Iowa County The Story of

September 2018

Elections



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The Story of Elections in Iowa

Narrator Grant Veeder

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Association of Counties



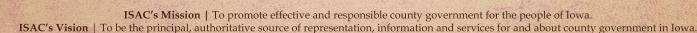
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The Story of Elections in Iowa





My name is Grant Veeder, and I am the Black Hawk County Auditor. I will take you on the journey of elections in Iowa. Elections are at the very core of government in America. Since the public makes its will known through the election of officeholders, the proper operation of elections is critical to making our chosen system of government work.

Elections in the United States are administered at the local level. In Iowa, they are conducted by county auditors, who by statute also carry the title of county commissioner of elections. In this month's Iowa County, we will look at some of the many facets of county election administration.

CHAPTER 1 Process and Planning

There are many laws that need to be consistently and impartially observed, which calls for careful preparation before elections. Our first article describes the ongoing training of election officials. $\sim GV$



Carla Becker, Delaware County Auditor

The national election of 2000 was an impetus for election officials in Iowa to re-examine the Iowa election process. In 2001, the Executive Committee of the Iowa State Association of County Auditors (ISACA) met with Iowa Secretary of State Chet Culver and his staff, and the Office of State and Local Government Programs of Iowa State University Extension to discuss the development of an election administrator training program. From this meeting, the State Election Administrators Training (SEAT) program was born. Designed for county election administrators and staff, this self-initiated program increases their knowledge and skills in the areas of election administration and voter registration. The intent is to enhance public confidence in the election process throughout the state of Iowa. Iowa is a leader in this effort as only a handful of other states have a formal educational program of this scope.

Seeing the value of this training, a SEAT committee was formed to develop and administer a program with acore curriculum that consists of election procedures and professional development components. The SEAT committee was first made up of representatives of ISACA, the Office of Iowa Secretary of State (SOS), and the Iowa Ethics and Campaign Disclosure Board, as well as staff from Iowa State University. Currently, the SEAT Board consists of representatives from ISACA, the SOS office, and ISAC. The SEAT Board's responsibilities include adopting policy and agreements.

The public benefit of SEAT is to demonstrate full compliance with both the spirit and the letter of all federal and state election laws and assure the highest level of professionalism in election administration. By completing the Iowa election administrators training, the program ensures that Iowans can have full confidence in their election

process. The current format of the CORE Classes reflects the manner in which auditors and their staff need to utilize the program. The initial part of the training is held completely online. There are three basic parts of this training: Election Basics, Voter Registration, and Absentee Voting. Those taking these classes will receive a certificate once they've completed the courses, and this certificate is required for them to move on to the in-person second level of the course. The third level of the course is intended only for auditors and election deputies and focuses mostly on those aspects of the process handled by administrators. Successful completion of up to 50 hours of classes will lead to certification as an Iowa Certified Election Administrator. To maintain certification, a continuing education component has been established.

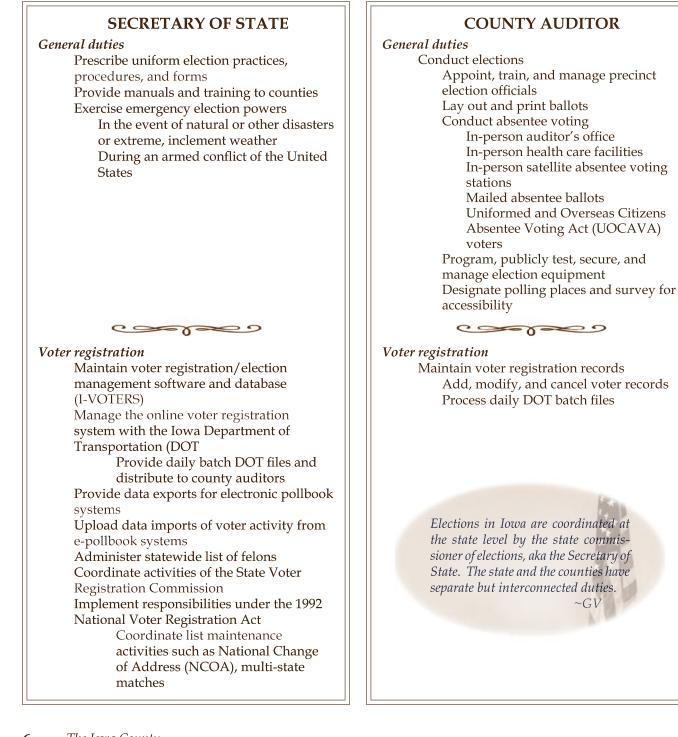




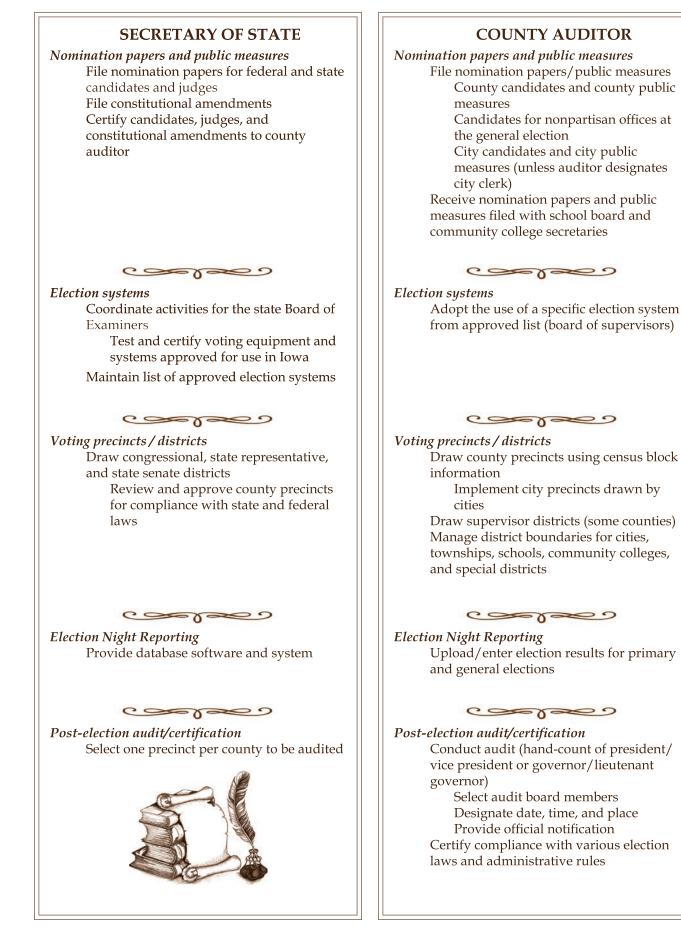


Dawn Williams, Iowa Secretary of State Elections Director

Pursuant to state and federal laws, county auditors and the secretary of state have various duties and authorities for the administration of elections and voter registration. While the information below is not a comprehensive list, it may serve as a general comparison of duties between the two offices. Our duties at the Secretary of State's Office link with county auditors at every stage of the process. We greatly value this partnership as we all do our best to serve Iowa voters.



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Eric Gookin, Secretary of State's Office

Cybersecurity requires a cultural commitment. Secretary of State Paul Pate describes the quest for cybersecurity as a "race with no finish line." So long as Iowa's elections stay strong, we remain a target for bad actors. There are no victory conditions, only the mission to harden the system and seek continuous improvement to its cyber resiliency.

As the state commissioner of elections, Secretary Pate gave us a mission to identify, coordinate, and lead that effort. The effort can be broken down into a few categories: partnerships, technology, and training. As I address each of the categories over the next few paragraphs, I will provide as much context as I can for each without compromising the safeguards that are in place.



Traditional safeguards against physical attacks on elections, like ballot-box stuffing, have been turned on their head by the plague of computer hacking. Our response to cybersecurity concerns has been robust and earnest. It must also be relentless. ~GV

Partnerships I chose to lead the list of categories above with partnerships. That was a conscious decision. While I have some level of technical experience, I am not an expert in cybersecurity – nor is anyone else on our elections team, or with the county auditors. This means that SOS cannot take a unilateral approach to cyber matters. We need help to do it. And when smart people need help, they reach out and ask for it. It is safe to say that for the last four to five months, I've probably spent 60% of my time building a network of people who want Iowa's elections to be successful.

Just before sitting down to write this, I spent a day-and-a-half in a marathon meeting with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The week before we met with the Iowa Air National Guard's Cyber Operations team to discuss how they can best support Iowa counties, in accordance with SOS. We've partnered with the state's Office of Chief Information Officer (OCIO) and Iowa Counties Information Technology (ICIT) to ensure that any county who wants to use OCIO's cybersecurity services, has access by the end of summer. This is primarily aimed at county auditors, but OCIO is willing to extend that offer to any county offices.

All of these "alphabet-soup" agencies have been tremendous in their support of elections. The same with private-public partnerships: your managed services companies have responded admirably, as has the Center for Internet Security (CIS), which runs the Elections Infrastructure Information Sharing and Analysis Center (the *other* ISAC in the lives of county auditors and IT). With ICIT and the Iowa Precinct Atlas Consortium (IPAC), we

just met to identify possible opportunities to improve on e-poll book security. We've seen tremendous support all around these agencies. They are hungry to leverage their expertise and resources in support of securing elections.

Technology In many respects, the technology aspect of securing elections is the most straightforward: Understand and implement best practices, then assess and adjust, whether the improvement is two-factor authentication for the state's voter registration and election management system or instituting strong encryption protocols for e-poll books. Those and other improvements are occurring, including the ability to revert to a paper back-up for poll books in the event of an emergency.

Training Typically, the most vulnerable part of securing any system is the person. Through our partnership with OCIO, we offer "Securing the Human" cybersecurity training. This fall that, or a similar training, will be required to access I-Voters. During the week of August 13, SOS invited county auditors, IT, HSEMD, and state agencies to participate in an election-specific DHS table top exercise. Last December, we invited county auditors, and IT staff to join DHS with us in Altoona to discuss cybersecurity and elections. We've met with Iowa State University's Information Assurance Center to plan projects before this year's general election and next summer to support our county elections.

The reality is that cybersecurity is not a simple list that can be put into a filing cabinet once the boxes are checked. It is a cultural mindset that requires the willingness to build partnerships, the expertise to improve technology, and the dedication to our craft to embrace training.

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CHAPTER 2 The Election

The conduct of elections relies heavily on the participation of ordinary voters who make themselves extraordinary by deciding to become precinct election officials. Did you know that Abe Lincoln was a PEO? He was the clerk of the polling place at New Salem, Illinois in the September and November elections of 1833. So that's how extraordinary you can be if you take the step to become a PEO. $\sim GV$

PRECINCT ELECTION OFFICIALS

Heidi Burhans, Madison County Auditor

Election preparation includes recruiting, training, and retaining Precinct Election Officials (PEOs), the people who greet you at the polling place and guide you through the voting process on election day.

Recruiting PEOs is a creative opportunity for honing salesman skills. *"Temporary part-time work available on as-needed basis for those with time on their hands in search of long hours with low pay and short lunch break."* Auditors rely on several resources and methods to find potential PEOs – from political central committees to stay-at-home parents and service organizations. Methods of reaching these persons run the gamut from word-of-mouth to social media, from print to radio and television public service announcements.

Once the PEOs are scheduled, they undergo training specific to the election they will serve and processes (electronic pollbooks or paper registers) they will use to check in or register voters. Training covers all procedures and laws relevant to operating the polling place and processing voters. Training also offers an opportunity to recognize the PEOs for their commitment to public service.

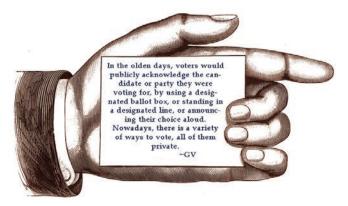
Retaining PEOs is just as important as recruiting them. PEOs tend to be service-oriented, and many are motivated by socialization, compensation, and the desire to help others. Therefore, strong retention plans focus on communication, showing appreciation, and supporting teamwork. Giving PEOs advance notice of elections and training opportunities allows them to arrange their work and social calendars, and conducting post-election debriefings or surveys encourages them to share their suggestions. Although Auditors are required to pay minimum wage to the PEOs, many have raised their rates as budgets allow. Recognition of PEOs and the precinct boards also goes a long way. Personalized thank-you notes and anniversary pins are two of many ways to show appreciation for PEOs' time and knowledge, and certificates of appreciation can shine a spot-light on their commitment to public service especially when presented during board of supervisors or other public meetings.

Keeping the job interesting, fun, and comfortable for PEOs helps provide familiarity for the voters and consistency at the election polls. Ask your county auditor how you can be a PEO today!

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Terri Johnson, Des Moines County Auditor



How to vote? Let me count the ways. Absentee/Early Voting is a large part of the voting process prior to any election held in a county. Any eligible voter may use this method. Absentee ballots are counted on election day by the absentee board.

How are absentee ballots obtained?

Vote by Mail To request a ballot to be mailed, a voter must submit a completed absentee ballot request form to their county auditor's office. The forms are available at the county auditor's office, on a county website, or on the Secretary of State's web site. During federal elections, forms are also available from the local political parties. Once the

county auditor receives a completed request form, they have 24 hours to mail the ballot to the voter. What is the responsibility of the voter when requesting an absentee ballot? Make sure all required information on the request form is completed. Once the ballot is received - vote the ballot. Follow instructions on how to return the ballot properly. Sign the affidavit envelope (very important!) and SEAL the ballot inside the affidavit envelope (also very important!). Return the voted ballot by mail. The envelope must be postmarked the day before the election or earlier and postage is paid by the county, so there is no need to worry about stamps. OR, deliver the ballot by hand to the courthouse before the closing of the polls on election night. If a voter decides to go to the polls instead of voting the absentee ballot the voter MUST surrender the absentee ballot to the poll workers at their designated polling location before voting at the polls, or else vote a provisional ballot.

Vote at the Courthouse Ballots cannot be removed from the courthouse when voting in person, they must be voted at the courthouse. The last day to vote absentee in person is the day before the election.

Satellite Voting A county may be petitioned to provide a satellite voting location prior to the election or the county may choose to provide a location. Notification of a site will be advertised in the newspaper, on the county website and at the designated location.

Care Facilities and Hospitals The county auditor is required to provide ballots to these locations for any qualified electors who may choose to vote. A care facility team (one from each party) must go to each facility to present the voter with a ballot.

How to vote on Election Day

Polls open at 7:00 am and close at 9:00 pm for federal elections. A list of designated polling locations will be listed along with a sample ballot in the newspapers prior to the election. Each polling location will post several voter informational signs as required, along with sample ballots and voting instructions. If a voter needs assistance in marking or casting a ballot at the polls, the voter needs to inform the poll workers, so the proper paperwork is completed. If a voter is unable to enter the polling location, the voter may request curbside voting. Two poll workers (one from each party) must take the ballot and election supplies outside to the voter; this also requires the proper paperwork to be completed.

ID required to vote

In 2018 there is a soft roll out for requiring a photo ID to vote. There are several forms of photo ID that are accepted (check websites or call your county auditor). However, this year only, if a voter does not have a photo ID the voter will be required to sign a voter's oath. In 2019, a voter shall provide a valid photo ID. Many counties now use electronic pollbooks for absentee and election day voting. The use of an Iowa Driver's License, Iowa non-drivers' ID, or Iowa voter identification pin card can be scanned into the electronic pollbooks. This allows a faster check-in process for the voter because scanning the ID will quickly pull up the voter's registration information for verification and should keep the waiting line smaller. Des Moines County has been using an electronic poll book since 2009. My poll workers would not work at the polls without it! As a note to all voters - be patient and be prepared with your ID when it is your turn to vote!

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County auditors need to be conversant with a whole host of laws, and they need to have access to good legal advice.



Kristi Harshbarger, ISAC General Counsel

As county officials and employees, I'm sure most of you have had an experience where you've had to consider Iowa's Public Records Laws (found in Chapter 22 of the Iowa Code). But have you ever thought about how those public records laws work in relation to elections?

To get started in this arena, it's important to know a little bit about how the rules of statutory construction work. A basic statutory construction rule (and one that comes up here) is that more specific laws prevail over general laws. There are a fair number of laws that specifically talk about election records (particularly voter registration lists) and so the rules contained there are the ones you want to focus on. To the extent there are federal laws related to election records, those laws would prevail over state law.

The definition of public records is found in Iowa Code §22.1(3) and is very broad – stating public records include "all records, documents, tape, or other information, stored or preserved in any medium, of or belonging to . . . any county." There are 71 categories of records listed in Iowa Code §22.7 that are defined as confidential (and additional categories of records made confidential by various laws throughout the Iowa Code and federal law), but there are no particular confidentiality protections to election records such as requests for ballots and nomination papers/affidavits of candidacy. The two most recently-added categories of records made confidential under Iowa Code §22.7 do relate to election records and make the voter verification numbers and the personal identification numbers assigned by the secretary of state confidential. Other laws you might consider reviewing when trying to determine if an election record is confidential include Iowa Code Chapter 715C (related to personal information security) and the federal National Voter Registration Act of 1993.

There are a large number of specific rules related to requests for voter registration lists. You may accept phone requests for voter registration lists, or you may accept written requests, but if you accept either you must be "confident that:

you understand the specifics of the request;" and

~GV

the requestor agrees information "will only be used for the purposes set forth in Iowa Code §48A.39." (821 Voter Registration Iowa Administrative Rules 3.2)

Note, this is very different than a standard public records request, where under Chapter 22 you cannot require someone to tell you what they want a public record for or how they will use the information.

In addition, if you are responding to a request for voter registration lists, you must obtain a number of items from the requestor (name, address, etc.). Those requirements can be found in 821 Voter Registration Iowa Administrative Rules 3.3. Again, this is very different than the proper way to respond to a standard Chapter 22 request. Iowa Code §48A.38 requires that drivers' license numbers, Iowa DOT-issued non-operator's identification numbers, whole or partial social security numbers, and the name of the agency at which the voter registration form was submitted all be redacted from voter registration lists before providing them.

Moreover, you are not required to provide voter registration lists. But if you accept one request, you must accept all, so be consistent and consider having a policy. If you do not accept requests of this nature, then you should send them to the secretary of state. Additionally, the secretary of state is the only one that can provide statewide congressional district voter registration information, although you may provide information for a district or other jurisdiction that is located in or in part within your county. How long you have to respond to a request for a voter registration list is found in Iowa Code §48A.38 and is generally within 14 days of receipt of the request.

A final note on election records is that there are several requirements in Iowa Code Chapter 48A for retention of certain election records. Typically, the Iowa Code does not give guidance on records retention issues, but please do review this Chapter when working on your record retention policies for election records.

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Eric Gookin, Secretary of State's Office

Election "security" can encompass a lot of subjects. Cybersecurity is somewhat new to elections, though not as new as a lot of people believe. Luckily, elections officials are well versed in aspects of physical security. Physical security principles have cybersecurity counterparts. We just refer to them as "encryption" and "logging" instead of "securely stored" and "chain of custody."

In this article, I'll touch base on some of the pre-emptive security measures that are taken to protect elections, both physical and cyber. However, I strongly urge you to view the following video. It was prepared in partnership by Dawn Williams, our Elections Director, and the federal Election Assistance Commission (EAC): https://sos.iowa. gov/electionsecurityiniowa.html. The coverage between this article and that video are not exact, but there will be a lot of overlap on topics like pre-testing of voting equipment, physical handling, and election audits.

Pretesting Before voting systems are placed into polling places, there are a few safeguards in place. First, they need to be approved by one of the independent test labs at the federal level. This approval requires submission of critical system information to the independent labs to ensure that certain technical and procedural safeguards are implemented. Second, the machines are reviewed by the state's Voting Equipment Examiners. This is a bipartisan panel that tests the systems to ensure compliance with Iowa Code chapter 52. Third, before every election in which the systems are used in polling places, the county auditor is required to perform a public logic and accuracy test of the equipment to ensure it is operating correctly.

Physical handling For both ballots and voting systems, serious security measures are in place. First, upon requesting a ballot, whether via absentee or at the polls, elections officials verify that no other ballot has been issued to the voter. Second, just like money in a bank teller's drawer, ballots are reconciled and accounted for by every county in the days before each election. This means that no ballots go missing, then mysteriously reappear later. Third, once the public tests described above are completed, the systems are sealed with security tags and locked up until election day.

Post-Election Audits For the first time, this year Iowa will have post-election audits. Since all voting in Iowa is done via paper ballots, and those ballots are required to be kept for 22 months after federal elections, this is a very effective process for ensuring that the election results as canvassed are correct. In the



We are fortunate in Iowa that all counties must use paper ballots. If there is evidence that the reported results are inaccurate, the original ballots are available for recounting. This means, of course, that the physical security of ballots and voting machines is a top priority. Here is Eric Gookin's second article on security. $\sim GV$

event the audits produce doubt that the votes were accurately counted, county auditors can expand their audits to determine whether the results need to be reviewed further. Furthermore, candidates may request recounts, typically of close races, and county auditors may request administrative recounts, if mistakes in vote-counting appear to have occured. These audits are open to the public and the political parties are invited to attend, just like at the pretesting.

Those are not the only security practices in place. For instance, there is technological security built in to I-Voters, election night reporting, and e-poll books, and other physical security measures both at the auditor's office and the polling places, and more are covered in the video above.

Being an election administrator is extremely stressful. In a grandiose, but accurate statement, the fate of the Republic rests in their hands every single week of every year. Iowa's elections are in the safe hands of professionals who love what they do, are not afraid to ask for help, and take the integrity of the process very seriously.

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The constant tinkering with laws is not only confusing for full-time election administrators, it has made the job of once- or twice-a-year PEOs perilously complex. Elections have increasingly used modern technology to simplify the critical work done at the polls on election day, including a homegrown product from the heart of Iowa.

 $\sim GV$



Marge Pitts, Clay County Auditor

County auditors across our state are preparing for the fast approaching General Election. One aspect of election preparation may involve an electronic pollbook system that verifies the eligibility of voters before allowing them to cast a ballot. The Precinct Atlas pollbook election management system is just such a system. It was created in 2009 from the vision of then Cerro Gordo County Auditor Ken Kline who sought to simplify the voter check-in procedures and ensure that precinct election officials had a solid, consistent guide for that process. The Precinct Atlas programs were created in compliance with Iowa laws to determine voter eligibility, their correct polling location, to update their address and/or name, to furnish provisional ballots, if necessary, and accomplish Election Day registrations.

It was in 2013 that the Iowa Precinct Atlas Consortium (IPAC) was formed through 28E agreements between counties to provide organizational structure and to purchase license distribution rights from Cerro Gordo County. IPAC is currently operational in 77 counties. Within the current membership there is a potential of Precinct Atlas pollbooks to be in 1,384 polling locations across Iowa. On January 1, 2018 IPAC contracted with the Iowa State Association of Counties (ISAC) to provide IPAC members with technology services, software development and maintenance, hardware support, and Precinct Atlas training which is covered by payment of membership annual dues. The fiscal agent responsibilities of IPAC is also contracted with ISAC since July 1, 2018.

The IPAC Board last met on June 25, 2018 to discuss with the ISAC development team software improvements or changes that need to be accomplished before the November General Election. During the day-long meeting the Board and development team members went over various equipment issues that were experienced by some members and identified ways that the software needed to be modified to either correct or enhance procedures and screens. Discussion also covered the approval of a new IPAC Support Agreement offering three levels of support. Each member county can determine its desired hardware or training support over and above the base package, which includes software upgrades, software installation and support, website access, tutorials and manuals, and regional trainings or webinars. IPAC members are also eligible to serve on the Futures Committee comprised of nine members appointed by the IPAC Board. This Committee recommends changes to the functionality of the programs to achieve public benefits and further development of the Precinct Atlas program.

The heightened attention on cyber and physical security requirements in Iowa law and administrative rules has been addressed and implemented in Precinct Atlas. Electronic pollbooks used in Iowa must conform to security standards of hard drive encryption of data at rest and data in transit. Each IPAC member was furnished with instructions or assisted to accomplish the hardware encryption. The software programs were also encrypted to ensure the security of the voter data utilized during an election. Nonetheless, this facet of administering elections has been stressful. The IPAC Program Manager Tammy Norman and the ISAC development team keep in close contact with the Iowa Secretary of State Office to ensure IPAC members are compliant with evolving regulations.

The Precinct Atlas election day check-in system was developed to ensure the integrity and efficiency of the Election Day process that not only treats voters efficiently, but correctly and consistently. Added to that, the precinct election officials gain stronger confidence in performing their duties through the use of Precinct Atlas.



CHAPTER 3 *After the Election*

Elections are stressful for lots of people – candidates, campaign workers, voters – and after election night, it's nice to wind down and kick back a bit. Unless you're a county auditor. ~GV



Eric Van Lancker, Clinton County Auditor

Many voters think the election is finished after election night results are reported. Not so. In fact, those election night results are "unofficial" results. As you'll see...to riff from a quote from the famous baseball legend Yogi Berra...an election ain't over until it's over.

CANVASS

Results from any election in the state of Iowa are not official until after a canvass is conducted.

Ballots can still be counted between Election Day and the canvass. If any provisional ballots were cast at any polling location, a special board meets between Election Day and the canvass to determine if those ballots should be counted. That board may also count any absentee ballots that were returned to the Auditor's Office with a postmark of the day before the election or earlier.

The canvass typically takes place a week after the Election Day. In Iowa, the county board of supervisors serves as the board of canvassers. The supervisors, during the canvass, will compare the results reported from the voting precinct on election night to the numbers on the abstract report. The abstract report is created from the memory drives taken from the tabulation machines at the polling places. That abstract will be the official tally of the election after the supervisors certify the numbers are correct.

So now that the results are official, the election is finished, correct? Not quite yet.





RECOUNT

While the election results have been declared official through the canvass process, there are still opportunities to request a recount or a contest to the election. A request for a recount of votes cast can be made by the county auditor, a candidate or someone with interest in a public measure.

Typically, a recount is requested when the results of the election are close. The county auditor may also request a recount if it is known a tabulation machine may have malfunctioned. A request for a recount in most elections must be filed within three days of the canvass of the votes. The county board of supervisors must then order the recount through a formal action.

A three-member board is formed to recount the votes. The board can decide to either count the votes by hand, by machine or a combination of both. When we had a recount in 2010, there were more than 10,000 votes. The board decided for time's sake that it would hand count the smaller precincts and machine count the larger precincts where more votes were cast.

If there is any question as to how a vote should be counted while hand counting ballots, two of the three recount board members must agree how the vote should be recorded.

The recount may last from hours to days depending on the number of votes and the process by which the votes are recounted. However, the report from the recount board must be completed no later than the 18th day following the canvass. The report must be signed by at least two members of the recount board.

If the results of the recount are the same as the canvass, then the official numbers certified by the canvass are upheld. If the results of the recount are different from the canvass, then the board of supervisors is required to canvass the recount board's results.



CONTEST

Another post-election option is a contest. Where a recount is simply a recount of the votes cast, a contest is a formal process in which the election is challenged due to allegations that the results were not correct due to improper procedures. Some reasons for a contest include instances of fraud or corruption, the qualifications of a candidate, inappropriately rejected ballots or other allegations that may show the outcome of the election should be different.

The filing deadline for a contest depends on the type of race that is being contested. Those deadlines range from 10 to 30 days.

A local election contest is structured like a court of law where evidence is presented to a contest court that is chosen much like a recount board, except the third member is designated as the presiding member of the court. Witnesses will take an oath to tell the truth. Subpoenas may even be issued through this process.

During a contest, a voter may be asked to prove their qualifications to vote in the election. If the court determines the voter was not eligible to vote in the election, the voter can be compelled to testify how the voter voted.

If the contest court finds that the current officeholder shouldn't be there, the presiding judge must command the sheriff "to put the successful party in possession of the office without delay." The results of a contest may be appealed to the District Court within 20 days of the contest judgment.



Gubernatorial Candidate Feature

Unleash Opportunity for Iowa

In Iowa, if you're willing to work hard and roll up your sleeves, anything is possible.

It's a state where a 5th generation, small-town Iowa girl can have the opportunity to serve in local government, serve as a State Senator, as Lt. Governor, and now have the sincere honor and privilege to serve you as Governor of this great state. Stories like mine are so reflective of what makes Iowans unique: our people value their work ethic, believe strongly in personal responsibility, family, and place a deep faith in God.

These qualities helped me along in every period of my life.

The balancing act of being a stay-at-home mom as well as a part-time student was becoming more difficult—especially as my husband Kevin and I struggled to make ends meet. It became apparent we needed additional income, so I

decided to get a part time job at Hy-Vee. Kevin and I would trade off watching the kids. We eventually got the timing down: he got home from work, and I would hand off the kids and leave for work myself.

In the meantime, I was still trying to earn a college degree, which involved long nights, a lot of weekends, and eventually online classes. Earning my degree took years. But I wasn't going to give up, and I am not someone to do things halfway.

At age 57, I graduated from Iowa State University. It was rewarding to see the effort finally culminate into one of the proudest moments in my life. Driven by this experience, I am always fighting to make it easier for Iowans to discover the incredible opportunities our state has to offer.

Whether you are student at Iowa State, at a local community college,

whether you are a mom from a city, suburb, or rural lowa, I want you to

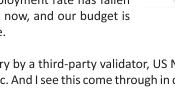
be able find your passion and chase your dreams.

From the cities and suburbs, to our smallest towns and rural communities, I am working to unleash opportunity for Iowans across the state. We are doing that by investing new money and innovative ideas into our classrooms and bolstering our workforce to ensure Iowans have the skills to pursue opportunities right here in Iowa.

Like most lowans, I am proud of our past, prize our values, and honor our traditions, but I am looking forward to an even brighter future. That's why I am running to be lowa's next governor. It's an opportunity to build on the positive success we have seen already, while unleashing opportunities for the future. To me, lowa is—and must remain—a place where, if you're willing to work for it, you can make your dreams come true. I will take that with me every day as your Governor.

I am proud to say that this year, we saw successes. Our unemployment rate has fallen to a historic low, there are over 60,000 jobs open in Iowa right now, and our budget is balanced with a rainy-day fund higher than when we took office.

Even better, Iowa was recently named the #1 State in the country by a third-party validator, US News and World Report. That ranking is a reflection of our people, our values and our work ethic. And I see this come through in communities across the state.







Republican Candidate for Governor

Governor Kim Reynolds

http://reynoldsgregg.com

 We State University

 We State University



Iowa is the best place to live in America, and we have so much to be proud of, but we have more to do.

My goals as governor will focus on implementing some of the great reforms we signed into law this year.

This year, we signed into law comprehensive mental health reform. It opens new access centers, closes gaps in our existing system, and lays the groundwork for further improvements. Going forward, we will ensure this program has the funding to work for vulnerable lowans who rely on compassionate mental health care.

Every day we are striving to make improvements in health care. Earlier this year, I admitted that mistakes were made in our roll out of Medicaid Modernization, but I am proud to say I brought in new leadership. And we are working to get this system right. As health care costs continue to rise, the last thing we need to do is turn backwards to the fraud and wasteful spending we saw in the old bureaucratic-run Medicaid system.

Furthermore, Iowa's health care system overall has been damaged by Obamacare. This year we worked with both parties and the Farm Bureau to create affordable health care plans. As governor, I will continue to see these types of plans developed so that Iowa small business owners, farmers, and hardworking Iowans can find options. Washington needs to get something done, but we can't keep waiting.

I was proud to put in place historic tax cuts to put more money into the pockets of hard working lowans who earned it. Every dollar counts. Our reforms include safeguards and triggers in place to ensure that we continue to fund our priorities in a fiscally responsible way.

Going forward, we will continue to tackle one of the greatest challenges facing our economy, a workforce shortage.

We can't place educators and industry leaders in silos, they need to work together to help lowans young and old get the skills they need for a good-paying job. That's why we will continue to implement Future Ready lowa. This is a workforce, job-training bill meant to create opportunities for lowans. We do that through scholarships, through apprenticeship programs, and creating public-private partnerships.

As a product of rural lowa, it's a passion of mine to preserve and celebrate our state's rich rural heritage.

Earlier this year, I signed Executive Order No. 3, creating the Empower Rural Iowa Initiative. The initiative will include three different task forces: Investing in Rural Iowa Task Force; the Growing Rural Iowa Task Force; and the Connecting Rural Iowa Task Force.

Creating opportunity at every corner. That means building on the positive success we have already done. I am proud of our investment in K-12 education. As a mother, a grandmother, and a mother of a teacher, nothing is more important than investing in our children. Since 2011, we have put over \$765 million in new money into K-12 education, we are the 4th highest in the nation for increasing investment, and we are just getting started.

I am working to create new innovation in our classrooms. Programs like the Teacher Leadership Compensation program, which helps our best teachers do even more for our future. We will continue to invest in our schools, our educators, and of course our future.

I will be honest, there's going to be hiccups and challenges along the way, but I know Iowans can handle any challenge. We aren't ever going to settle for the status quo. Together, we will make Iowa more competitive, innovative, and leave our children with an even better state than what we inherited.

I look forward to traveling across lowa, visiting and listening to every community, because I will work day and night to earn your trust and your vote during this important campaign.

The Iowa County comp September 2018

Gubernatorial Candidate Feature

Over the years, I've learned there is far more that unites us, than divides us.

I'm a fifth-generation lowan, lifelong Democrat, and I'm running to be the next governor of lowa. I've spent the last 30 years fighting to support the values and quality of life that make our state a great place to live and raise a family.

Leadership is about responsibility and accountability - and I take that responsibility very seriously.

I served as Chair of Planned Parenthood and on the board of Mercy Hospital to help expand access to quality health care for every Iowan. I chaired the board of Simpson College and the Iowa College Foundation Board to help expand education opportunities in our state. I've worked to protect our environment and led the Iowa Power Fund to help make Iowa a leader in renewable energy.

I led the Younkers Department Store in the 80s and Equitable of Iowa, with



Fred Hubbell Democratic Candidate for Governor https://fredhubbell.com

thousands of employees across the state during the farm crisis. I understand that every job is important to every family, and every hour worked goes a little further towards making ends meet.

I'm running for governor because I can't stand by while the state I love is run into the ground by the fiscal mismanagement and misguided policies of Governor Reynolds and the Republican legislature. Governor Reynolds has taken Iowa's budget from an almost billion-dollar surplus to \$144 million in the red by prioritizing wasteful corporate giveaways while gutting funding for education and health care.

We need a governor with the experience to turn this mismanagement around and get lowa growing the right way. And that's something I can do. I've managed complex budgets my entire life, and have a proven record delivering results in the public and private sectors.

I'm not a politician, nor have I ever been. I want to bring people together to get results for our state. The current administration has turned its back on Iowans and continues to put party ahead of people. As governor, I will put people first and stand up to Washington on behalf of all Iowans, no matter which party is in charge.

We need to give hardworking families the support and respect they deserve while investing in the services they need to succeed, like access to quality and affordable health care and education.

I have three key priorities: getting incomes rising, investing in education, and improving health care.

First, we need to get incomes rising across the state. Iowa was 49th in the nation in personal income growth last year. We need to create good paying jobs by investing in Iowans. This begins with respecting and supporting Iowa's workers by restoring collective bargaining rights and the workers compensation system.

The Iowa County 2000 September 2018

Gubernatorial Candidate Feature

I know first-hand the importance of strong workers' rights. I've been a member of a labor union, and proud to be a dues paying member today. As a business leader, I regularly worked with unions to encourage their representation in the workplace and ensure fairness at every level.

Next, we need to properly fund quality, lifelong learning and get Iowa back to being a national leader in education. Over the past year, I've traveled to all 99 counties, listening to teachers, administrators, and school board members in both urban and rural districts. I understand that more is expected of teachers with every passing year and funding isn't keeping up.

As governor, my top priority will be investing in our public education system - from fully funding universal pre-k and quality K-12 to ensuring higher education is affordable. We also need to make sure job training is more accessible in every high school across the state by supporting public-private partnerships, trade apprenticeship programs, and community colleges.

By fully funding education, we can help ensure schools have quality teachers, counselors, and resources to empower every student to their full potential.

And finally, we must ensure every lowan has access to the quality and affordable health care they deserve. On day one, I'll start the process of reversing Governor Reynolds' disastrous privatization of Medicaid, which has left 40,000 lowans without care they need and shuttered providers.

We will restore funding to Planned Parenthood, and we will address our substance abuse and mental health crisis. Last December, our campaign proposed a mental health plan to invest in community-based treatment, including adding 50-75 long-term care beds, establishing a youth mental health system, and investing in diversion and substance abuse programs. I look forward to implementing this plan as your governor.

We also need to invest in our environmental health by protecting air and water quality and preserving topsoil. This is not just a rural or urban issue, this is an Iowa issue that we all need to come together to solve.

I'm proud to have State Senator Rita Hart as my running mate. Rita is a natural leader who has spent her life working on the farm and in the classroom to make our state a better place, and we are so lucky to have her on the ticket.

It's time to restore opportunities, not reduce them. It's time to invest in people again. And it's time to work across the aisle for the benefit of all Iowans.

I know that if we stand united, we can turn this state around and get Iowa growing the right way.

The Iowa County com September 2018

NACo News

"Dance as if no one is watching, Sing as if no one is listening, Listen as if no one is talking"

Yeah. I just made up that last bit, but I think the first two are so true. NACo's Annual Conference was held in Music City. Davidson County, Nashville, Tennessee. There was plenty of music at all the evening receptions and downtown, and a little bit of dancing. There was even music in the bars and restaurants in the airport where musicians were singing as if no one was listening. And most of us weren't.

But it wasn't all music and dancing though. It was probably one of the better conferences I've attended. Except for the monstrosity of a hotel and conference center. That place was huge, and I got somewhat lost and confused several times for the first few days. It was easy finding the conference and meeting rooms because NACo had plenty of signage to direct me. There just weren't any signs telling me how to get back to my room! They do have an app that



Melvyn Houser Pottawattamie County Auditor melvyn.houser@pottcounty-ia.gov

one can download to aid in that adventure. Some voice, presumably, telling you when to turn left at some intersection and which one of about ten elevators to take.

Probably the coolest highlight for me was Thursday night when our own Cass County Treasurer, Tracey Marshall was sworn in as National Association of County Collectors Treasurers and Finance Officers (NACCTFO) President. NACCTFO is an affiliate of NACo. Several other Iowa County Treasurers, ISAC staff, Grant Veeder and I, along with some of Tracey's family from Wisconsin attended. Her brother had the honor of swearing her in. It was a very nice ceremony and we should all wish Tracey well in her year as President and safe travels to other state Treasurers meetings representing NACCTFO.

Earlier that day I went on the Arts and Resilience mobile workshop where we saw some of Nashville's integration of public art in their recovery after the 2010 Cumberland River flood. It was interesting how they incorporated a flood wall in the reconstruction of the river front amphitheater. It was very attractive yet functional. The basement of the Schermerhorn Symphony Concert Hall was also flooded. Not only did they lose the utilities, they also lost equipment, including several grand pianos. Cellist Yo Yo Ma says the Schermerhorn is one of the best halls he has ever played. And he's played in a lot of them all over the world. So they made sure that it's reconstruction didn't lose any of the qualities that it originally had. The folks in Music City really like their music, so it was a community effort to fund the reconstruction.

I have more to say about arts and culture, but I want to touch briefly on the sessions of the committees I went to. NACo legislative staffer for the Ag and Rural Affairs Steering Committee, Arthur Scott gave us a breakdown and summary of the ongoing Farm Bill discussions on The Hill and highlighted the differences between the House and Senate versions. He also updated us on new Rural Development programs and the new Interagency Council which is similar to the previous administration's White House Rural Council. At Rural Action Caucus some folks from the administration, I'm thinking FEMA, (I need to take better notes) said that they have given out more assistance in the past year than in the previous ten years. And 25 million people have been affected by hurricanes and wildfires. There were also presentations regarding school security and human trafficking. At the Board of Director's meeting Executive Director Chase talked about the new High Performance Leadership Academy. Nation wide, county government is a \$600 billion industry with 3.6 million employees. Pretty important wouldn't you say? This academy is a 12 week online course designed to train our next generation of county leaders. NACo will spend \$2.5 million to subsidize the program in order to incentivize participation. Later, I sat in on the Programs and Services Committee where much of the discussion revolved around getting information to counties about all the programs NACo has to offer. Staff from some state associations suggested working with those associations might be a good way to do it, since many members do not go to NACo conferences, but do attend at the state level. ISAC is doing that with our Stepping Up conferences that was held last fall and again this fall. Lastly, at the Membership Committee meeting we learned that membership numbers have increased. We've even had several new lowa counties sign up to be part of that increase. That's great! Thank you! We need every county at the table as we work on federal policies, programs, and initiatives that help counties across the country. It's nice to be part of one of the best and strongest associations in America.

At the Arts and Culture Committee we were all handed a button the says "Ask me about \$27.5 Billion." Annually, the Arts and culture industry contributes \$760 billion to the national economy and supports nearly 5 million jobs. Local, state and federal

The Iowa County September 2018

NACo News

government allocates \$5 billion to the Arts and gets a return of \$27.5 in revenue. I think that's a pretty sweet investment! It's probably difficult at budget time to justify your county's contribution to a local event or non profit working in the Arts and culture realm. But it is more than just dollars and cents. Arts can be used not only for personal healing and therapy, but also for community health and unity. If there are problems in a community: The Arts are part of the solution because Art is a building block of society.

Like I said earlier, it was a very good conference and I wish I had the time and space to go into more detail. If you want to learn more, NACo's County News, which is celebrating its 50 year anniversary, has more in-depth coverage. Or, better yet go to a conference and learn for yourself. It would be a great enriching experience.





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2018/2019 Calendar

September 2018

16-19	ISSDA Jail School	
	(Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport)	
20	ISAC LPC Meeting	
	(ISAC Office)	
October	2018	
3-5	ISAC Board of Directors Retreat	
	(Johnson County)	
3-5	lowa Environmental Health Association Fall	
	Conference (West Des Moines Marriott)	
21-24	Assessors Fall Conference	
	(Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport)	
24	Iowa Stepping Up Summit	
- '	(Hy-Vee Hall, Des Moines)	
Neuromber 2040		

November 2018

15-16 ISAC Board of Directors Meeting (ISAC Office)

December 2018

- 2-5 **ISSDA Winter School**
- (Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport)
- Iowa County Engineers Conference 12-14 (Veterans Memorial Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center, Des Moines)

January 2019

- 16-17 ISAC New County Officers School (Sheraton West Des Moines)
- 31
- Statewide Supervisors Meeting (Embassy Suites Des Moines Downtown)

March 2019

- 2-5 NACo Legislative Conference (Washington, D.C.)
- 13 County Day at the Capitol
- (Iowa State Capitol, Des Moines) 14-15 **ISAC Spring Conference**
 - (Veterans Memorial Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center, Des Moines)

July 2019

12-15 NACo Annual Conference (Las Vegas, Nevada)

August 2019

21-23 **ISAC Annual Conference** (Veterans Memorial Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center, Des Moines)

If you have any questions about the meetings listed above or would like to add an affiliate meeting to the ISAC calendar, please contact Kelsey Sebern at ksebern@iowacounties.org.

2018 ISAC Preferred Vendors

Endorsed Elite Preferred Vendors County Risk Management Services, Inc. representing ICAP and IMWCA Kingston Life and Health

Elite Preferred Vendor IP Pathways

Endorsed Platinum Preferred Vendors Iowa Public Agency Investment Trust (IPAIT) Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield of Iowa

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