



Montana Election Integrity Project

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Dear Montanans,

As questions arise around the country about the November 2020 election, people are asking what they can do to learn more about their own counties' election processes. Hardworking election administrators and staff, and volunteer poll watchers, and election judges put countless hours into each election cycle to ensure smooth running elections. Yet too many odd occurrences happened throughout the country in November 2020, the first General Election to be conducted in the midst of questionable societal changes driven by an unusual infection.

This **County Volunteer Checklist** is a starting place for citizens to use as they gather information about influences in their county elections. Mark Zuckerberg contributed \$350 million through the Center for Tech and Civic Life (CTCL) to over 2500 counties and other local governments to "modernize" the election process. Thirty of the 56 Montana counties were awarded the funds, though only 28 counties accepted them. The following counties accepted the funds so asking your county election administrator for a copy of the report that was due to CTCL by 1/31/21, or by 6/30/21 if an extension was granted, will help you understand how those funds were used in your county:

ANACONDA-DEER LODGE, BLAINE, CASCADE, CUSTER, DANIELS, GALLATIN, GLACIER, HILL, LAKE, LEWIS AND CLARK, LIBERTY, MADISON, MISSOULA, PARK, PHILLIPS, PONDERA, POWELL, PRAIRIE, RAVALLI, SHERIDAN, STILLWATER, SWEET GRASS, TETON, TOOLE, VALLEY, WHEATLAND, WIBAUX, YELLOWSTONE

Forty-six Montana counties use ES&S (Election Systems & Software) tabulating machines to count the votes, and these ten counties count the ballots by hand:

DANIELS, PRAIRIE, WHEATLAND, FALLON, GARFIELD, GOLDEN VALLEY, MCCONE, MEAGHER, POWDER RIVER, TREASURE

Reading the contracts for the lease or purchase of the machines, as well as the logs of when the machines were maintained or had software upgrades will help you understand how your county arrives at the election results.

Knowing whether your county uses ballot printers will give you an idea of how votes are recorded and how your country accounts for all ballots printed, used, and excess remaining. The company and paper used to print ballots can provide additional useful information.

Take the checklist on the next page to your election administrator's office and to learn more about elections in your county. Please report your findings to info@montanaelectionintegrity.org.

Thank you,
Montana Election Integrity Project



County Checklist

CTCL Application (application for funds, if they say it is online, ask for a copy of the receipt which includes the application)

CTCL Report (not the internal ledger, need a copy of the actual report submitted prior 1/31/21)

ES&S log of maintenance and software upgrades

ES&S lease or purchase contracts

Get to know your county elections administrator

Get to know your county party chairs

List of election judges from county party chair per MCA 13 4 102 (include election judges party affiliation + county)

Number of ballot printers in your county

Company providing ballot paper for county ballot machines

Email all findings to info@montanaelectionintegrity.org