

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
STATE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
MONTANA STATE SENATE

January 16, 1987

The seventh meeting of the State Administration Committee was called to order by Chairman Jack Haffey on January 16, 1987 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 331 of the State Capitol.

ROLL CALL; All committee members were present.

The hearing was opened on House Bill 50.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL 50: Representative John Cobb, House District 42, Augusta, was the sponsor of HB 50, "AN ACT REVISING THE LAW GOVERNING THE FIRE SERVICES TRAINING SCHOOL BY CHANGING THE MAKEUP OF THE FIRE SERVICES TRAINING ADVISORY COUNCIL; PROVIDING THAT MEMBERS MAY BE REMOVED FOR CAUSE; REDEFINING THE PURPOSE OF THE SCHOOL; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 2-15-1519 AND 20-31-103, MCA." The bill had been requested by the Fire Services Training School. He stated the legislative auditor had recommended changes be made in the goals and responsibilities and a change be made in their operating statutes. This bill changes the makeup of the advisory board, adds language that a member can be removed for cause and adds a person from the State Lands Department. Section 2 clarifies the goals and duties of the school. The existing language was too broad and encompassed too many duties.

PROPOSERS: Butch Weeden, Director of the Fire Services Training School supported the bill. Lyle Nagel, President of the Montana State Firefighters Association, also supported the measure.

OPPOSERS: There were none.

QUESTIONS ON HOUSE BILL 50: Senator Harding wondered what was meant by professional education person and was told it would be a person involved in education as a fulltime career such as an administrator of schools or involved in vo-tech education perhaps. Senator Farrell was concerned about removing the person with engineering capabilities as he felt an engineer in the private sector might be more versed in building codes. Mr. Weeden felt this was more the role of the fire marshal. Senator Haffey wondered if this would affect the funding needs of the training program and was told it would not. Senator Haffey also wondered if the new language meant it would reduce their responsibilities to go out and do the training. He was also concerned the language resource center might be interpreted as a new building and was told this referred to the resource information they now have which they loan out to various sources and that is the intent of the legislation. Rep. Cobb CLOSED by stating the former language was just too broad and this just narrows it down. The hearing was closed on HB 50.

CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL 95: Senator Tom Rasmussen, Senate District 22, Helena, is the sponsor of this bill which is entitled; "AN ACT PROVIDING THAT AN ELECTOR MAY REQUEST TO VOTE BY PAPER BALLOT INSTEAD OF USING A VOTING DEVICE; AMENDING SECTION 13-17-305, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE." This would change back into law language concerning paper ballots being available in all polling places. He felt there was some concern from a few people regarding being able to use paper ballots and in some cases for the visually handicapped and the elderly who desire to vote by paper ballot rather than the machines. He felt they should be given the opportunity to vote the way they desired.

PROPOSERS: Monica McQuire, a Helena resident, told of her experiences when she tried to vote by paper ballot in past elections and felt she should have the right to vote the way she chose. She felt some people are just suspicious of the machines and those who were unable to see would have problems with the newer machines and should have the choice.

OPPOSERS: Bill Driscoll, Clerk and Recorder from Butte-Silver Box County, opposed the measure because of the need and cost of printing a paper ballot. He cited an example of past elections and how very costly it was to print paper ballots in the past election for them. (Exhibit 1) Judy Doggett, County Clerk of Broadwater County, polled various CES (voting machine) users for their costs in past elections and offered their responses in exhibit for the committee. (Exhibit 2) Jan Jennings, County Clerk and Recorder for Park County, told the committee in the 1985 general election they had 7,420 voters and 14 voted by paper which averaged out to a cost of about \$99 per ballot. With so few voting this method, it also was a violation of the lack of privacy she felt because all of the judges knew just who voted this method and how they voted. (Exhibit 3) Sue Bartlett, Lewis & Clark Clerk and Recorder submitted a written statement to the committee with her concerns about the use and cost of printing a paper ballot. She understood the concern for those wishing to vote this method but felt the cost of printing such ballots was too high to justify. (See Exhibit 4) Larry Akey, Chief Deputy to the Secretary of State, stated much thought had gone into opposition for this bill because of the costs involved and stated he felt the decision ought to be left to the local districts to determine their own needs in this area.

QUESTIONS ON SENATE BILL 95: Senator Haffey asked whether this was balancing the ability to vote with local control and was concerned if we are disenfranchising people's right to vote by not allowing them to vote on paper. Mr. Akey stated people are opposed to change sometimes but was not sure maintaining paper ballots was the best way to address their concerns. He noted the difference between voting machines and voting devices. Senator Harding wondered about the possibility of creating a

Senate State Administration
January 16, 1987
Page Three

paper ballot district or using absentee ballots for those desiring to vote by paper. Mr. Akey stated one would have to be very careful in setting up something like this. Sue Bartlett reiterated the ballots would have to be different for the different districts and one would have to be sure the person was eligible to vote in the different precincts, etc. The costs would still be high. Senator Farrell wondered if efforts had been made to educate the people to the newer processes. Senator Farrell asked Professor Tom Payne of the University of Montana about Missoula's use of the optical scan type of voting device. He noted there was an enormous savings in costs and provides a much more accurate counting. Elaborate election checks are done beforehand to assure accuracy he noted. There have been very few complaints concerning this system he stated. Senator Anderson wondered if absentee ballots could possibly be used and was told that absentee ballots can be voted by using the machine devices. Senator Vaughn told of her county's experiences with the voting devices and that they had encountered no problems with the newer system. Senator Hofman wondered if some method of accomodating people who desired to vote by paper at costs that were not so prohibitive had been researched.

Senator Rasmussen then CLOSED on SB 95.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HOUSE BILL 50: Senator Farrell MOVED that HOUSE BILL 50 BE CONCURRED IN. Senator Anderson seconded the motion. Senator Hofman was still concerned about having someone with engineering knowledge being involved. Senator Farrell stated his concerns had been addressed and he was comfortable with the measure. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

cd



SENATOR JACK HAFFEY, Chairman

ROLL CALL

SENATE STATE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

50th LEGISLATIVE SESSION -- 1987

Date 1/16/87

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
SENATOR JACK HAFHEY	X		
SENATOR WILLIAM FARRELL	X		
SENATOR LES HIRSCH	X		
SENATOR JOHN ANDERSON	X		
SENATOR J. D. LYNCH	X		
SENATOR ETHEL HARDING	X		
SENATOR ELEANOR VAUGHN	X		
SENATOR SAM HOFMAN	X		
SENATOR HUBERT ABRAMS	X		
SENATOR TOM RASMUSSEN	X		

Each day attach to minutes.

NAME: BILL DRISCOLL DATE: 1/16/87

ADDRESS: 2340 SOUTH DRIVE BUTTE MT 59701

PHONE: 782-7916 OR 723-8262 EX 252

REPRESENTING WHOM? CLERK & RECORDER - BUTTE - SILVER BOW

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: SB 95

DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND? OPPOSE?

COMMENTS: COST OF RAISED BALLOTS

PRIMARY	1982	1424	None Used	11,736	VOTERS
GENERAL	1982	1096	1 Used	16,563	
PRIMARY	1984	2836	None Used	13,388	
GENERAL	1984	1412	1 Used	18,563	
		<u>4568</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>60,250</u>	

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

SENATE STATE ADMIN.
BOOK NO. 1
DATE 1-16-87
BILL NO. SB 95

County Clerk and Recorder

BROADWATER COUNTY

P. O. BOX 489

TOWNSEND, MONTANA 59644

COUNTY OF BROADWATER

INVEST NO. 2

DATE 1-16-87

BILL NO. 5895

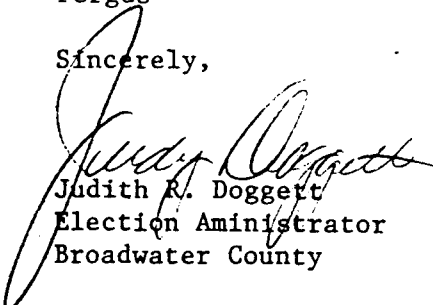
January 16, 1987

HONORABLE SENATORS

Following is a list of the counties that use the votomatic voting machines (CES) and the cost of the ballots for each election. This is only the counties that reported back to me so this is not a total list of all CES users.

COST PER BALLOT	1984 Primary	1984 General	1986 General
Park	56.25	99.69	-0-
Gallatin County		42.88	-0-
Madison	73.80	58.76	-0-
Lewis & Clark	28.44	16.36	32.55 - '86 Primary
Hill	27.92	39.08	8.53
Custer	74.36	51.30	-0-
Silver Bow	1836.00	1412.00	-0-
Flathead		6.59	-0-
Rosebud	500.00	700.00	-0-
Toole		87.69	
Pondera	127.33	127.33	-0-
Broadwater	74.00	68.92	-0-
Mineral			7.58
Fergus			7.08

Sincerely,


Judith R. Doggett
Election Administrator
Broadwater County

1-16-87
SB95

SUSAN W. HAVERFIELD
FLATHEAD COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER
800 South Main - Kalispell, Montana 59901
Phone (406) 755-5300

January 14, 1987

Judith R Doggett
Election Administrator
PO Box 489
Townsend, Mt 59644

Re: Paper ballot cost

I sincerely hope the following information will be of use to you in lobbying against any legislation which is aimed at bringing back the paper ballot.

In explanation of some of the following figures:

In 1984, 4 of our precincts had two polling facilities each, one supplied with the votomatic punch card and the other with paper ballots only. This accounts for the total paper ballots cast as 171, cost per ballot as \$6.59. An estimation, had no polls been restricted to paper ballots, would be 32 paper ballots county wide, cost per ballot as \$35.22 .

One of these paper ballot polling facilities has been abandoned, voters now sharing one votomatic facility for the complete precinct. The other 3 facilities are now supplied with votomatic ballots, and use PBCs, precinct ballot counters, at the facilities to count ballots. The voters' acceptance of this system has been 100% favorable. These facilities will continue to use the votomatic even at such time as the paper ballot would again become mandatory.

General 1984:	Total votes cast	26,803	
		<u>- 145</u>	(paper ballot facilities--no votomatics available)
	total paper ballots 171	26,658	
		<u>- 26</u>	(paper ballots cast in votomatic precincts county wide)
		26,632	total votomatic ballots cast

paper ballot printing

$\$1127.00 \div 171$ paper ballots used = \$6.59 per paper ballot cast

votomatic ballot printing

$\$2479.50 \div 26,632$ voto. ballots used = \$.093 per voto ballot cast

General 1986: No paper ballot facilities in the county. Only 1 known complaint due to the lack of any paper ballots county wide.

Total votes cast 21,989

votomatic ballot printing

\$1686.00 ÷ 21,989 ballots cast = \$.076 per ballot cast

3
1-16-87
\$695

1984 and 1986 total cost comparison:

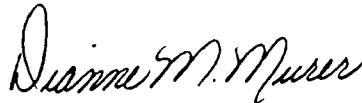
1984	paper printing	\$1127.00	
	voto printing	<u>2479.50</u>	
		3606.50	÷ 26,803 total votes cast =
			<u>\$.134</u> per ballot

1986 (see above) \$.076 per ballot

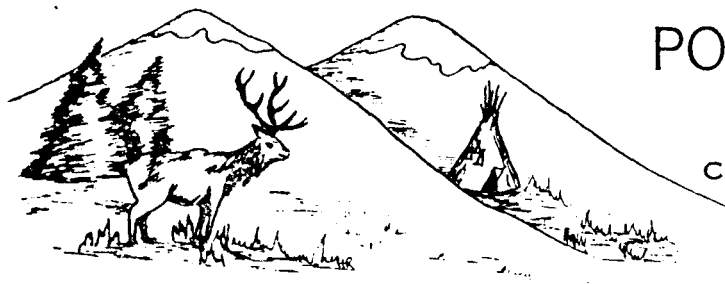
The additional cost of printing paper ballots county wide, with 4 paper ballot polling facilities, increases the cost per ballot cast from \$.076 to \$.134, almost double.

If you need further explanation of these figures or any additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Dianne M. Murer
Election Supervisor

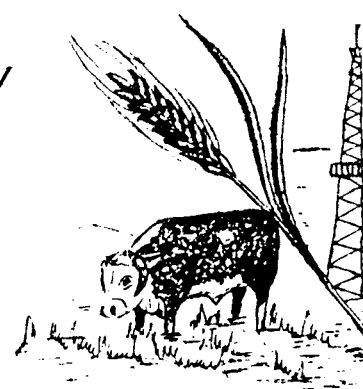


PONDERA COUNTY

20 4TH AVENUE S.W.

CONRAD, MONTANA 59425

January 14, 1987



Judith R. Doggett
Election Administrator
Broadwater County
Townsend, Montana 59644

DATE: 1-16-87
BY: SB 95

RE: Cost of paper ballots and total used.

In the 1984 Primary, Pondera County had 470 paper ballots printed at a cost of \$382.00 and 3 ballots were used.

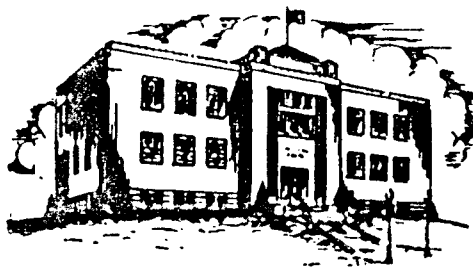
In the 1984 General Election, once again we had 470 Ballots printed and once again only 3 ballots were used. Cost \$382.00

In 1986, we did not have paper ballots and no one complained.

We have invited people to come in to our office before the Election and we demonstrate or show them the punch cards, etc. They are well satisfied and enjoy voting by the punch card method when they go to the Polls. The voters are given good instructions at the polls by the Election Judges.

Thank you.

Elsie Lamna,
Election Administrator
Pondera County
20 4th Ave S.W.
Conrad, Mt. 59425



PENNY UNDERDAHL, Clerk of Court
 DIANA L. FELTON, Treasurer
 CORRINE MERHAR, Assessor
 LOUISE LORENZEN, Co. Supt.
 JERRY MURRAY, Coroner
 TONY LUNDA, Public Administrator
 JAMES C. FARRAR, Justice of the Peace

COUNTY OF TOOLE
SHELBY, MONTANA

January 14, 1987

FILED _____
 COUNTY _____
 DATE 1-16-87
 BY SB 95

J.G. GOTTFRIED, Chairman
 HARRY A. SIMONS, Commissioner
 GENEVA R. SISK, Commissioner
 RAE KALBFLEISCH, County Attorney
 BETTY JEAN WALTER, Clerk and Recorder
 VERN L. ANDERSON, Sheriff

Judith R. Doggett, Election Administrator
 P.O. Box 489
 Townsend, Montana 59644

Dear Judith,

We have not used paper ballots since 1984 when it cost us \$876.69 for less than 10 ballots with a total of 2890 cast.

We do hope that this bill can be killed as this year we only had one person that we felt was left out as she refused to use our machine. We did call her and try to work with her, she is elderly and of a very firm mind. Other elderly persons have enjoyed it once they tried.

Thank you for your efforts.

Sincerely,

Betty Jean Walter
 Clerk & Recorder

County Clerk and Recorder

BROADWATER COUNTY

P.O. BOX 489

TOWNSEND, MONTANA 59644

January 12, 1987

2
1-16-87
SB 95

TO: ELECTION ADMINISTRATORS (CES USERS)

FROM: JUDITH R. DOGGETT
ELECTION ADMINSTRATOR

We are requesting information on the cost of the paper ballots for the 1984 electin and also the cost if you had paper ballots printed for the 1986 elections. I would like to know the cost per ballot to the county.

In the 1984 June Primary. Broadwater County had 150 ballots printed at a cost of \$222.00. Only three ballots were used in this election which cost us \$74.00 per ballot. In November, 1984 I had 150 ballots printed at a cost of \$206.75 and again only three ballots were used which cost \$68.92 per ballot. In 1986, I did not have any paper ballots printed and wrote a letter to the three persons who used the ballots in 1984.

There is a bill being presented to require us to have paper ballots available to the voters and the Secretary of State has requested the above information. I would also like to have a copy of this information so that we can lobby against this bill. I will compile all of the information from each county and present it to our legislative committee.

Thank you all!

I did not print paper for 1986.

In 1984 in the primary I had 3 users and the cost was 500.⁰⁰ per ballot, as I have 15 precincts and all the different set ups for Precinct Comm. Heo People, as well as notation. In the 1984 General I had one ballot @ a cost of \$700. I realize we could auto. on a vote but it is...

They did not want to use the system. They did still vote in 1986 on the CES without incident and with much complaining.

If they want paper back, let's compromise and do away with notation!

Best of luck, & let me know if you need bodies and we will try and come up.

Jeri
Leland Co.

County Clerk and Recorder

BROADWATER COUNTY
P.O. BOX 489
TOWNSEND, MONTANA 59644

January 12, 1987

STATE OF MONTANA
COUNTY NO. 2
DATE 1-16-87
BILL NO. SB 95

TO: ELECTION ADMINISTRATORS (CES USERS)

FROM: JUDITH R. DOGGETT
ELECTION ADMINSTRATOR

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Thank you all!

SILVER BOW COUNTY

Judy-

1/13/87

Glad you asked.

	<u>Printing</u>	<u>Used</u>	<u>Ballots Cast</u>
Primary, 1982	\$1424	None	11,736
General, 1982	1096	1	16,563
Primary, 1984	1836	None	13,388
General, 1984	<u>1412</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>18,563</u>
Totals	\$5768	2	60,250

None printed or used in 1986 Primary Or General. Best Wishes,



2
1-16-87
SB 95

County of Custer

Custer County Courthouse
1010 Main
MILES CITY, MONTANA 59301

January 13, 1987

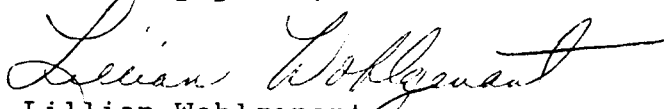
Judith R. Doggett, Election Administrator
P.O. Box 489
Townsend, MT 59644

Dear Judith:

Regarding your letter dated January 12th, the cost of paper ballots for the 1984 Primary was \$223.10. At that time, we had three electors that chose to vote on paper ballots rather than the votomatic. The cost per ballot was \$74.36+, then in the General Election, I printed less paper ballots, even though the law requires one per elector, at a cost of \$102.60, bringing the cost for two electors to \$51.30 per ballot. In both elections I did not have one per elector of the paper ballots printed, if I had done so, the cost would have been approximately six times as much for the Primary and much more for the General election.

In my own opinion, paper ballots are unnecessary and costly. Also, with such few using them, they are not very private. Sure hope the bill is killed.

Sincerely yours,


Lillian Wohlgenant
Custer County Election Administrator.

County of Hill

OFFICE OF THE CLERK AND RECORDER
HILL COUNTY COURTHOUSE
HAVRE, MONTANA 59501
265-5481 ext 21

RECEIVED
BOOK NO. 3
DATE 1-16-87
FILE NO. SB 95

Clerk and Recorder - Diane E. Mellem
Deputy - Carolyn Patrick
Deputy - E. A. Williams
Deputy

January 13, 1987

Dear Judith,

The following is the information you requested concerning the printing costs of Paper Ballots.

Primary 1984- with rotation

Ballot Cost	3,267.06
810 Paper Ballots Printed	@ 4.03
117 Paper Ballots Issued	@ 27.92

General 1984- with rotation

Ballot Cost	4,650.40
855 Paper Ballots Printed	5.44
119 Paper Ballots Issued.....	39.08

General 1986 - without rotation

Ballot Cost	656.65
330 Paper Ballots Printed	1.99
77 Paper Ballots issued	8.53

I hope this information will help you. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

E. A. (Betty) Williams

E.A. Williams, Deputy

Sue Bartlett



City-County Building
316 N. Park Ave.
Helena, Montana 59623
Telephone 406/443-1010

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY

Office of Clerk and Recorder

January 13, 1987

RECEIVED
COUNTY CLERK
1-16-87
SB95

COST OF PAPER BALLOTS IN LEWIS & CLARK COUNTY

	<u>1984</u> <u>Primary</u>	<u>1984</u> <u>General</u>	<u>1986</u> <u>Primary</u>
Total Number Voting	11,660	23,437	7,121
Percent Turnout	42%	76%	29%
Total Paper Ballots Used	131	172	65
Percent Using Paper Ballots	1%	7/10 of 1%	9/10 of 1%
Paper Ballot Printing Costs	\$2,338	\$1,600	\$1,424
Other Paper Ballot Costs*	<u>1,387</u>	<u>1,214</u>	<u>692</u>
Total Paper Ballot Costs	\$3,725	\$2,814	\$2,116
Cost Per Ballot Used	\$28.44	\$16.36	\$32.55

*Includes supply and personnel costs required to prepare and to tally as well as to secure paper ballots.

RECEIVED
1-16-87
SB 95

JUDITH R. DOGGETT
ELECTION ADMINISTRATOR
BROADWATER COUNTY
P.O. BOX 489
TOWNSEND, MT. 59644

DEAR JUDITH,

The first election at which we used the CES voting machines
16 paper ballots were voted at a cost to Madison County of \$1,180.85.
at over \$73.80 each.

The General Election of 1984, 15 People voted with paper ballots.
The cost of the Ballots was \$881.50, at over \$58.76 per paper ballot.

We did not have paper ballots for the 1986 election. It certinally
helped a lot. We also did not have to have the Poll and Tally Books
made up just for paper ballots. They are a lot of extra work and take
a lot of time. You have to do the same amount of work getting all of
the election supplies ready for each precinct even though you know they
will not use the paper ballots.

THANKS

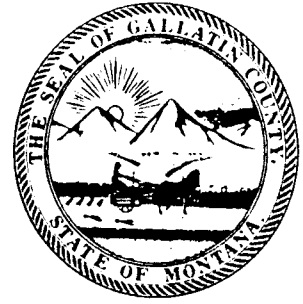


DOROTHY C. BROWN
ELECTION ADMINISTRATOR, MADISON COUNTY

State of Montana

County of Gallatin

Bozeman



January 14, 1987
Judith R. Doggett
County Clerk and Recorder
Broadwater County
P.O. Box 489
Townsend, MT 59644

1-16-87
38 25

Dear Judy,

In response to your letter of January 12, 1987 in regards to paper ballots, this office was able to find records of the use of paper ballots in the 1984 general election. The cost of the paper ballots in total was \$1,843.93. This charge basically was the set-up charge. Approximately fifty ballots were sent to each of the 37 precincts we had at that time. Due to a problem with our Computer Election System, thirty-seven ballots were sent overseas to absentee voters. During the general election sixteen more ballots were actually used at the polls. If you include the overseas absentee ballots into the total cost per ballot used, the cost would be \$42.88 per ballot. The cost per ballot in only ballots used at the polls would be \$115.25 per ballot.

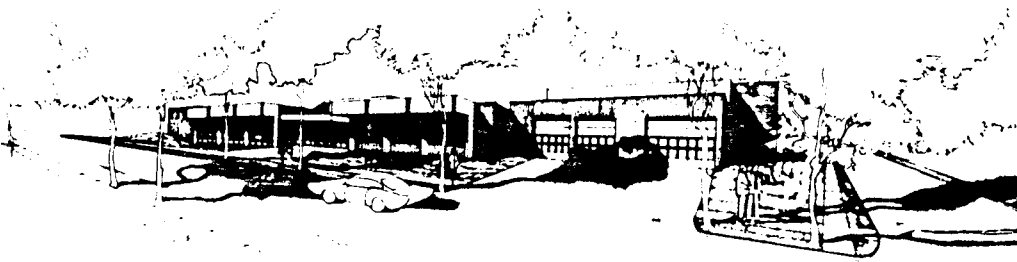
No paper ballots were printed for the 1986 primary or general election. Only one person contacted this office prior to the elections about paper ballots at the polls. Not one voter requested the paper ballots at the polls during the elections.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call or write.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jerry Wine".

Jerry Wine
Clerk and Recorder



JANICE JENNINGS
Clerk and Recorder
(406) 222-6120

PARK COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER

P. O. Box 1037 - Livingston, Montana 59047

STATE ADMIN.
DATE 1-16-87
BILL NO. 5295

January 12, 1987

Judy Doggett
Clerk and Recorder
Broadwater County
Townsend, Mt. 59644

Dear Judy,

The following are the costs of the 1984 elections held in Park County:

Primary: Total cost of paper ballots \$562.54; Total used, 10
Cost per Ballot \$56.25

General: Total cost of paper ballots \$1,395.75; Total used, 14
Cost per Ballot \$99.69

Sincerely,

Janice Jennings
Janice Jennings
Clerk and Recorder

JJ

NAME: Janice Jennings DATE: 1-16-86

ADDRESS: Box 1037 Lewington, Gnt

PHONE: 222-6120 ext 219

REPRESENTING WHOM? Park County - Clerk & Recorder

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: SB 95

DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND? OPPOSE? ✓

COMMENTS: Due to the cost of having paper ballots printed and the usage (out of 7020 voters in the 1985 General only 14 used paper ballots) I feel the counties should not be subject to this additional cost. There is no privacy in voting a paper ballot when you are the only one in the precinct doing so. These paper ballots are counted at the precinct by the election judges - everyone knows your vote. Our cost per ballot - paper ballot - for the 1985 General was \$99⁶⁹ (per ballot). That is with less than 1/4 of one per cent of those voting, using those paper ballots.
also there is no

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

SENATE STATE ARCHIVE
EXHIBIT NO. 3
DATE 1-16-87
BILL NO. SB95

Sue Bartlett



City-County Building
316 N. Park Ave.
Helena, Montana 59623
Telephone 406/443-1010

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY

Office of Clerk and Recorder

TESTIMONY OF SUE BARTLETT, LEWIS & CLARK COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER

RE: Senate Bill 95

Lewis and Clark County uses the votomatic voting device system. I did print paper ballots for the 1986 primary election. In doing so, I made a concerted effort to minimize the costs of providing paper ballots as an option for voters to use in place of a votomatic ballot. I eliminated the rotation of candidate names on the paper ballots; I reduced to a minimum the number of paper ballots printed for each precinct; I changed from pre-printed tally books to tally sheets made and copied in my office to save on staff and supply costs. I believed that these changes would decrease the costs of paper ballots enough to make it possible to continue providing paper ballots.

Despite these changes, it cost Lewis and Clark County \$1,424.00 simply to print paper ballots for the primary. Total costs amounted to \$2,116.00. Sixty-five paper ballots were used in the primary. For printing alone, each paper ballot used cost \$21.91. For comparison, the cost of printing all the votomatic pages for absentees as well as for use in the polls plus the cost of purchasing ballot cards averaged \$1.22 per votomatic ballot used in the same election (7,056 ballots used).

Given these comparative costs and budget instructions that my fiscal year 1987 budget was not to exceed the dollar level for my budget in fiscal 1986, I simply could not justify the costs of providing paper ballots for the 1986 general election.

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER
EXHIBIT NO. 4
DATE 1-16-87
BILL NO. SD 95

Let me give you some examples of what \$1,424.00 -- just the cost of printing paper ballots for the 1986 primary -- can fund:

- 425 hours of election judges' work
- 22,639 votomatic ballot cards
- Postage to mail 15,311 voter information pamphlets
- 10,000 microfilm camera cards -- enough cards to film recorded documents for half a year
- 38% of the cost of printing the votomatic pages -- both absentee and polling place pages -- that were used by 19,608 voters in the 1986 general election
- Printing costs for 26,550 county warrants, more than are used in 14 months.

Members of the Committee, I know you must make particularly difficult decisions in this legislative session. And you must recognize that, at the county level, we also must make difficult decisions. Even with these convincing cost figures, it was difficult for me to make the final decision to eliminate paper ballots. I knew the distress it would cause some voters and I understand that sense of distress.

But I also understand my responsibility to the taxpayers of Lewis and Clark County and their distress over property taxes. Property taxes are a substantial portion of the County General Fund and it is the County General Fund that pays for elections. I do not oppose the sentiment that resulted in the introduction of Senate Bill 95. But I do oppose the costs to the County General Fund that this bill represents, and I ask you to give this bill a do not pass recommendation.

Thank you.

Sue Bartlett



City-County Building
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LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY

Office of Clerk and Recorder

January 13, 1987

4
1-16-87
SB95

COST OF PAPER BALLOTS IN LEWIS & CLARK COUNTY

	1984 <u>Primary</u>	1984 <u>General</u>	1986 <u>Primary</u>
Total Number Voting	11,660	23,437	7,121
Percent Turnout	42%	76%	29%
Total Paper Ballots Used	131	172	65
Percent Using Paper Ballots	1%	7/10 of 1%	9/10 of 1%
Paper Ballot Printing Costs	\$2,338	\$1,600	\$1,424
Other Paper Ballot Costs*	<u>1,387</u>	<u>1,214</u>	<u>692</u>
Total Paper Ballot Costs	\$3,725	\$2,814	\$2,116
Cost Per Ballot Used	\$28.44	\$16.36	\$32.55

*Includes supply and personnel costs required to prepare and to tally as well as to secure paper ballots.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

JANUARY 16

87

19.....

MR. PRESIDENT

SENATE STATE ADMINISTRATION

We, your committee on.....

HOUSE BILL

50

having had under consideration..... No.....

third reading copy (blue)
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CLARIFICATION OF FIRE SERVICES TRAINING SCHOOL LAWS (Walker)

HOUSE BILL

50

Respectfully report as follows: That..... No.....

BE CONCURRED IN

~~XXXXXX~~
DO PASS

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
DO NOT PASS

SENATOR JACK HAPPEY

Chairman.