ELECTION CENTER
National Association of Election Officials

2014 Professional Practices Program
A New Way of Managing a Multiple Page Ballot

Marion County Clerk's Office
Salem Oregon

Submitted by:

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A new way to manage the multiple page ballot, and accounting for each page.

Oregon is a Vote by Mail state but the following idea could be used by polling place jurisdictions.

Marion County Oregon has approximately 150,000 registered voters. The jurisdiction sited in this paper has 3,768 voters.

We have the Hart Intercivic Vote Tally System using Kodak i660 document scanners.

Our printer (Core Printing in Corvallis, Oregon) has a Hewlett Packard Indigo 5500 Digital Press that is used to print our ballots.

Note: While we have the Hart Intercivic Vote Tally System, we believe that the following process could be used on other paper ballot counting systems as well.

Overview

In past elections, we have been able to squeeze all of the contests for a jurisdiction onto the most economical sized paper that is uniform for the entire county, without going to a separate page or "second ballot". This ended for the May 2014, Primary Election, when we were handed a new challenge.

A jurisdiction submitted 7 annexation measures that contained maps. Oregon law provides that a map for a measure must be printed on the ballot, included as a ballot packet insert or printed in the county voters' pamphlet for the election. The County Clerk wanted the maps printed on the ballot, so our options were:

1. Print on a larger size paper (11" x 17") for the entire election for the county.
    Pros: Simple to manage
    Con: Increased paper cost; slower scanning time.

2. Create a separate coded Primary election for the jurisdiction that has the 11" x 17" sized ballots and merge the results between the "two" elections every time we update.
    Pros: Lower paper cost
    Con: Harder to manage two separate elections

3. Print two 8½" x 11" ballot pages for the single jurisdiction and one 8½" x 11" ballot page for the rest of the county.
    Pro: Least amount of paper cost
    Con: Increased accounting difficulties when the voter only returns one of the two pages or incorrect serial numbered pages.

We decided to go with option number 3. We thought that it would be a good "learning experience" in how to manage and account for dual paged ballots in an election, and it would keep our expenses at a minimum (cost savings for the tax payers). While proofing the two ballot pages side by side, an idea was born.

What if we could print the two 8½" x 11" ballots on a single 11" x 17" piece of paper?

In order for us to proceed, we needed the following questions answered:

1. The two ballot pages would have to be perforated to allow them to be easily separated before counting. Could that be done?

2. The ballot would have to be printed with the 4 correct matching serial numbers on each ballot sheet.   The Hart ballot has a unique serial number for each ballot generated that is printed numerically with a barcode on each side of the ballot. The barcode is scanned by the software to help prevent duplicated ballots from being counted. Could that be done?

3. The 11" x 17" ballot would have to be folded along the proposed perforation, without causing premature separation, in order to form an 8½" x 11" folded sheet. This half folded sheet would then be letter folded in order to fit into our standard sized outgoing and return ballot envelopes. Could that be done?

It was done and we mailed the joined two-page ballots to 3,768 voters!

Processing the returned ballots for the Election

We prepared ourselves for a multitude of issues, everything from how to process and count separated, mismatched serial numbered ballots, to possible problems arising when trying to separate the two pages prior to scanning; we had a plan in place and ready to execute.   Much to our surprise, when we finished opening the envelopes, we only had one ballot returned that was separated by the voter, but it contained matching serial numbered pages.

Number of Ballots Sent: 3768

Number of Ballots Returned: 1140

Overall turnout for the entire election: 28.64%

Turnout for the jurisdiction that contained the 11" x 17" Ballot Style: 30.24%

Number of Returned Ballots with the same serial number that were split or separated by the voter: 1

Number of Ballots that were split with non-Matching Serial Numbers: 0

In conclusion, we feel that the merging or fusing of the two 8 ½" x 11" page ballots onto an 11"x 17" sized paper was a success. If in the future we have the need to go to a two page ballot, this method will account for all pages and is proven voter friendly.

Contact Information:

Marion County Clerk's Office
PO BOX 14500
Salem, Oregon 97309
503.588.5041 or 1.800.655.5383
elections@co.marion.or.us

Cascade Printing - Core Communications
711 NW 3rd
PO Box 818
Corvallis, Oregon 97339
541.757.2016 or 1.800.761.2016
lou@core.comm.us

Actual Sample Ballot for the jurisdiction cited in this paper # 1 - 8½" x 11"

Vote Both Sides

Official Primary Nominating Ballot for the Republican Party
Marion County, Oregon
May 20, 2014   Precinct   655-1

Instructions To Vote
Use a Black or Blue ink pen to completely fill in the box to the left of your choice.
To correct a mistake
Draw a line through the entire measure response or candidate's name. You then have the option of making another choice.
If your ballot is damaged, you may request a replacement by contacting the Elections Office at 503.588.5041 or 1.800.655.5388.
Optional Write-In
To vote for a candidate not printed on the ballot, fill in the box provided to the left of "Write-In" and print the name on the line.

National

United States Senator
Vote For One
- Monica Wehby
- Jo Rae Perkins
- Mark Callahan
- Timothy I Crawley
- Jason Conger
- Write-In:

Representative in Congress, 5th District
Vote For One
- Ben Pollock
- Tootie Smith
- Write-In:

State of Oregon

Governor
Vote For One
- Bruce A Cuff
- Gordon Challstrom
- Tim Carr
- Dennis Richardson
- Mae Rafferty
- Darren Karr
- Write-In:

State Representative, 17th District
Vote For One
- Sherrie Sprenger
- Write-In:

Marion County

Commissioner Position 1
Vote For One
- Kevin Cameron
- Write-In:

Commissioner Position 2
Vote For One
- Janet Carlson

Nonpartisan

Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries
Vote For One
- Brad Avakian
- Write-In:

Judge of the Supreme Court, Pos. 1
Vote For One
- Thomas A Balmer Incumbent
- Write-In:

Judge of the Supreme Court, Pos. 7
Vote For One
- Martha L Walters Incumbent
- Write-In:

Judge of the Court of Appeals, Pos. 1
Vote For One
- Chris Garrett -Incumbent
- Write-In:

Judge of the Court of Appeals, Pos. 4
Vote For One
- Timothy Sercombe Incumbent
- Write-In:

Judge of the Court of Appeals, Pos. 11
Vote For One
- Joel DeVore -Incumbent
- Write-In:

Judge of the Court of Appeals, Pos. 12
Vote For One
- Erin C Lagesen Incumbent
- Write-In:

Judge of the Court of Appeals, Pos. 13
Vote For One
- Doug Tookey -Incumbent
- Write-In:

Judge of the Oregon Tax Court
Vote For One
- Henry C Breithaupt Incumbent
- Write-In:

Judge, Circuit Court, 3rd Dis., Pos. 2
Vote For One
- Tracy A Prall -Incumbent
- Write-In:

Judge, Circuit Court, 3rd Dis., Pos. 14
Vote For One
- Susan M Tripp-Incumbent
- Write-In:

Ballot # 1 - Front

Sample Ballot

Vote Both Sides

Vote Both Sides

Official Primary Nominating Ballot for the Republican Party
Marion County, Oregon
May 20, 2014   Precinct   655-1

District Attorney, Marion County
Vote For One
- Walt Beglau
- Write-In:

Republican Party

655: Precinct Committee Person - Female Republican
Vote For Eight
- Emily E Gooch
- Joan M Willis
- Meghan C Loftus
- Annastasia(Stacy) E Rejaian
- Write-In:
- Write-In:
- Write-In:
- Write-In:
- Write-In:
- Write-In:
- Write-In:
- Write-In:

655: Precinct Committee Person - Male Republican
Vote For Eight
- Colm Willis
- James C Loftus
- Bejan P Rejaian
- Kurt Friedrich Juengling
- Joe Spenner
- Write-In:
- Write-In:
- Write-In:
- Write-In:
- Write-In:
- Write-In:

WARNING - Any person who, by use of force or other means, unduly influences an elector to vote in any particular manner or to refrain from voting is subject to a fine. (ORS 254.470)

City of Stayton

Referred to the People by the City Council

24-359 Proposing Annexation of Territory into the City of Stayton.
Question: Shall that measure located within the right of way on Shaff Road be annexed into the City of Stayton?
Summary: If approved, this measure would result in annexation of 1.3 acres of territory ('the Territory') to the City of Stayton?
The Territory is the northern portion of the Shaff Road right of way, west of Cascade Highway and designated in the Stayton Comprehensive Plan as Residential. Zoning of the Territory, if annexed, would be Low Density Residential.
The Stayton City Council has initiated annexation to facilitate the determination of the jurisdiction of the Stayton Police Department.
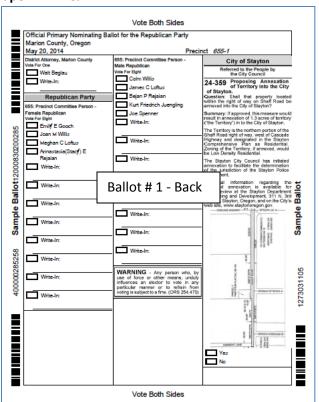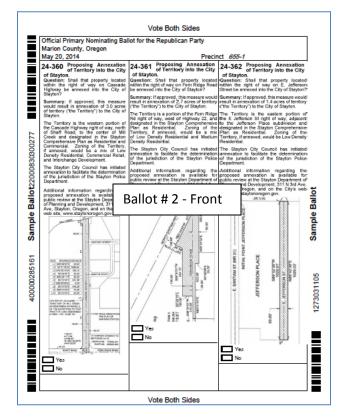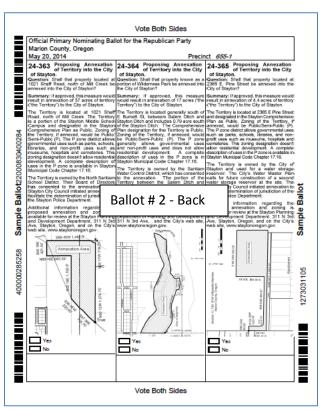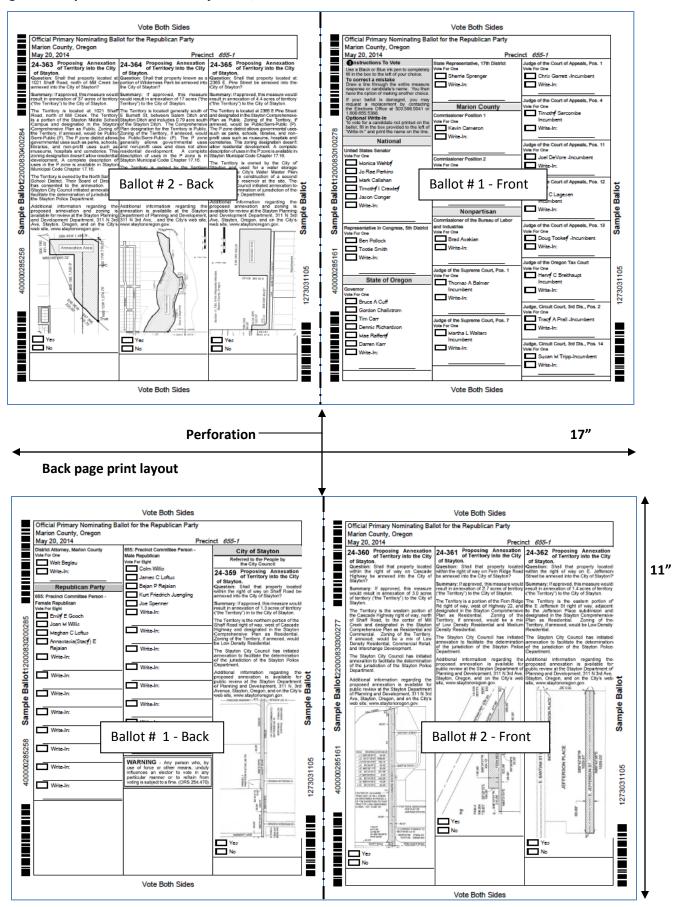Additional information regarding the proposed annexation is available for review at the Stayton Department of Planning and Development, 311 N. 3rd Ave, Stayton, Oregon, and on the City's web site, www.staytonoregon.gov.

- Yes
- No

Ballot # 1 - Back

Sample Ballot

Vote Both Sides

Front   **Back**

Ballot # 2 – 8½" x 11"

Vote Both Sides

Official Primary Nominating Ballot for the Republican Party
Marion County, Oregon
May 20, 2014   Precinct   655-1

24-360 Proposing Annexation of Territory into the City of Stayton.
Question: Shall that property located within the right of way on Cascade Highway be annexed into the City of Stayton?
Summary: If approved, this measure would result in annexation of 3.0 acres of territory ('the Territory', if annexed, would be a mix of Low Density Residential, Commercial Retail, and Interchange Development.

24-361 Proposing Annexation of Territory into the City of Stayton.
Question: Shall that property located within the right of way on Fern Ridge Road be annexed into the City of Stayton?
Summary: If approved, this measure would result in annexation of 2.7 acres of territory ('the Territory') to the City of Stayton.

24-362 Proposing Annexation of Territory into the City of Stayton.
Question: Shall that property located within the right of way on E. Jefferson Street be annexed into the City of Stayton?
Summary: If approved, this measure would result in annexation of 1.4 acres of territory ('the Territory') to the City of Stayton.

- Yes
- No

Ballot # 2 - Front

Sample Ballot

Vote Both Sides

Vote Both Sides

Official Primary Nominating Ballot for the Republican Party
Marion County, Oregon
May 20, 2014   Precinct   655-1

24-363 Proposing Annexation of Territory into the City of Stayton.
Question: Shall that property located at 1021 Shaff Road, north of Mill Creek be annexed into the City of Stayton?
Summary: If approved, this measure would result in annexation of 37 acres of territory ('the Territory') to the City of Stayton.

24-364 Proposing Annexation of Territory into the City of Stayton.
Question: Shall that property known as a portion of Wilderness Park be annexed into the City of Stayton?
Summary: If approved, this measure would result in annexation of 17 acres of territory ('the Territory') to the City of Stayton.

24-365 Proposing Annexation of Territory into the City of Stayton.
Question: Shall that property located at 2365 E. Pine Street be annexed into the City of Stayton?
Summary: If approved, this measure would result in annexation of 4.4 acres of territory ('the Territory') to the City of Stayton.

- Yes
- No

Ballot # 2 - Back

Sample Ballot

Vote Both Sides

Page Print Layout for the 11" x 17" jointed/Fused Ballot - Front

Ballot # 2 - Back

Ballot # 1 - Front

Perforation

17"

Back page print layout

Ballot # 1 - Back

Ballot # 2 - Front

11"

Folding Sample for the 11" x 17" ballot

Ballot # 2 - Back

Ballot # 2 - Front

Fold # 1

Ballot # 1 - Back

Ballot # 1 - Front

Fold # 2

Ballot # 2 - Back

Ballot # 1 - Front

Fold # 3