

ABSENT VOTER BALLOTS

Michigan Law requires a request in writing to obtain an absent voter ballot. We will never automatically send BALLOTS without having an application signed by the voter and verified by the Clerk. Voters can track their ballot at Michigan.gov/vote.

ABSENT VOTER COUNTING BOARD

Watertown Charter Township (WCT) has established and will utilize an Absent Voter Counting Board (AVCB) pursuant to MCL 168.765a. All Absent Voter ballots are accounted for when received by the Clerk, as well as when delivered to the precinct for processing and again with the final count on the tabulators when the polls close.

SECURITY

State, County, Local agencies along with election vendors work collaboratively on election security and cybersecurity with agencies such as the US Department of Homeland Security, Michigan State Police Cyber Command, Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (MS-ISAC), Elections Infrastructure Information Sharing and Analysis Center (EI-ISAC), etc. The chain of custody is taken seriously. All equipment is locked and secured in a vaulted area. Only the Clerk and Deputy Clerk have access.

VOTING EQUIPMENT

Clinton County and WCT uses Hart Intercivic Verity Scan Tabulators to tabulate ballots. Hart technology must pass rigorous testing and requirements for certification at the federal and state levels. Local logic and accuracy testing on all ballot styles and equipment is performed before each election (R168.775) with public notification and viewing. More information can be obtained from hartintercivic.com/security/

TRAINED ELECTION WORKERS

Election officials (WCT Clerk's offices and election staff) obtain accreditation pursuant to MCL 168.31(i) to administer elections. They also need to obtain continuing education credits to maintain accreditation. Election Inspectors (poll workers) are required to complete training at the County and local level every 2 years before State and Federal elections. A similar number of Republican & Democratic Election Inspectors work in the precinct and must work as a team of two for certain election duties.

ELECTION DAY

There is no Wi-Fi in the precincts and the Electronic Poll Book (laptops) are in airplane mode. Ballots are numbered and issued in sequence. Any spoiled ballots are accounted for. The number of ballots tabulated must match the number of ballots issued. A count is taken throughout the day to ensure all numbers match.

DE- CENTRALIZATION

Michigan elections involve 83 county clerks, 280 city clerks and 1,240 township clerks making it the most decentralized election system in the nation. All elections in Michigan use a paper ballot system and printed tallies are retained and can be recounted. The County and State Board of Canvassers are composed of two Republican and two Democratic members are responsible for certifying election results, among other election related duties.

AUDITS

Post-Election audits are conducted throughout the state by Republican, Democratic, and nonpartisan officials.

Voter confidence is built one jurisdiction at a time.

Election officials work tirelessly to provide secure, transparent election processes and trustworthy results. This information is another way to inform and assure voters each step of the way.

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