

NOTICE OF SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT

Pursuant to Idaho Code Section 67-2808 and in consideration of the County's authority under Idaho Code Section 34-2405, Canyon County hereby provides notice of its intent to obtain voting tabulation machines, manufactured by Hart LLC., for use at Canyon County polling locations.

WHEREAS, the Clerk of Canyon County recognizes an emergent need to update the voting machines and tally systems of the county to protect against error in the tabulation of votes and maintain the integrity of the electoral process; and

WHEREAS the Clerk of Canyon County recognizes the importance of improving the voting system prior to the 2020 national election to ensure that every vote is accurately counted and no error interferes with that tabulation; and

WHEREAS the Clerk of Canyon County is limited, by law, in the amount of time and resources he may dedicate to the tabulation of votes; and

WHEREAS the Clerk has reviewed the Hart, LLC machine and voting systems and found them to be the most responsive to his need for real time supervision of tabulation in all precincts, protection of the process from electronic interference, and the timely tabulation of votes (as outlined in attached Exhibit A); and

WHEREAS the Clerk of Canyon County has communicated the emergent need for a new and fully integrated system; and

WHEREAS, The Board of County Commissioners may, as authorized by Idaho Code Section 34-2405, at any regular meeting called for this purpose, after consultation with the County Clerk, purchase any voting machine or vote tally system they deem to be in the best interests of the County so long as it is approved by the Secretary of State; and

WHEREAS the Hart, LLC vote machine and tally system are the only systems currently approved by the Secretary of State with the identified and needed capabilities; and

WHEREAS the Clerk of Canyon County has recommended the Hart, LLC voting machine and tally system; and

WHEREAS the competitive solicitation of other voting machine and tally system would be impractical, disadvantageous, or unreasonable the circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the compatibility of equipment, components and accessories, computer software, and services is of paramount consideration; and



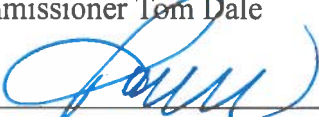
WHEREAS, a threat to the security and accuracy of our elections is a situation that is immediately detrimental to the public welfare;

THEREFORE, the Board intends to consider executing this purchase after taking comment on the record on **October 23, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.** in the Commissioners' meeting room located on the first floor of the Canyon County Courthouse, 1115 Albany Street, Caldwell, ID, 83605. Written comments regarding the procurement may be directed to the Board at that address as well.

DATED this 3rd day of October, 2019.

BOARD OF CANYON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

- Motion Carried Unanimously
- Motion Carried/Split Vote Below
- Motion Defeated/Split Vote Below

	Yes	No	Did Not Vote
 _____ Commissioner Leslie Van Beek	_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____
 _____ Commissioner Tom Dale	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
 _____ Commissioner Pam White	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____

ATTEST: CHRIS YAMAMOTO, CLERK

By: Genev Ross
Deputy Clerk

Publication Date: October 8, 2019
Idaho Press

Competitor vs Hart

1. Software
 - a. Hart equipment software allows editing and changes
 - i. Competitor software does not allow editing, if a mistake or change needs to be made to the ballot the Technical Administrator has to delete and start over.
 - b. Hart equipment software lets the Technical Administrator create one contest, duplicate it and edit as needed for each precinct.
 - i. Competitor software requires the Technical Administrator to create 64 different contests for precincts.
 - c. Hart equipment software is simplified and does not require coding.
 - i. Competitor software requires coding.
2. Test deck
 - a. Hart equipment fills in the test deck and eliminates the human error.
 - i. With competitor the test deck is currently filled in by hand by groups of county employees/volunteers (large elections are roughly 5000 pages). If an individual makes an error the test deck is no longer accurate and the validity is questionable.
3. Ballots
 - a. Hart equipment prints the ballot as the voters check in. We would only be required to send out blank ballot stock, which allows for left over blank ballot stock to be used in the next election.
 - i. With competitor the amount of pre-printed ballots is estimated off of prior election data. This results in over and under printing. If we estimate too high we have left over ballots that are shredded. If we under estimate we are sending runners out to precincts with additional ballot stock throughout the Election Day.
 - b. Hart equipment prints ballots on demand so if an error is found, the error is fixed electronically and ballots that have been printed prior to finding the error are re-printed.
 - i. With competitor in prior elections if an error was caught after the ballots were printed this required all of the ballots to be shredded and reprinted, doubling election ballot costs.
 - c. Hart equipment prints the ballot after the voter has made their selections and will not allow them to print another copy or duplicate it.
 - i. With competitor there is the possibility of ballot pages sticking and the voter is issued two ballots, which could result in a voter casting two votes if they choose to do so vs letting the poll workers know they received two by mistake.
4. Early voting
 - a. Hart equipment prints ballots on demand after the voter checks in. The next step is to scan the barcode that is provided by the e-poll pad. The barcode is what tells the machine which ballot the voter is eligible for. The poll worker error is taken out of the equation.

- i. With competitor during early voting there is a high risk of handing the incorrect ballot to the voter due to having all precinct ballots available to choose from in one location.
- 5. Poll booths
 - a. Hart equipment comes on an ADA accessible stand that can be utilized by any voter.
 - i. With competitor the current poll booths are not ADA accessible. If a voter is in a wheelchair and would like to vote they have to utilize a table that is set up without a privacy shield giving them a different voting experience than other voters.
- 6. Automarks
 - a. Hart voting machines can all be converted into ADA compliant machines.
 - i. Competitor automarks have reached the end of their lifetime. Competitor no longer makes the model we have and are unable to update them with new software. We will need to purchase the newest version called the Express vote.
- 7. Check in
 - a. Hart E-Poll Pads will not allow a voter to check in if they are in the wrong precinct or do not have the information required to process.
 - i. With competitor procedures poll workers are required to verify every voter who comes into their precinct to ensure they are properly registered and are in the correct precinct. We find poll workers will skip this step if they recognize the voter. They assume the voter must be in the correct precinct and will direct them to register if they need to do so or to poll book. In the November 2018 General Election we found 124 voters voted in the wrong precinct.
 - b. Hart E-Poll Pads are capable of functioning at a faster speed we need to keep up with the voter turnout. They are also capable of running without a Wi-Fi connection so disconnect would not stop the voting process.
 - i. With competitor procedures poll workers verify voter information on voter lookup with chrome books. The chrome books were purchased in 2013. They are not user friendly, run very slowly, and constantly disconnect from the Wi-Fi jet pack.
- 8. Registration
 - a. Hart E-poll pads have a scanner that allows the poll worker to scan the voter's driver's license, it auto-populates the voter's information which will speed up the process of registration. The E-Poll Pad will not allow the poll worker to check-in a voter until all required information is provided.
 - i. With competitor procedures poll workers verify a voter's ID and proof of address and voters must complete a paper registration card. After the election, the registration cards are turned into our office without all the information required to properly input them in ISVRS. This results in a discrepancy of number of ballots cast and number of EDRs (Election Day Registrations). Our office is then required to mail the registration cards back to the voters' to obtain the missing information. There are several cards each election that we either do not have enough information to contact the voter or the voter does not get back with us.

- b. Hart E-poll pads create a file with all of the EDR voter information that can be uploaded and transferred into our system. We will no longer be required to manually input every EDR voter.
 - i. With competitor procedures one of the most time consuming procedures after elections is the input of EDR cards. In November we had about 10,000 cards to input. This is a very lengthy and time consuming process that delays the election cleanup process.

9. Poll book

- a. Hart E-poll pads are up to date with all Early Voting voter history and EDR registrations unless they lose Wi-Fi connection. They update as we update our systems. We would no longer need to print these reports or send these emails. This will eliminate the possibility of someone who voted absentee also voting at the precinct.
 - i. With competitor procedures poll books are printed one week prior to the election which means they will not have the current Early Voting EDR registrations and voter history by the time they arrive at the precinct. This process requires our staff to print the report for each precinct and add to our delivery supplies. The chief judges will then go through and mark all voters who are on these reports in the poll book. This also requires our staff to send emails throughout Election Day to the precincts to update the workers when we receive absentees dropped off in office. A majority of the time the poll workers do not check these emails and do not keep the poll book updated.
- b. Hart E-poll pads will not give the ballot code information until the voter has signed.
 - i. With competitor procedures we find voter signatures missing every election. Poll workers constantly forget to have voter sign for their ballot.
- c. Hart E-poll pads print the barcode that tells the voting machine what ballot the voter is eligible for. Poll workers would no longer be the ones deciphering what ballot the voter is eligible for.
 - i. With competitor we find that the wrong ballot is given out to voters.

10. Issuing

- a. With Hart equipment poll workers will no longer be deciphering what ballot to hand out. The E-Poll Pad will print a barcode that is taken to the voting machine scanner. Once scanned this will tell the machine what ballot the voter is eligible for and will digitally issue the voter their ballot. From there it prints the voter's cast ballot and they insert it into the precinct counter.
 - i. With competitor we constantly find that incorrect ballots are issued to voters, or one of the pages of a two page ballot is not issued to voters.

11. Receiving

- a. Hart equipment requires the voter to make their selection digitally. After the voter has cast their ballot, the voter will put their ballot into the precinct counter. If there is anything that they missed or marked that would not process the precinct counter will ask the voter if they would like to correct their mistake or cast their ballot as is.
 - i. With the competitor system we use pre-printed ballots that the voters complete by hand and then insert into a ballot box. If the voter does not

complete the ballot this will result in resolution of the ballot, which occurs after the polls are closed on Election Night.

12. Election Night precinct clean up

- a. The Hart equipment does all the record keeping and will accurately provide the poll workers the number of voter signatures and ballots cast to compare how many ballots they calculate at the end of the night.
 - i. With competitor procedures we currently rely on good/clean record keeping throughout the day from over 500 poll workers. At the end of the day poll workers are required to tally voter signatures in the poll book as well as hand count the ballots cast.

13. Tabulation

- a. Hart equipment calculates the number of ballots cast at the precinct and at the end of the Election Night and the Election's office uploads the results from the precinct's USB drive from each machine.
 - i. With competitor procedures we currently go by the numbers of ballots counted at the precinct by poll workers to compare to our tabulator counts. If there is a discrepancy, we must recount the poll book signatures and in worse case scenarios hand count the precinct's ballots.
- b. Hart equipment uploads results from the USB drives and in November 2018 Ada County used Hart equipment and finished at midnight where Canyon County was here until 7:30am the next morning.
 - i. Tabulation of ballots in a small election will take until about midnight and in larger elections, such as the November general in 2018, it will take about 24 hours or more. By the end of the Election Night the staff is exhausted and highly likely to make a mistake or miss important steps that can result in a repeat election.
- c. Hart equipment let the voter know if the ballot cannot be read and will give them the option to correct their ballot or accept it with the error. This will eliminate all resolution except for absentee voting. Absentee voting is counted in our office during the day on Election Day.
 - i. With competitor procedures voters often mark their ballots improperly. This results in resolution, as the tabulators cannot properly read them. This causes a delay in counting and is one of the many factors that prolongs the current Election Night process.

14. Supplies

- a. Hart equipment comes with new ballot boxes to store the ballot stock, as well as a box with wheels that holds voted ballots and allows ease in transport.
 - i. Our ballot boxes and supply totes are in dire need of replacing. They are currently being held together with duct tape. This is not secure and does not give Canyon County a professional image nor does it help voter confidence in Canyon County keeping voter's ballots secure. To purchase new ballot boxes for all precincts would cost roughly \$75,000.