



Mecklenburg County Board of Elections

Procedure for Procurement of Voting Systems (Update)

January 7, 2020

Michael Dickerson, Director

Mecklenburg County Board of Elections

- Current Inventory – 2223 ES&S Ivotronic DRE panels
- Originally purchased in 2006 with the majority of the funding coming from the Help America Vote Act (HAVA)
- **NO Federal or State Funds available for the purchase of the new system**

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S.L. 2015-103, and S.L. 2018-13

- Direct Record Electronic (DRE) machines were be decertified by state law effective December 1, 2019 and may not be used in any election thereafter, except under a “hardship waiver” granted by the NCSBE
- Beginning in 2020, all voting systems must produce a paper ballot, which will serve as the official record of a voter’s selections
- Only North Carolina State Board of Elections certified voting systems will be permitted

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The voting systems listed below were certified by the State Board of Elections at the meeting held August 23, 2019:

- Clear Ballot ClearVote 1.4
- Elections Systems & Software (ES&S) EVS 5.2.2.0
EVS 5.2.4.0 (12/13/19)
- Hart InterCivic Verity Voting 2.2

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Certification-Three Step Process

Three (3) levels of testing must be met in order for a voting system to be certified by the State Board of Elections.

1) Federal Compliance Testing

A Voting system must comply with the Election Assistance Commission's Voluntary Voting Systems Guidelines through testing conducted by a federally certified Voting System Test Laboratory (VSTL)

2) State Certification Testing

Ensure that a voting system complies with the requirements of the State of North Carolina.

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Certification (continued)

3) County Acceptance Testing

Ensures that the system delivered is identical to that which was certified and operates in good working condition. Software versions are certified.

Testing is conducted by the County Board of Elections with the assistance of State Board or consultants approved by the State Board.

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Requirements for adoption and acquisition

- Step 1: Witnessed a **demonstration** of the recommended type of voting system plus at least one other certified type of voting system. All three certified voting systems were demonstrated in the County. *September 23, 2019*
- Step 2: Made a **preliminary recommendation** to the Board of County Commissioners as to which type of voting system should be acquired for the County Board of Elections. *September 27, 2019*

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- Step 3: The County Board of Elections **instructed** the County Board staff to test the proposed voting system in at least one precinct where the voting system would be used if adopted. The test **MUST** take place during the 2019 General election. *November 5, 2019*
- Step 4: Received State Board of Elections **approval** to replace the current voting system. *Received November 20, 2019*

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- Step 5: Make a **Final Recommendation** to the Board of County Commissioners.

The Board of County Commissioners shall adopt and acquire any voting system recommended by the County Board of Elections. It cannot adopt and acquire a voting system that has not been approved by the County Board of Elections.

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Final Recommendation

- Select the Election System & Software (ES&S) vendor
 - 2400 ExpressVote Ballot Marking Devices
 - 350 DS-200 Precinct Ballot Tabulators
 - Related equipment and Maintenance agreement

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Questions ?