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2010 Professional Practices Program

Equipment-Officials-Resources How Much? How Many? Made Easy!

Davis County, Utah

Submitted by:

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A critical part of every election plan is to determine what supplies and personnel will be needed in order to provide an adequate, efficient and positive voting experience for each voter during the election. Prior to the implementation of electronic voting machines, this was a rather simple process for Davis County. However, with new technology came new challenges. Over the past several years, it became apparent we needed to find a more efficient and accurate way to determine the needed resources for each polling location. We realized that these resources are inter-related, and thus many factors must be considered when determining what is needed. Our solution is titled Equipment Officials and Resources (EOR).

What is EOR? EOR is a group of Excel spreadsheets that draw information from one another. It uses a combination of formulas to generate nine different reports:

- Equipment and Officials Allotment Spreadsheet
- Blue Bag Supply Spreadsheet
- Binder Supply Spreadsheet
- Green Bin Supply Spreadsheet
- Red Bag Supply Spreadsheet
- Poll Optical Scan Ballot Allotment
- Equipment and Officials Early Vote Allotment Spreadsheet
- Early Optical Scan Ballot Allotment
- Optical Scan Ballot Order Spreadsheet

Prior to EOR each of these spreadsheets was its own file, which needed to be created and updated individually and would require the same basic information to be entered on each sheet (i.e. name of polling location, precincts assigned, voter to machine ratio, etc). If any changes were made between the time the spreadsheets were originally created and Election Day, all spreadsheets had to be updated. Although we determined the number of machines that were needed, we were not necessarily taking into account how many poll workers or other supplies might also be needed. The reports generated from EOR allow us to determine everything from the number of voting machines and poll workers, right down to how many pens and pencils are needed at each polling location. Having the spreadsheets draw information from one another reduces the repetitive work, reduces the risk of errors, and allows the relationship factors to be considered when determining our needed supplies.

How does it work? The basic information needed in EOR is: the expected voter turnout; the percentage of turnout expected to vote by-mail, early, and provisionally; the polling locations with their assigned voting precincts; the numbers of registered voters in each precinct; the voter-to-machine ratio (this is dependent on the length of the ballot); and the voting percentage above or below the county average of each polling location. The formulas programmed into EOR draw the information needed from this data

to automatically calculate the 85 needed items. EOR begins by determining how many voters are expected to vote at each location on Election Day, and then uses that information to determine how many voting machines will be needed to accommodate them. It calculates and identifies how many poll workers will be needed in each position (i.e. Poll Manager, Machine Technician, Receiving Clerks, Provisional Clerks, etc). EOR then uses this information in relation to all other considered factors to determine the number of forms, ballots, bags, binders and all other supplies that will be needed on Election Day.

How is EOR more efficient and accurate? One of the great benefits of EOR is that it allows our county to save time by having all spreadsheets, which indicate the needed supplies at each location, to be in one file. The formula functions in Excel allow most of the information to be automatically generated with very little manual input. Having all of these spreadsheets together and connected by formulas means that if any changes are made it will update all of the spreadsheets.

Another benefit that we found during the creation of EOR, was that previously we would determine an expected turnout for the election and send supplies to all locations based on that expectation. We found that some areas of our county would vote regularly above the county average, while other areas would vote regularly below the county average. This meant we were not sending enough resources to some locations while we were sending too many to others. One feature of EOR is that we are able to increase or decrease the expected turnout for each individual location, thus making our allotment of resources more accurate to the needs of each location. This allows us to adequately supply locations with a higher voter turnout without wasting supplies at locations with a lower turnout.

EOR is a great example of how to use a simple program that most offices already have, to make our job easier, more accurate, and more efficient. Davis County uses EOR to help in the preparation of each election, it keeps track of all our needs, and it does the thinking and calculating for us. We use the reports it generates to pack our supplies, to update our inventory, and to make sure we have sufficient supplies for each election. It keeps a record of what we have done in previous elections and helps us plan for elections to come.

Equipment Officials Resources

E.O.R Spreadsheet
Blue Bag Supply Spreadsheet
Binder Supply Spreadsheet
Green Bin Supply Spreadsheet
Red Bag Supply Spreadsheet
Poll OS Ballot Allotment Spreadsheet
E.O.R. Early Spreadsheet
Early OS Ballot Allotment Spreadsheet
OS Ballot Order Spreadsheet



poling locations, assigned precincts, number of voting machines, supplies, and poll workers. All text from one another. It uses a combination of formulas to generate reports which assist in identifying that appears blue is information that needs to be inputted manually. Text that appears in black is Equipment Officials and Resources (EOR) is a group of Excel spreadsheets that draw information generated automatically.

Instructions

- On the E.O.R. spreadsheet fill in the Election Name and Date. Complete the areas labled as:
- "Total" Total percentage of active voters expected to vote
 - "By Mail" Percentage of expected voters to vote by mail
 - "Early" Percentage of expected voters to vote early
- "Voters per machine" Ration of expected voters to each machine
- "Expected to vote provisional" Percentage of expected voters to vote

provisionally

- (All of these figures are estimates, based on knowlege of previous and similar elections. The Election Administrator should determine these numbers.)
- Identify the polling locations and the areas within these locations where voting will take place, then assign precincts and enter the total # of Active Voters. (Use the example as a guide.)
- 3. Identify in which city each polling location is located. Use the City Average Worksheet to determine the voting percentage above or below the county average for each polling location. (The city Average Worksheet is a separate statistical worksheet that keeps a record of the average turnout for each city.)
- Complete each spredsheet by filling out all cells on every worksheet that have blue text in the "Example" area.

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	Poliing Location	Example	Antelope Elementary	Bountiful Library	Centerville City Hall	Davis Applied Technology College	Eaglewood Golf Course	Fruit Heights City Hall	Heritage Elementary	Kaysville Bible Church	LDS Layton North Stake Center	Muller Park Jr. High	Northridge High	Sandsprings Elementary	Woods Cross City Hall Total	
	Polling Locati	Example	Antelope Ele	Bountiful Libi	Centerville C	Davis Applied	Eaglewood C	Fruit Heights	Heritage Ele	Kaysville Bib	LDS Layton	Muller Park	Northridge H	Sandsprings	Woods Cros. Total	

Optical Scan Ballot Allotr	ment		Expe	cted to vot	e Provisional	3.00% Expected to vote Absentee			
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Bountiful Library	BO07 BO08	4 4	0 416 571 0 0 0	4	987	25	30	_ 55	
Centerville City Hall	CE03 CE06	4 4	619 523 0 0	4	1.143	25	34	59	
Davis Applied Technology College	KA02 KA03	3 3	0 617 535 0 0	3	1,152	25	35	60	
Eaglewood Golf Course	NS05 NS06	5 5	498 544 0 0	5	1.042	25	31	56	
Fruit Heights City Hall	FH02 FH03	3 3	473 480 0 0	3	953	25	29	54	
Heritage Elementary	LA36 LA41	2 2	471 401 0 0	2	873	25	26	51	
Kaysville Bible Church	KA11 KA16	3 3	0 694 716 0 0	3	1,410	25	42	67	
LDS Layton North Stake	LA05 LA07 LA08	2 2 2	515 546 183 0	2	1,244	25	37	62	
Muller Park Jr. High	BO19	5	0 548 0 0 0	5	548	25	16	41	
Northridge High	LA11	2	401 0 0 0 0	2	-401	25	12	37	
Sandsprings Elementary	LA23 LA34 LA35 LA42	2 2 3 3 3	338 389 489 489	2 3	727 978	25 25	22 29	47 54	
Woods Cross City Hall	WX01 WX02 WX03 WX04 WX05 WX06	555555	0 401 276 542 207 335 497	5	2,258	25	68	93	