-4(14) requires certification that vote centers and satellite vote centers are accessible,

WHEREAS, the County Board of Commissioners of Hancock County certifies that all voting sites are accessible under Indiana Code 3-11-8,

BE IT SO RESOLVED AND CERTIFIED BY THE HANCOCK COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF HANCOCK COUNTY

“AYES”

NAME

“NAYS”

NAME

NAME

NAME

NAME

Adopted this 18 of June, 2013

ATTEST:

Auditor
Appendix B
County Commissioners' Resolution

Resolution No. 2013-4-7
A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE DESIGNATION OF
HANCOCK COUNTY AS A VOTE CENTER COUNTY

Be It Resolved by the Board of Commissioners of Hancock County, Indiana, That

Section I

Hancock County is hereby designated as a vote center county.

Adopted this day of 2013.

Board of Commissioners
Hancock County, Indiana

Attest: Hancock County Auditor

[Signature]

[Signature]
Appendix C
County Councils' Resolution

Resolution # 2013-5-3

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

Pursuant to IC 3-11-18.1-3 (h)(2) The Hancock County Council resolves that

Section I

Hancock County is hereby designated as a Vote Center County.

Adopted this ___ day of May, 2013. Hancock County Council
Hancock County, Indiana

ATTEST:

Robin Lowder, Hancock County Auditor

[Signatures]
Appendix D
Public Education and Comment

In an effort to educate the constituency about vote center style of voting, the Hancock County Clerk used a variety of methods including but not limited to radio broadcast, public speaking engagements, four (4) public hearings, and the county website. A survey for public opinion resulted in 64% of the responders indicating Hancock County would benefit from Vote Centers with 67% of the responders stating that it would be more convenient to visit any open polling location on Election Day to vote. Finally, the Vote Center Steering Committee studied the impact of Vote Centers for more than 23 months prior to the final vote by the Hancock County Election Board.
Appendix D
Public Education and Comment

Hancock County Election Board
Meeting Minutes
March 19, 2013

I. Call to order:
Bob Baghlian, Board President, called to order the meeting of the Hancock County Election Board at 7:01 p.m. on March 19, 2013 at Ninestar Communication Conference Room, 2245 E Main, Greenfield, IN.

II. Roll call
The following persons were present: Bob Baghlian, Democrat Member; Marcia Moore, Secretary; C. Thomas Cone, Republican Member; Quorum and allowing meeting to continue.

III. Board Minutes Approved
Marcia Moore presented Board Minutes from the March 14, 2013 meeting: Motion by C Thomas Cone to approve minutes as presented, 2nd by Marcia Moore. Motion carried vote via voice.

IV. Vote Center Presentation
Clerk Moore presented a PowerPoint presentation to the public in order to explain the Vote Center concept and to discuss the advantages/disadvantages of transitioning to a Vote Center county instead of a precinct style voting method. A question and answer period followed with discussion lasting until 8:30 pm.

V. Adjourn
Motion to adjourn by C. Thomas Cone, 2nd by Marcia Moore. Motion carried, meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. - unanimous vote via voice.

Next Meeting: March 26, 2013 Vote Center Public Meeting
Minutes submitted by: Marcia R Moore, Clerk of the Hancock County Courts
Minutes approved by:

Bob Baghlian, Board President

Marcia Moore, Hancock County Clerk

C. Thomas Cone, Board Member
Advertisement for public hearings March 26 and April 2, 2013
Appendix D

Public Education and Comment

Advertisement April 23, 2013 – 30 days
Appendix D
Public Education and Comment
Board Minutes

Hancock County Election Board
Meeting Minutes
April 23, 2013

I. Call to order
Bob Bogdigan, President of the Board, called meeting to order of the Hancock County Election Board at 7:05 p.m. on April 23, 2013 at City of Greenfield, City Hall 10 S. State Street Greenfield, IN.

II. Roll call
The following persons were present: Marcia Moore, Secretary, C. Thomas Cone, Republican Member and Bob Bogdigan, Democrat Member. Quorum met allowing meeting to continue.

III. Board Minutes Approved
Marcia Moore presented Board Minutes from the April 2, 2013 meeting. Motion by C Thomas Cone to approve minutes as presented, 2nd by Marcia Moore. Motion carried vote 4-0.

IV. Vote Center Review of Draft Plan
President Bogdigan requested that Clerk Moore recap the series of events and any public comment leading to this meeting since the first Public Hearing on March 19, 2013. Clerk Moore presented the Board a copy of all written public communication and the results of an on-line survey that was open to the public at the Clerk’s website.

Results of the public survey with just 67 respondents indicated that 64% of the respondents believed that the county would benefit from Vote Centers with the number one reason for concern being security of the ballot and maintaining a paper trail.

V. Public Comment
President Bogdigan opened the floor for public comment having previously established a one minute time limit per individual speaker.

1) Speaker Carolyn Flynn, Glen Oak’s addition stated she believed that Vote Centers at this time would be a premature investment because she stated that absentee voting had to be at a threshold of 50% absentee voting before going to Vote Centers and our county is only at 23%.
   a. Clerk Moore corrected Mrs. Flynn’s statement with evidence from a Power Point presentation stating that we had currently 23% early voter turn-out with just 1 location for absentee voting leading the Clerk to believe that with more early voting locations and voter education, the county could easily achieve a 50% early voter turn-out to be a successful Vote Center community.

2) Speaker Bob Boyer, Sugar Creek Trustee again handed the Election Book similar talking points that he had presented at the Rock Creek meeting on March 26, 2013. Mr. Boyer stated he was not against the concept of Vote Centers; however, felt that the selection of the New Palestine Library was a poor selection due to limited parking spaces and accessibility from Highway 52.
Appendix D
Public Education and Comment
Board Minutes

a. President Bogdian addressed Mr. Boyer's concerns letting him know that per Indiana Law, the Hancock County Commissioners would establish the Vote Center locations and that the Election Board had already sought alternative Vote Center locations in the Sugar Creek area.

3) Speaker Sally Tabor, citizen of the City of Greenfield admitted she had not read the plan, but didn't feel there was a need to change voting methods.

4) Marilyn Levering, former City of Greenfield Councilperson spoke in favor of Vote Centers stating she had personal experience with the functionality of Vote Centers in two different States.

VI. Discussion, Amendments and Vote

No other speakers came forward; President Bogdian closed the floor to public comment. President Bogdian asked for discussion or comments from the Board regarding any revisions or drafts to the current plan. No discussion took place; therefore, President Bogdian requested a motion as to the action of the plan.

C. Thomas Cone moved that the Hancock County Election Board adopt the February 2013 Revised Plan of the Hancock County Vote Center Plan subject to the Hancock County Commissioners determination of the Vote Center locations; 2nd by Clerk Moore: Motion carried unanimously vote via voice.

VII. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Marcia Moore; 2nd by C. Thomas Cone, Motion carried, meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m. - unanimous vote via voice

Next Meeting: None Set

Minutes submitted by: Marcia R. Moore, Clerk of the Hancock County Courts

Minutes approved by:

Bob Bogdian, Board President

Marcia R. Moore, Hancock County Clerk

C. Thomas Cone, Board Member
Appendix D

Public Education and Comment

Marcia R. Moore
Clerk of Hancock County Courts
9 East Main Street, Rm. 213
Greenfield, IN 46140
(317) 477-1109
(317) 477-1163 - Fax

March 13, 2013

Press Release for Immediate Public Awareness

Hancock County, Indiana

The office of the Hancock County Circuit Court Clerk - Election Division is seeking public input. Hancock County Election Board will host four (4) public meetings to seek voter input about Voter Centers.

Meeting times and location listed below:

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>March 19, 2013</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Nanna Center 2243 E Main St. Greenfield, IN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 26, 2013</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Bank Creek Fire Station 5869 W Airport Road Greenfield (Mt. Comfort), IN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 2, 2013</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Brown's Chapel Wesleyan Mansfield Road 994 N 660 West Greenfield, IN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 23, 2013</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>City of Greenfield, City Hall 10 S. Main Street Greenfield, IN</td>
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Additional public input can be given at the Hancock County website, see Vote Center Survey.


"It is not what we profess, but what we practice that gives us integrity..." Francis Bacon

From: Press Release
Appendix D

Public Education and Comment

The Daily Reporter Editorial Saturday, May 7, 2011

The biggest loser: the election process

It's difficult to draw too many conclusions from Tuesday's knifed mayoral election, but a couple of obvious ones come to mind.

First, Brad DeRamus wasn't the biggest loser this week. The election process was. Only 18 percent of registered voters bothered to go to the polls, which suggests—once again—that you're lazy, distracted, idle people.

Legislation passed this year is designed to increase voter interest and convenience, and if you ask us, the new rules can't be put in place fast enough. Our new law allows "voting centers" to be established, which is a radical departure from the precinct-based system that's been around for decades. Proponents say it'll make voting more convenient, and we agree. We hope Hancock County Clerk Marcia Moore takes the idea seriously and finds a way to make this happen without adding too much cost.

Second, the Legislature voted to move school board elections to the fall, which, despite protests about being "local control," can't help but build interest in another important part of representative government.

But back to Tuesday.

Eliot Peters, the election favorite to win in November, would be mystified if he interpreted Tuesday's vote as an endorsement of his platform. When he barely bothered to define during the campaign, even he would have to admit that his nearly job-less mayorship was more of a referendum on the DeRamus campaign.

Let's face it: The city is on a pretty good path, and the mayor helped put it there over the past three-plus years. Now that DeRamus is out of the way, the trick will be for Peters to articulate his own vision for things like increasing employment, fixing streets, and ensuring good police and fire protection at reasonable cost.

As for DeRamus, he still has a job to do for six-plus months. Elections frequently creep incumbents months before their terms are up, and we hope DeRamus reacts with grace and humility instead of the occasionally inane pettiness he's shown so far.
Appendix D
Public Education and Comment

Democrat Party Chair letter to Vote Center Steering Committee

Marcia Moore, Clerk
Hancock County Circuit Court

Dear Marcia,

I have reviewed the Hancock County Vote Center Plan. Congratulations on a fine job. It has been well thought out. I think we are likely moving in the right direction. I was initially concerned about whether or not poll book watchers would be eliminated but you satisfactorily answer that issue on page seven.

I do have some concerns. My first concern comes from a Wayne County voter who informed me that he had never before waited so long to vote as he did in 2010 at a Wayne County vote center. I understand the thinking that having early vote centers will significantly increase the number of early voting. But will it reduce the Election Day numbers enough so that fewer voting sites will be able to adequately handle the load. In the case of the Wayne County gentleman, the answer is debatable. Since it takes unanimous approval to abandon the vote center concept, I believe it would be desirable if the election board members formally agree that they would vote to return to precinct polling places if the vote centers end up requiring longer vote lines than normal.

Also, has anyone considered if increasing the number of early votes is truly desirable in terms other than procedural ones? Much can transpire in the last month of an election. Suppose, for example, that the arrest of our County Auditor, County Sheriff, or County Coroner had occurred a week or two before Election Day. Would the electorate have been well served if a significantly large percent of voters had already cast their ballots?

I applaud any effort to make it easier for citizens to vote and hopefully that is what we will accomplish with approval of the Vote Center Plan. However, if it appears that our vote centers have a negative impact upon voter turnout I will work to overturn it. That is why I ask our election board members to pledge to vote to abolish it if and when it is shown that it serves to reduce voter turnout.

Respectfully,

Michael Adkins, Chair
Hancock County Democratic Party
Appendix D
Public Education and Comment

The Daily Reporter – Front Page Article to Inform Voters of Public Meetings

PUBOCAN CAN WEIGH IN ON VOTE CENTERS

Plan would create 11 satellite voting centers across Hancock County, starting with 2014 election

By MARIBETH VAUGHN
mvauhn@greenfieldreporter.com
GREENFIELD – Local officials have thought about implementing satellite voting centers in Hancock County for over a year. Now, it's the public's turn to give input.

Vote centers would replace traditional neighborhood polling locations with fewer, larger sites to cast a ballot.

"I truly want the public's opinion," said Hancock County Clerk Marco Moore, who has long supported vote centers to streamline voting to today's fast-paced society and ultimately save money.

Still, Moore said the public could sway her opinion.

"Precinct voting has been here ever since we began voting, and we can continue that if that's what the people want to do," she said.

A group of about 30 people gathered with the Hancock County Election Board Thursday to give input on a plan that would establish 11 vote centers across the county starting with the 2014 election.

The group also began planning for public meetings in which local residents can hear more details, check out new polling equipment and weigh their opinions.

The vote centers, set for community buildings in almost every town from the Sugar Creek branch of the Hancock County Public Library to the Wilkinson Church of Christ, would be designed to accommodate larger volumes of voters.

Any registered voter could cast a ballot at any site, Moore added, which would cut down on the confusion over where residents must cast a ballot. It could also be more convenient for people who commute to Indianapolis, she said, because they could cast a ballot on their way to or from work on the west side of the county.

The plan would provide for..."
Appendix D

Public Education and Comment

Unsolicited Letter from L. Ruth Campau

To:

Marcia A. Moore, Hancock county Clerk
Bob Baggian, election board President

Thank you for your efforts to improve the election process in Hancock county.

Since I am not able to attend the public hearings on Voting Centers, here are some of my thoughts.

Being able to make one stop (instead of going to the wrong place and being sent some other place) might encourage more citizens to participate in the voting process.

As for long lines, voters in current voting places sometimes encounter such delays now. However, it seems less likely to occur at a facility planned to accommodate many more voters.

As a senior citizen, may I point out that we have the easiest of all alternatives—we can vote by mail, thus avoiding parking problems, bad weather, inconvenient time restrictions, etc.

The cost may seem to be high to begin with—but would seem to level out in the long run: something like replacing an outdated furnace with a modern one.

Finally, on a personal note, my daughter who lives in Colorado is highly enthusiastic about the voting center system there. She says she has never encountered any delay in voting.

Thanks you for your attention, and best wishes to you both for your continued success.

Sincerely,

L. Ruth Campau

114 Willow Rd.
Greenfield, IN 46140
phone: 462-4863
Appendix D

Public Education and Comment

Speaking Points from Bob Boyer, presented at the March 26, 2013 Public Meeting

TALKING POINTS – VOTE CENTER MEETING

- Don’t disenfranchise the voters in Sugar Creek Township!
  - The planning for vote centers should provide no less voting locations in Sugar Creek Township than there are currently.
- If the use of the Library in New Palestine as a vote center is an example of the planning that is going into the vote center concept it is time to start over again.
  - The Library in New Palestine would be an extremely poor choice for a vote center.
    - The Parking is totally inadequate – there are a total of 34 parking places (including handicapped). I have been observing the parking situation there on a regular basis since this concept was announced and normally there are 52 – 15 of those spaces being used by employees and library patrons leaving only 19 to 22 available for voters and poll workers. At 1:40 this afternoon there were 18 spaces in use.
    - With inadequate parking the other businesses would be impacted as voters park wherever they can.
    - The room mentioned in the newspaper article is at best 15’ by 25’ which is a very small area for voting.
    - The intersection with US 52 is one of the most difficult in New Palestine, on a regular basis there is a back-up to get onto US 52, at 1:40 this afternoon there were 5 cars waiting to get onto US 52. I can only imagine the mess that hundreds of voters added to the traffic would cause.
    - I have talked to several business owners near the library and each expressed concern of the negative impact a voting center at the library would have on their businesses. In addition they each expressed concern that the less places there were to vote, there is significant potential for discouraging voters because of long lines and inadequate parking.
- As an example of having voting at a place with inadequate parking, several years ago, shortly after the new fire station in Sugar Creek Township was opened the training room was used for the voters for precinct one and nine. The fire station has 48 parking spaces.
  - Election Day was a disaster. Cars parked wherever they could, they parked in the drives, and they parked in front of the apparatus bay doors, making it impossible to respond to emergencies.
  - The voters were crowded into an inadequate hallway and lined up out the doors because the size of the room (40’ x 30”) used for voting was inadequate. It should be noted the room at the Fire Station is three times the size of the room in the library.
- Currently there are four voting locations in Sugar Creek Township hosting the nine precincts. The New Palestine Elementary, Cross of Grace Lutheran Church, Doe Creek School and the club house at the apartments on US 40. There is no reason those same voting locations could not be the vote centers of the future.
- The current planning that I am seeing of less voting locations along with the one suggested sites inadequacy would discourage voters from voting because the sites would be inadequate with inadequate parking.

This presentation is submitted by Bob Boyer, Sugar Creek Township Trustee. I can be contacted at bboyer@sugarcreektwp.com or at the office at 861-6148.
### Appendix D

**Public Education and Comment**

*Speaking Points from Bob Boyer, presented at the March 26, 2013 Public Meeting*

#### SUGAR CREEK TOWNSHIP

**VOTING NUMBERS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRECINCT</th>
<th>REG VOTERS</th>
<th>WALK IN VOTE</th>
<th>ABSENTEE VOTE</th>
<th>TOTAL VOTES</th>
<th>PERCENT WALK IN</th>
<th>PERCENT ABSENTEE</th>
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<td>324</td>
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<td>SC-2</td>
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*IF 20% VOTE EARLY REMAINING WALK IN VOTERS @ 2 LOC*

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*IF 30% VOTE EARLY REMAINING WALK IN VOTERS @ 2 LOC*

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Appendix D

Public Education and Comment

Response to Bob Boyer’s speaking points

Marcia R. Moore
Clerk of Hancock County Courts
9 East Main Street, Rm. 213 • Greenfield, IN 46140
Phone: (317) 477-1109 • Fax: (317) 477-1163

March 27, 2013

Mr. Bob Boyer
451 S Brookline Drive
New Palestine, IN 46163

RE: Sugar Creek Numbers

Dear Mr. Boyer,

Thank you for attending the recent Vote Center meeting that was held at the Buck Creek Fire Station on March 26, 2013. Please understand that the intent of the public meeting format for Vote Centers is for the Hancock County Election Board to gain feedback from the constituency in order to determine if Vote Centers are a viable alternative voting method that would allow for more efficient use of tax-payers’ dollars as it pertains to the cost of election.

Moreover, it is the duty of the Clerk and the Election Board to enhance and encourage the public to vote. I personally take pride in providing free and fair elections to the registered voters of our county; however, that obligation must be balanced with the conservative use of taxpayers’ dollars and the obligation to protect our youngest citizens which is why the Election Board has decided, in the wake of recent school violence, to cease using schools.

Although it would be ideal for the children to see the democratic process in action, the cold reality is that the schools do not allow any interaction between the public and the children. Therefore, the Election Board is limited in the number of facilities that meet the ADA requirements to house a Vote Center or a Voter Precinct. The Board will pursue your suggestion to utilize the empty old Doe Creek Middle School as a Vote Center or Voter Precinct.

Finally, the Election Office staff revisited the number of voters that voted in each precinct during the 2012 General Election, and it appears that the maximum number of voters processed as a walk-in voter did not exceed 1,000 voters which by voter centers standards would be 1/10th of the acceptable level of voters at a Vote Center. A chart with the breakdown of each precinct can be found on the second page.

Again thank you for attending the information meeting and if you have the ability to facilitate the use of the old Doe Creek building as a voter location, it would be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Marcia R. Moore
Ex Officio – Secretary – Hancock County Election Board

"It is not what we profess, but what we practice that gives us integrity ..." — Francis Bacon
Appendix D

Public Education and Comment

Response to Bob Boyer’s speaking points

2012 General Election

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<th>Precinct</th>
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<td>Total</td>
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Appendix D

Public Education and Comment

E-mail correspondence facilitated from presentation at Greenfield Rotary Club Meeting

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Marcia R. Moore

From: Jason C. White <jwhite@gbcbank.com>
Sent: Friday, April 19, 2013 9:56 AM
To: Marcia R. Moore
Subject: Re: Vote Center Accounting

Marcia,

Thank you for the email and expanded explanation. Yesterday was the first time I had heard of the potential voting changes, so I am new on this stuff. I don't come into it with a viewpoint or slant. I don't know how anyone could argue against the concept of reducing the number of locations at which to vote. It seems there are far too many, which obviously incurs additional costs. My gut reaction on the costs though are that it would take too long to recoup the initial outlay and that by the time we reached the "break-even" point in 12-13 years, the technology and process will have changed sufficiently enough that new equipment and restructuring will again be needed. If that were to happen, there would be no financial savings ever realized as a whole new set of expenses would be incurred. It seems like we are trying to catch up with what has been done during the last 10 years as opposed to thinking about the next 30 years. There is no doubt that one day, and I would be willing to bet that it happens in the next 15 years, ALL voting will be done online at your house or from your phone anywhere in the world. Technology advances too quickly to have a payoff be 12-13 years in the future. The security and identity verification for all these systems will be so much further advanced five years from now. I think we should be spending any capital outlays on that type of system instead of using one that may be more up to date than what we currently have, but really only brings us to the early 2000's. Just my two cents.

Thank you for taking the time to get out and provide information about this topic and for taking the time to send me a direct response this morning ☺

Wishing you good health, wealth and happiness.
Jason White, JD, AAMS, CFP®
Certified Private Wealth Advisor℠
Greenfield Banking Company
317-497-7037 x229
http://www.gbcbank.com

---

From: Marcia R. Moore [mailto:mmoore@chancpco.org]
Sent: Friday, April 19, 2013 9:14 AM
To: Jason C. White; Brad Henderson [bhenderson@stellencon.com]
Subject: Vote Center Accounting

Jason,

It was a privilege for me to speak to fellow Rotarians at lunch yesterday. I want to expand upon your observation that due to time limitations I could not fully address at the end of the meeting.

If Hancock County stays precinct voting; we need to have an additional 15 precincts at an approximate annual recurring cost of $14,610 for poll workers and an estimated $75,000 in additional equipment cost.
Moreover, due to the age of the current election equipment, the county needs to replace PCMA Cards (this card is the card that holds the polling location data) and a few of the scanners at a cost of approximately $172,000.

Since the county is already looking at an approximate capital expense of $247,000 to maintain precinct voting; it was felt by many of the county leaders that it would be a good opportunity to invest in technology that would allow the county to move forward with technology and extend out to be used for another 10 years.

The election equipment we currently own was purchased in 2002 at $554,400.

Unfortunately, because of the limited competition, election software companies command obscene prices.

I hope this better explains the position that the election board is in – thanks.

Brad ~ I hope I have Jason’s email correct; however, if I don’t – will you please forward this message to him. I wanted to expand on his question. – Thanks.

Regards,

Marcia R. Moore
Hancock County Clerk
9 E. Main Street
Greenfield, IN 46140
(317) 477-1109

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Appendix D

Public Education and Comment

Unsolicited letter from Jim Gavin

April 20, 2013

Dear Clark Moore,

I am writing this letter to voice my support for vote centers in Hancock County. Please share this with the other members of the Hancock County Election Board. I intended to talk to you about vote centers in person at one of the public hearings, but my schedule would not cooperate. I also will not be able to attend the very important final meeting you will have on this matter this Tuesday evening because I will be coaching my daughter’s youth soccer game.

I am a resident of Hancock County and serve as Republican precinct committeeman for Sugar Creek Township 7. I also had the pleasure of serving Indiana as communications director in the office of the state’s chief election official, Secretary of State Todd Rokita, from 2008 through the end of his term in 2013. As you may recall, vote centers was a very important concept to Secretary Rokita. He introduced them to Indiana years ago after traveling with a bipartisan group to Colorado to witness the operations of the very first vote centers county in the nation during an election in 2005. Promoting the expanded use of vote centers in Indiana became a hallmark initiative of the Rokita Administration. As the secretary’s communications lead, it was one that I spent a lot of my time on personally. Fortunately, we were pleased when the Indiana General Assembly passed a law to authorize each county in Indiana to assess whether or not vote centers makes sense for them.

I hoped to talk to you in person about the favorable view of vote centers I developed during my time in the Rokita administration, but also about my perspective on the concept as a Hancock County resident. I have always considered Hancock County to be a prime candidate for vote centers. Take my own family’s experience over the past several years — we live at 709 S. Havana Drive in New Palestine, and, therefore, vote at the Washington Village Apartments (that I can see from home office window as I type this letter). But almost every work day since we moved into this house in 2004, either my wife or I has turned south out of our neighborhood on to 500W — either to take our kids to daycare at New Palestine United Methodist Church or to school at Sugar Creek Elementary. This means that our commute rarely goes past or near our polling place. Instead, we would either take US 52 to Downtown Indianapolis, or head up 500W and connect with I-70. Our commute times would be mirrors of our commute to work with most of our daily trips to and from home heading south.

True, you may find a small handful of voters in our county for whom the vote centers might be less convenient on Election Day. Perhaps, like me, the vote center locations will be a couple miles further from their homes, but for the vast majority of us, the added convenience of having multiple polling locations from which to choose and expanded voting hours will mean a better experience voting. And, ultimately, we will all appreciate the tax savings.

In fact, vote centers offer a rare opportunity for government to do two things at once: become more efficient and provide better, expanded service to the public.
Vote centers would also mean an expansion of an election phenomenon that has taken root in Indiana starting with the 2008 election—absentee voting in person (also known as "early voting"). Hoosier voters, like others around the nation, are indicating through their increased participation in this method of voting has merit and should be preserved and embraced. As you know, this method of in-person voting also maintains the high level of ballot security we've come to know here in Indiana (photo ID is required, as it would be at any vote center). I, myself, have voted "early" at the courthouse the last few elections. While I appreciate the convenience of this option and the security it provides over absentee voting by mail, it is even less convenient for those of us in the western part of the county than rearranging our commutes and finding time to get to our polling places on Election Day.

Once again, I strongly encourage you to adopt vote centers at your meeting Tuesday as I believe the positive long-term benefits of this election modernization would far outweigh any potential drawbacks.

Sincerely,

Jim Gavin

750 S. Havens Drive

New Palestine, IN 46163
Appendix D
Public Education and Comment

Unsolicited letter from Robert and Joanne Letsinger

Marcia Moore, Hancock County Clerk of Court Hancock County Courthouse, Election Office 9 E. Main Street Greenfield, IN 46140

Dear Ms Moore:

This letter pertains to the plan to involve Hancock County in the use of Vote Centers.

We have read the draft Hancock County Vote Center Plan of February 2013 and have followed the reporting of the meetings in the local newspaper.

One of several red flags which we observed was the assumption that in order to permit the Vote Centers to function as planned, half of the votes would be cast early. We would not be among that early crowd as we believe that pertinent information may be revealed late in the campaign which would influence our vote and one should vote with the most complete and most current information possible. Absentee ballots are a second-best last resort and should not be encouraged for more convenience sake. There may be more like us who feel election day should be the day when one participates in the election.

The second red flag concerns the Vote Center requirement that voter information be transmitted via the internet to ensure that there is no duplicate voting. You assure us that the transmission, handling and storage of that information is secure and safe from hacking and misuse. So, too, were the many users assured that various banks, credit card accounts and such could be trusted with the electronic data transmission and storage of their information, but then, to their dismay, they were hacked.

A third problem is noted in the proposed locations of the Vote Centers in that there is no convenient location near Buck Creek Township. It would seem that one of the present voting locations, the Vineyard Church, has both the indoor space and adequate parking to accommodate a large number of voters. We are senior citizens and we drive less than we used to.

Thank you for your consideration of our thoughts.

Robert and Joanne Letsinger

copy to: Commissioner Brad Armstrong
Appendix D

Public Education and Comment

Response to Robert and Joanne Letsinger

Marcia R. Moore
Clerk of Hancock County Courts
9 East Main Street, Rm. 213 • Greenfield, IN 46140
Phone: (317) 477-1109 • Fax: (317) 477-1163

May 8, 2013

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Letsinger
7261 Sacramento Drive
Greenfield, IN 46140

RE: Vote Center Method of Voting

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Letsinger,

Thank you for providing public input voicing your concerns about Vote Centers in Hancock County. I would like to point out that the draft plan on the county’s website was the initial plan prior to public input. The Vote Center plan that will be filed with the State of Indiana will address many of your concerns.

The three primary concerns of your letter appear to be: 1) absentee voting or early voting opportunities, 2) electronic poll books connectivity to the internet, and 3) no vote center in Buck Creek Township.

In regards to your first concern about early or absentee voting may I point out the Hancock County Election Board has no authority to override legislation and that absentee voting is a tool many voters use to cast a ballot prior to Election Day for whatever personal reason that a voter may have.

Second, electronic poll books communicate with each other via secured Internet access to reduce fraud and insure that one voting location is aware that a voter has already been provided a ballot. The information stored in an electronic poll book is public record information, such as your name and address. There is no private or personal information stored on an electronic poll book; therefore, bank or social security information cannot be obtained.

Finally, the draft plan did not have a Vote Center in Buck Creek Township, but after public input and comment the Election Board’s recommendation to the County Commissioners did identify this shortfall and asked the Commissioners to direct the Election Board with the number and locations of Vote Center

“IT IS NOT WHAT WE PROFESS, BUT WHAT WE PRACTICE THAT GIVES US INTEGRITY …” – Francis Bacon
Appendix D

Public Education and Comment

Response to Robert and Joanne Letsinger

locations. Enclosed is a copy of what was provided to the County Commissioners.

Although the Election Board may make a recommendation, Indiana law is clear that the establishment of precincts and polling locations fall under the authority of the County Commissioners and not the Election Board. [IC 3-11-1.5-2 and IC 3-11-18.1].

Ideally this information has helped answer your concerns.

Sincerely,

Marcia R. Moore, Hancock County Circuit Court Clerk
Ex Officio – Secretary, Hancock County Election Board

Enclosure
Appendix D

Public Education and Comment

Response to Robert and Joanne Letsinger

---

Commissioners' Meeting 4-30-13

On July 5, 2011: Resolution 2011-7-1 A Joint Resolution in support of Examining Vote Centers

April 23, 2013 Vote Centers unanimously passed thru the Hancock County Election Board under the motion by C. Thomas Camp that the Hancock County Commissioners set the Vote Center locations.

The current plan calls for 11 Vote Centers within the County for the 2014 Election Cycle; should the Commissioners require more locations then the Election Board will need to revise the current plan.

Under the current plan, there is currently no vote center location in Buck Creek Township or Blue River Township. Possible locations in Buck Creek Township: Fire Station 71 at the Mt. Comfort Airport, Buck Creek Township Fire Station 72 or the Vineyard Church. Possible locations in Blue River: Westland Friends Church at 2892 S 700 East. (But their Handicapped area needs re-painted) so does not currently meet requirements. (But from Highway said it would be ok, if the Church paints the parking area and puts up new Handicap signs. The Election Division has temporary Handicap Signs that are HAVA compliant for Election Day use.)
Suggested Vote Center Locations:

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<th>Location</th>
<th>Address</th>
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<td>McCordsville Town Hall</td>
<td>6280 W 800 North</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fortville Municipal Building</td>
<td>700 Broadway</td>
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<td>Ninestar Connect</td>
<td>2231 E 600 North</td>
<td>Large</td>
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<tr>
<td>Willison Church of Christ</td>
<td>7203 N St Rd 100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brown's Chapel Wesleyan</td>
<td>991 N 600 East</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bell Mortuaries</td>
<td>1512 W US Hwy 52</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brookville Road Community Church</td>
<td>7480 W US Hwy 52</td>
<td>Large</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington Village Apartments</td>
<td>4211 W Potomac Drive</td>
<td>Small</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hancock County Annex</td>
<td>1 American Legion</td>
<td>Large</td>
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<td>Hancock Public Library</td>
<td>900 W McFarland Road</td>
<td>Large</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ninestar Connect</td>
<td>2243 E Main Street</td>
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Appendix D

Public Education and Comment

Letter to the Editor published in the Daily Reporter – May 7, 2013

Hancock County, Indiana

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

County should study vote centers further

The Vote Center Plan as presented to the Commissioners is incomplete and the Commissioners and Council should not vote on it until more information is forthcoming. If the task was to look into the potential for vote centers here in Hancock County then the clerk did not do her job. Instead of justification and detailed recommendations, we got a sales pitch that she would bring “Hancock County elections into the 21st Century.”

Did the clerk establish the need for entirely changing the way voting is done in our county? Is the cost, estimated at half a million dollars for unspecified new equipment and technology, worth the “convenience” claimed? Convenience for whom? Vote centers will have to process, on average, 10,000 voters instead of the usual 1,000 or fewer, assuming voters will distribute themselves evenly among the centers. Long lines, parking problems, and complications with equipment will be multiplied by ten. The convenience, it turns out, is actually for the office of the clerk.

Where is the public input that should have been recorded and addressed in this plan? Appendix D, included only one letter, from L. Ruth Campau who admits that she cannot attend the public hearings, and that “as a senior citizen, ... we have the easiest of all alternatives – we can vote by mail, thus avoiding parking problems, bad weather, inconvenient time restrictions, etc.” Meanwhile, the concerns of the Sugar Creek Trustees, who showed up at numerous hearings, are left unreported and ignored as were the questions and concerns of other citizens. The clerk dropped the serious issue of center locations into the laps of the Commissioners to research and resolve.

I have served many times as the inspector of elections for my precinct and once as the lone inspector for three precincts in our municipal election in Cambridge. I know that precincts can be co-located and the manpower reduced accordingly. Poll workers can be scheduled for half-days, more affordable for many. We don’t have to become a Vote Center County today.

Table the issue until alternatives have been studied and considered. Consider consolidation of polling places into super precincts, thereby testing the vote center concept. Monitor traffic flow and where bottlenecks arise. Super precincts organized by township would have more voting stations, thus providing convenience for the clerk’s office, clarity for the voter, and sound fiscal sense. Why can’t we solve problems the old fashioned way, through low cost or no-cost alternatives whenever possible?

Perhaps L. Ruth Campau has the answer: Mail out ballots to each registered voter in the county and be done with it. Then we can all enjoy the convenience without the hassle of “parking problems, bad weather, inconvenient time restrictions, etc.”

Till then, just table the vote.

Carolyn Flynn
Greenfield

Carolyn Flynn is a Buck Creek Township board member and BC-3 precinct committeeman.
Appendix D
Public Education and Comment

Apology to Mrs. Campau

Marcia R. Moore
Clerk of Hancock County Courts
9 East Main Street, Rm. 213 • Greenfield, IN 46140
Phone: (317) 477-1109 • Fax: (317) 477-1163

May 7, 2013

L. Ruth Campau
114 Willow Road
Greenfield, IN 46140

Dear Mrs. Campau,

In the Letter to the Editor published in today’s Greenfield Daily Reporter, Mrs. Carolyn Flynn expressed in a letter her opinion about Vote Centers. Her first amendment rights are among those rights that I serve to uphold.

A rant about an Elected Official or plan is to be expected in a public forum such as the newspaper. However, her right of expression should not come at the expense of a private citizen. Mrs. Flynn did not quote your views accurately or with a pure heart to facilitate honest discussion. Instead her comments were intended to be sarcastic and derogatory towards me.

I wish to publicly apologize that your good name and honest expression of support may have caused you public humiliation at the hands of Mrs. Flynn.

Sincerely,

Marcia R. Moore
Clerk of the Hancock Circuit Court
Ex Officio – Secretary Hancock County Election Board

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“"It is not what we profess, but what we practice that gives us integrity ..."” — Francis Bacon
Appendix D

Public Education and Comment

Article Published The Daily Reporter, May 8, 2013

COMMISSIONERS OK VOTE CENTERS

Hancock County commissioners unanimously agreed to a resolution to that effect, and today the Hancock County Council, which must approve funding for the move, will consider a similar resolution.

Only a few groups agreed to the vote center concept can bids be sought to purchase new election equipment. Ultimately, a final vote center plan will be presented to the Indiana Election Division to officially allow Hancock County to open fewer, but larger polling sites where anybody can cast a ballot regardless of their address.

Vote centers would be in place for the May 6, 2014, primary election.

There is still, however, a small but vocal group opposed to the plan to change how voting works in the county, but commissioners said they’ve weighed all of the concerns and agree that the county should move forward with the plan.

“I don’t think we’ve taken this lightly,” said commissioners President Derek Towle. “I think a lot of work has been done on all of our parts as far as researching this.”

The state Legislature in 2013 made it possible for counties to switch to vote centers after a lengthy approval process. Nine Indiana counties have already switched, and at least three more are considering vote centers alongside Hancock County.

Commissioners said there are concerns about public interest in new, more efficient voting methods, and that concerns about public safety and accessibility would need to be addressed.

“Vote centers eliminate traditional precinct voting by bringing in more voting equipment to larger sites. Vote centers are also open before Election Day, and local officials hope at least...

Centers

Continued From Page 1

The Hancock County plan lists 11 sites for vote centers, but commissioners said Tuesday they’d like to see an additional one in Buck Creek Township. They said the plan lists 11 sites for vote centers, but commissioners said Tuesday they’d like to see an additional site in Buck Creek Township.

While commissioners were confirming their resolution, five 20 party activists shook their heads and pleaded with commissioners to be able to speak.

Several of them had sent letters to the commissioners citing concerns with the cost of equipment and security with the increased use of technology.

Towle allowed one person, Michael Thompson, to speak because he didn’t want to wait for commissioners. Towle didn’t want to take public comment from the floor because they had already contacted every commissioner.

But Cecily Flynn and Anita Moore stormed the podium anyway. They said the vote center draft plan does not meet all of the requirements of state law.

“At this point, you have to stand aside — I’m not recognizing you at this point,” Towle said.

“Do you say, you’re in violation of the law?” Moore asked.

“Towle replied.”The plan is totally incomplete, and doesn’t meet the requirements of the statute.”

Clark county commissioners said after the meeting that the plan is not simply a draft, and can’t be amended by the election board before it is filed with the state. More details on the equipment, for example, can be added after bids are accepted.

Moore, in participating, was not disappointed with the new equipment to cost at least $500,000, but she can’t wait until the equipment is placed in the county’s new vote centers.

“We won’t have the true number until those bids come in, and the election board is now looking at adding as opposed to purchasing equipment,” Moore said.

Not every audience member at Tuesday’s meeting was opposed to vote centers. Penelope Richardson is with the League of Women Voters and presented the commissioners with data from two counties that have already switched to vote centers.

Exit poll surveys of voters, she said, overwhelmingly supported the concept.

Moore will discuss vote centers around 9:30 a.m. today with the county council. She said she is confident all the data will be in order by the time the plan is sent to the state.

“I would hope that people who say this is a better model will push for such changes,” Moore said. “We’re going to have different elections in all kinds of things we do, but we need to negotiate and disagree agreeably, and work on coming up with solutions.”
Appendix D

Public Education and Comment

Article Published The Daily Reporter, May 9, 2013

Council backs vote centers

■ County will seek bids to buy or lease equipment; questions on costs persist

By MARIBETH VAUGHN
mariesha @ greensburgreporter.com

GREENSBURG — Hancock County is well on its way to implementing vote centers with the 2014 primary election now that the Hancock County Council approved the plan Wednesday.

That’s the third board that has unanimously agreed the county should switch from traditional precinct-style voting to fewer but larger polling sites where anybody can cast a ballot, regardless of their address.

The Hancock County Election Board agreed to the concept in April after four public hearings; the Hancock County Commissioners agreed Tuesday.

Now, bids can be accepted to buy or lease new equipment for vote centers. The only way vote centers couldn’t become a reality here is for all three boards to change their minds, said county attorney Ray Richardson.

While all seven members of the council unanimously agreed to vote centers, there were plenty of questions over the cost of the switch. In fact, one audience member had an unshaven face and was escorted from the podium by the sheriff when he refused to sit down.

“You’re our last safeguard … in protecting the best interest of the people,” Sen. RobACK John Prichard told the group, voice nasally, “Go ahead, call the sheriff. We have the right and demand the right to be heard on this issue.”

Council President Jeff Saldi reminded Prichard that he’s been able to speak at every public informational meeting over the last two months.

Prichard quickly left the meeting after he was escorted to his seat.

Fellow taxpayer George Lockwood said afterward the tax party faction is frustrated that officials are approving plans without knowing the total cost of the new equipment.

Fair Clerk Marica Mores said there’s a simple reason for that.

The election board must approve...
Appendix D

Public Education and Comment

Response to Mr. Priore’s concerns raised at Council Meeting

Marcia R. Moore
Clerk of Hancock County Courts
9 East Main Street, Rm. 213 • Greenfield, IN 46140
Phone: (317) 477-1109 • Fax: (317) 477-1163

May 15, 2013

Mr. John Priore
3197 S 600 East
Greenfield, IN 46140

Dear John,

Please allow me to take a moment to address your frustration regarding the possible cost of election equipment for the vote centers. Although IC 5-22-7-8-9 describes that a purchasing agent is allowed to get proposals for purchases within a cost range, please note that the Hancock County Board of Commissioners limited that with an ordinance limiting the authorized amount for a purchasing agent to $25,000 in our county. I have included a copy of the general provision for your review.

Therefore, because of their action, the Hancock County Election Board was prohibited to seek proposals. Further, because the County Commissioners have not yet awarded a bid, the Election Board is unable to fully describe the exact equipment that will be used in each Vote Center.

As a taxpayer of this county, I too am concerned about purchasing the proper amount and type of equipment that will serve the constituency during an election. Upon the Commissioners setting the number and location of the Vote Centers, along with the equipment that shall be used; the Hancock County Election Board will update the Draft plan and ready the plan for submission to the State of Indiana’s Election Division.

Should you like to review the plan prior to it being sent to the State, please let me know and you are welcome to come into my office to review the plan. A second, third or fourth set of “eyes” are always needed to proofread work!

Sincerely,

Marcia R. Moore
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Ex Officio – Hancock County Election Board

“It is not what we profess, but what we practice that gives us integrity …” – Francis Bacon
Appendix D

Public Education and Comment

Response to Mr. Priore’s concerns raised at Council Meeting

CHAPTER 34: COUNTY POLICIES

Section

General Provisions

34.01 Purchasing agents
34.02 Advance payment of claims
34.03 Authorization of payment of dues
34.04 Ambulance service
34.05 Drug and Evidence Purchase Program
34.06 Fraudulent Check Restitution Program
34.07 Notice of delinquent taxes
34.08 Credit card use by county employees
34.09 National Incident Management System (NIMS)

County Fees

34.20 Community Corrections fees
34.21 Fees for services rendered by the Department of Health
34.22 Fees for electronic maps and/or electronically stored data
34.23 Photocopy fees
34.24 Fees for returned checks
34.25 Health care co-payment by jail inmates
34.26 Dred endorsement fee
34.27 Fees for adult vaccinations
34.28 Foreclosure administrative fee established
34.29 Accident report fee

GENERAL PROVISIONS

§ 34.01 PURCHASING AGENTS.

(A) All elected officeholders and all department heads are designated as purchasing agents of the
county. Those persons may authorize their employees to act on their behalf. Purchasing agents are
authorized to make purchases under $25,000 that are within the budget but subject to the final approval
of the Board of Commissioners.
Appendix D

Public Education and Comment

Article from The Daily Reporter – June 12, 2013
Appendix D
Public Education and Comment

Received at Hancock County Election Board Meeting - June 27, 2013

Statement Regarding the Proposed Changes to Vote Centers in Hancock County
Speaking for the The Constitution Committee PAC
Randall Harrison, President
a/k/a Tea Party of Hancock County

I'll begin by saying thank you to those who have worked hard to investigate and compile information, and have brought the discussion of voting centers to this point. Change is like friction. Any time you induce friction, you get heat. I know that this effort has brought some heat to you, so thank you for your leadership.

Since the middle of the 19th Century, precincts have been the organizing center of the vote. Now Hancock County is considering a change away from precincts to eleven voting centers. The interesting thing is that the voters are not barking for change. They're content. So why are we even here?

For the sake of clarity I want to explain the tea party position on vote centers. Foremost, the vote is the atomic particle of liberty. Nothing is more elemental to our political process. There is no liberty without a fair and unencumbered vote for citizens. It is a constitutional guarantee; so, when we discuss changing how the vote happens it's a big deal.

Change is not the issue for us. Voting centers may have advantages on balance for the voter over precincts. If that is the case we should embrace the new system. In reality, the balance of advantages between either system is difficult to determine because we have very little real-world experience using the vote-center system.

I suspect that a major attraction for the election board is ease of management. On the face, one might think that a substantial reduction in polling locations results in more efficient government. For example, it may reduce the headache of recruiting and training poll workers. Reducing locations may likewise lessen the need for equipment and maintenance. We may also enjoy a benefit of added security and faster auditing. Many of these benefits, including cost projections, are open to doubt, however. The most doubtful of all reasons for a change to voting centers is the increased convenience for our voters. Frankly, if voter turnout is our goal, maybe we should just buy pizza for everyone. I'm sure Mozz's will like that idea.

My point is that cost is not the only factor to be considered, though it is critical not to increase the cost of elections. My point is that management of polling stations, the equipment, convenience, security, and so on are unproven benefits. Some of the claims I have read and heard are open to doubt. Frankly, we just don't know.

Therefore, it behooves us to be darn certain of any supposed advantage. And if a doubt exists, we should leave to others to be guinea pigs in demonstrating the wisdom of vote centers.
### State of Indiana Voter Status Counts by Precinct and Split

#### HANCOCK COUNTY

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#### Appendix E
### Appendix E

#### State of Indiana Voter Status Counts by Precinct and Split

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#### State of Indiana Voter Status Counts by Precinct and Split

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66
### State of Indiana Voter Status Counts by Precinct and Split

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### Appendix F

**Precinct Style Polling Locations**

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<tr>
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<td>485-3100</td>
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### Appendix G

**Vote Center Style – Voting Centers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address/Telephone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>McCordsville Town Hall*</td>
<td>6280 W 800 North McCordsville</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fortville Municipal Building</td>
<td>714 Broadway Fortville, IN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ninestar Connect</td>
<td>2331 E 600 North Greenfield, IN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wilkinson Church of Christ</td>
<td>7293 N St Rd 109 Wilkinson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brown’s Chapel Wesleyan</td>
<td>994 N 600 East Greenfield</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bell Mortuaries</td>
<td>1512 W US Hwy 52 Carrollton, IN 46130 317-861-6153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brookeville Road Community Church</td>
<td>7480 W US Hwy 52 New Palestine, IN 317-861-3880</td>
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<tr>
<td>Washington Village Apartments</td>
<td>4211 W Potomac Drive Greenfield, IN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vineyard Community Church</td>
<td>1672 N 600 West Greenfield, IN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hancock County Annex</td>
<td>111 American Legion PL, Greenfield, IN</td>
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<td>Hancock Public Library**</td>
<td>900 W McKenzie Road Greenfield, IN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ninestar Connect</td>
<td>2243 E Main Street Greenfield</td>
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*McCordsville Town Hall will be a Satellite Vote Center for full county and presidential year voting.

**Hancock Public Library will be a Satellite Vote Center in a municipal election year.