



## Kootenai County Clerk Clifford T. Hayes

Auditor · Clerk of the District Court · County Assistance · Elections · Recorder

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### November 8, 2011 Election Canvass Actions & Outcomes

#### Machine Counts Verified

All optical scan counting machines were tested November 7, 2011, and again after all voted ballots were counted on November 8, 2011. (IC 34-2416) The reports for all machines showed 100% agreement with the test deck in both pre- and post-Election tests.

#### Audits Performed by Elections Staff 11/9/11 to 11/16/11

Ballot stubs received from precinct poll workers were tallied against voter signatures in each poll book. (IC 34-1202) There was 100% agreement.

Ballot stubs received from precinct poll workers were tallied against optical scan counting machine totals by precinct. (IC 34-1203) There was 100% agreement.

Ballots cast (the optical scan machine counts) were matched against the number of voter signatures in the poll books, and the ballot stubs received from precincts. There was 100% agreement. Ballots cast do not match vote totals because some voters do not make a selection for all races on their ballot.

Write-in ballots were a factor in the cities of Harrison and Rathdrum, and especially in Mica Kidd Island Fire district where only write-in options were on the ballot. Write-in ballots cast do not always match write-in votes tallied, for two reasons: the optical scan counting machines are programmed to stop on a declared write-in line when the oval is completely filled in, so first, some voters wrote in a name without filling in the oval, as specified on the ballot. (IC 34-911) Not filling in the oval next to the name voids the write-in vote. (Secretary of State's optical scan directive) Second, if the oval was filled in but the name written in was not a declared write-in candidate for that office, then that vote was invalid. (IC 34-702A) The abstract pages for Harrison, Rathdrum and Mica Kidd Island fire district have write-in validity details.

Voided absentee ballots were scrutinized in many ways, and the report attached details each voided ballot, its reasons and the actions taken, by city.

Absentee ballots tallied by vote-counting machines totaled 3,056; yet 3,057 absentee envelopes were received. A manual count of the absentee ballots received was undertaken, and 3,056 ballots were confirmed; this was 100% agreement with the optical scan counting machines. A manual search of the absentee envelopes received was undertaken, yet no additional ballots were discovered. The Elections staff has no further action to resolve this variance.

The Unofficial Election Results posted at midnight November 8, 2011 indicated two missing precincts. However, no ballots were received in two absentee precincts (Hauser & Huetter). Programming caused these two precincts to show up as not counted in the Unofficial Results posting, when in actuality there *was nothing to count*. Different programming to avoid this situation will be done before the next election cycle.



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## Errors

Due to poll worker errors in the following 4 precincts, 24 County residents erroneously cast ballots for a city (Coeur d'Alene, Hayden or Rathdrum) race:

Precinct	# Erroneous Ballots
9	1
17	3
50	1
60/61	19

Poll workers did not *call the Elections office* as they had been instructed to do in training if a voter who was not in the poll book wanted a ballot. Poll workers at Precinct 60/61 will be interviewed to gather more information about the problem, and additional poll worker training emphasis will be placed on preventing this error in the future.

Due to poll worker errors in the following 12 Precincts, 21 eligible voters *cast the correct ballot*, but in the wrong precinct. Details are:

Precinct	# Ballots	(Precinct Should Have Been)
18	1	(20)
18	2	(14)
19	1	(17)
23	2	(25)
38	1	(41)
39	1	(41)
41	3	(38)
41	1	(37)
51	1	(39)
52	1	(48)
56	2	(57)
56	1	(38)
58	1	(59)
59	2	(58)
60/61	1	(50)

Additional poll worker training emphasis will be placed on preventing this error in the future.