



# Michigan Bureau of Elections News Update

for Election Administrators

March 24, 2017



## Voting System Purchase Update

Things are progressing on the voting system purchase front! To date, 25 counties have selected their new system – see the latest update here: [Vendor Selection Summary](#).

Of these, 13 counties have jurisdictions that will begin using the new systems in conjunction with the August 8, 2017 election. An interactive map can also be found here: [Voting System Implementation Map](#). All counties have been asked to submit their vendor selections to the Bureau of Elections (BOE) by April 14.

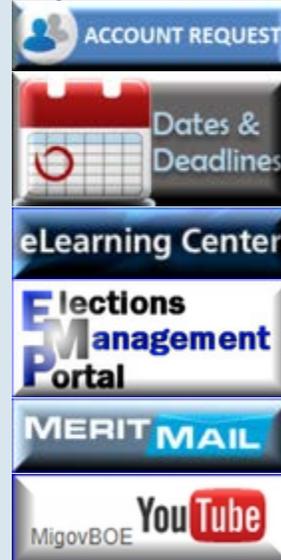
BOE is regularly communicating through the County Clerks, who will assist in coordinating plans for the gradual rollout, equipment and software orders, and delivery and training schedules with the vendors. At this point, our major focus is on preparing those jurisdictions implementing the new systems in August. As your implementation schedules are finalized, BOE will provide you with a Grant Agreement, which must be signed and returned before orders can be placed. These grant agreements establish ownership of the equipment at the local level, set requirements for ongoing records maintenance and establish equipment totals for each county and local city and township. For those implementing in August, grants will be distributed in the next several days. (You will be notified once your grant is ready.) For those implementing this November, grants will be generated later this summer.

Vendors will provide extensive training and support to

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assist all jurisdictions in fully preparing for the use of their new systems.

**Some important reminders:**

- Contracts are for a 10-year term. The initial purchase includes 5 years of service & maintenance. The available Federal and State funding (\$40 million statewide) covers the majority of the costs for the initial 5-year period.
- Contracts include the purchase of tabulators (one per precinct); accessible voting devices for use by voters with disabilities (one per polling place, with some exceptions); and Election Management System (EMS) software (one per county, and for select cities and townships).

Limited funding is also available for additional tabulators utilized in Absent Voter Counting Boards (AVCBs), based on the overall volume of AV voters in jurisdictions utilizing AVCBs. Contact your county or BOE for more information on this topic, if needed.

Jurisdictions who will not begin using the new systems in August are welcome and encouraged to contact their neighboring jurisdictions and counties who are participating, to start becoming more familiar with the new systems. Smaller elections in the odd year are the ideal time to begin this process. Full statewide rollout of the new systems is planned for August 2018.

Please continue to watch for these updates as key steps in the purchase process continue to evolve. Remember that the Bureau of Elections regularly updates its dedicated [Voting System Purchase](#) web page, so check this site often. (You can find this site directly by visiting the main BOE web page at [www.mi.gov/elections](http://www.mi.gov/elections); under Information for Election Administrators; What's New.) If you have further questions or needs, don't hesitate to contact BOE at 800-292-5973; or by email at [elections@mi.gov](mailto:elections@mi.gov).

Questions? Please contact the Bureau of Elections at 1-800-292-5973 or [elections@michigan.gov](mailto:elections@michigan.gov).

The Bureau of Elections News Update will always be sent to MERIT email accounts. If other election administrations that do not have MERIT email access would like to receive this newsletter as well use the Subscribe link



## Michigan Bureau of Elections News Update for Election Administrators

January 25, 2017



### Voting System Update

This is the first of what will be a series of News Updates devoted to the purchase and replacement process for Michigan's new voting system. These updates will be available via the new Bureau of Elections (BOE) Voting System webpage (see more details to the right). Please read this update carefully, as it contains several important points that will help you get started with the voting system purchase process.

**CORRECTION:** This issue is being re-issued to correct the email address provided by Hart in the Next Steps article below.

### Ad Board Approved Three Voting Systems

On Tuesday, January 24th, the State Administrative Board approved three voting systems to proceed with statewide contracts:

- Dominion Voting Systems, Inc. - (<http://dominionvoting.com/>)
- Election Systems and Software (ES&S) – (<http://www.essvote.com/>)
- Hart Intercivic, Inc. – (<http://www.hartintercivic.com/>)

Selection of the specific system to be used in each county will be coordinated, in consultation with local clerks, by

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### New Voting System Purchase Webpage

A dedicated web page has been established to assist election officials in gaining access to all pertinent information as our purchase plans move forward. The page contains several topics that when selected, will display additional details and resources relating to that topic. [This is the direct link](#) – but it can be easily found at [www.mi.gov/elections](http://www.mi.gov/elections) "Information for Election Administrators" on the left side navigation button "Voting System Purchase".

each County Clerk.

### Information Now Available – Comparative Vendor

**Data:** Several documents are now available on the Voting Systems web page to assist local election officials in understanding the new system options and to compare the various vendor systems, including:

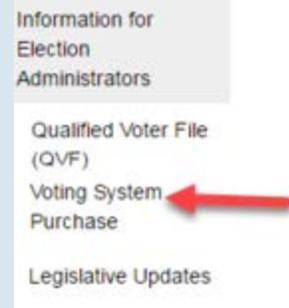
- **Joint Evaluation Committee (JEC) Summary** – this document was also provided in a News Update released last month, and contains an overall summary of the bid evaluation process and some comparative points for each vendor.
- **Functional Requirements Responses** – a major component of the voting system contracts are the Functional Requirements Matrices. This section of the website contains 4 documents – a full response from each vendor, as well as one summary vendor-by-vendor comparison which includes notable points and differences between the systems, as compiled by the JEC who evaluated each bid in detail.
- **Pricing Proposals and Comparisons** – This section of the website contains 4 documents – a full price proposal from each vendor, as well as a summary document that compares costs between vendors, and lists the amount of Federal/State funding available for each vendor system. Note – costs stated are the maximum costs that may be charged; counties and vendors have the option to negotiate lower costs; any lower-negotiated costs must be reported to the State at the time of vendor selection and before orders can be placed.

### Other Key Contract Points

Contracts will be for a 10-year term. The initial purchase includes 5 years of service & maintenance. The State is pleased to announce that available Federal/State funding (\$40 million statewide) covers the majority of the expected costs for the initial 5-year period.

Contracts will include the purchase of tabulators (one per precinct); accessible voting devices for use by voters with disabilities (one per polling place, with some exceptions); and Election Management System (EMS) software (one per county, and for select cities and townships).

While the cost proposals are designed to identify and include all that is required to operate each system, there



A direct link to this page also appears in the “What’s New” section of the Election Administrators page.

### Helpful Links



are additional costs that could be incurred. (For example, computer networking costs for Election Management System software). Counties are strongly encouraged to get full cost proposals from all vendors.

The initial purchase will include some Federal/State funding for AVCB tabulators. Federal/State funding will not cover the cost of "spare" tabulators. Additional information on the approval & purchase process for AVCB tabulators and the application of funding toward a high speed option will be available soon.

## Next Steps

### System

#### Demonstrations -

Counties should take the lead in coordinating review of these

materials and the vendor systems, and consulting with their local jurisdictions on the county's preferred choice. The vendors stand ready to assist. To arrange for a demo, contact:



- Dominion: Gio Costantiello;  
email: [gio.costantiello@dominionvoting.com](mailto:gio.costantiello@dominionvoting.com);  
phone: 866-654-8683 (ext 241)
- ES&S: Kathy Dornan;  
email: [Kathy.dornan@essvote.com](mailto:Kathy.dornan@essvote.com);  
phone: 248-361-1840
- Hart: Karen Clakely;  
email: [Kclakeley@hartic.com](mailto:Kclakeley@hartic.com); phone: 916-673-8764 or 800-223-4278

**Vendor Selection** – our next Voting System News Update will provide more details related to the vendor selection process. While our planned rollout is expected to be gradual - occurring from 2017 to 2018, we are asking all counties to make their vendor selection sooner, rather than later to assist with planning. First use of the new systems will coincide with the August 8, 2017 election; with a plan to initiate first orders by March.

There is much more to come! Please continue to watch for these important updates. As always, questions may be directed to the Bureau of Elections via email at [elections@michigan.gov](mailto:elections@michigan.gov); or by phone at 800-292-5973.

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