

## **Bosque County Election Process Clarifications**

Bosque County uses three different types of equipment in all elections, which have all been purchased through our vendor ES&S and certified by Texas Secretary of State:

First, the Express PollBook is used to check the voter in. This is the only piece of equipment that is EVER connected to the internet. The PollBook updates the number of voters in real time (not the actual votes), to a website run by our vendor ES&S. Having the PollBook connected to the internet also prevents double voting; it shows the minute a voter signs in and will also show voters who have voted by mail and whether their ballot has been returned to the Election Official.

Second, the ExpressVote is what a voter can use to mark the ballot instead of filling in bubbles with a pen. The ExpressVote is NEVER connected to the internet. All counties are required to have an ADA machine in every polling location (Texas Election Code Sec. 61.012). All the ExpressVote does is mark the ballot according to the voter's choosing. Once the ExpressVote prints the ballot the voter can see exactly what was marked before it is scanned into the tabulator. If for some reason the ballot is not marked according to the voter's wishes, the voter can spoil that ballot and retrieve a fresh one to mark correctly.

Third, the DS200 is what actually counts the votes (the tabulator). This is NEVER connected to the internet. Once a voter has marked his/her ballot, the ballot is run through the DS200 and immediately goes into the ballot box, which is locked and sealed.

At the end of Election Day all precincts bring their supplies, including the media stick from the DS200, which we upload to a computer used only for Election Night Reporting (also NOT connected to the internet) that tells us the results of each race. This is what generates the reports we post on the County's website Election Night (we print then scan from our regular computers to post to the website). Secretary of State also calls and confirms our results Election Night before we are allowed to go home.

All our media for every election and for every political party is programmed by ES&S. Bosque County does not have the capability to program in house. Bosque County also tests the media and all equipment used in each election for accuracy prior to Early Voting and Election Day.

After every election Bosque County does a partial manual count. The State of Texas randomly selects which precincts and which race(s) to manually count. These manual counts have always matched the DS200 reports; indicating the votes have not been altered in any way. All manual count results are also reported to the Secretary of State.

Bosque County does not use any Dominion voting machines and tries to make every election authentic and run to the best of our ability every time.