YOUR VOTE IS SECURE!

- Microvote Voting machines (Sumner County's Vendor) are NEVER connected to the internet. There is no ability to do so.
- All voting machines are programmed for the specific ballot for EACH precinct. These ballots are reviewed and approved by attorneys at the State Election Office.
- Voting machines are verified, after programming by a machine technician, by an independent team. At least three signatures must accompany this verification. The report shows that each office can receive a vote.
- "Zero" Tally Tapes are run for each voting machine that show no votes have been placed on the voting machines. Tapes are run for each machine after programming and verification.
- Five Election Commissioners (Three Republicans, Two Democrats) review these zero tally tapes, and lock and seal the voting machines and record the seal numbers. All of the Sumner County Election Commissioners sign the report, and a certified copy is sent to the State Election Office.
- On election morning, the Officer of Election, Special Registrar and Machine Operator (Three Total Election Workers) verify the seal numbers, run another set of zero tally tapes to confirm there are no votes on the voting machines, sign a certification document, then start the voting machines for the election.
- When a voter checks in at the Registrar area, a detailed "Application for Ballot" after they verify their name, address, date of birth and voting districts. The Registrar keeps a tally of these totals throughout the day for each E-Poll Laptop.
- The voter takes the lower half of the Application for Ballot, called the "Machine Application" to a machine operator. The machine operators likewise keep a running total of applications, in addition to the votes recorded on the machine. They reconcile this throughout Election Day.
At the close of voting, all of the vote totals in the machines MUST match the number of Applications for Ballot, the Machine Applications, and the totals on both the E-Polls and the Voting Machines must be equal.

The totals on the voting machines are summarized on a “Tally Card”. There is one tally card per voting machine. The results on the tally card must match the totals on each voting machine, and the total of the paper Applications for Ballot and the total of the Machine Applications. All of these paper trails support and balance back to the E-Poll and Voting Machine totals. Tally tapes are run for each machine for the day, and posted at the precinct where they are visible from the exterior of the building.

Tally Cards are returned to the Election Commission (by, at a minimum, one Republican and one Democrat) who were members of that voting poll worker team for that precinct for Election Day.

Tally Cards are read and processed by a Microvote voting machine technician on a stand-alone system. Personnel, poll workers, Election Deputies and Election Commissioners are present as witnesses.

The tally machine is NOT connected to the internet.

The official results are printed FROM THAT MACHINE.

Those results are posted on our website, as they come in, and they are posted on a door visible from the exterior of the building throughout the evening.

There is no avenue for the voting machines to be hacked—as they are NEVER connected to any device that could modify the results.

The voting machine has an internal proprietary audit system.

There has never been an incident of fraud with the voting machines used in Sumner County nor anywhere in the State of Tennessee per the State Election Office. The proposed legislation has a $50 million dollar price tag. If Sumner County were to receive Federal Funds, it would require State matching funds, as well as Sumner County funds, all taxpayer dollars.

IN SUMMARY,

YOUR VOTE IS SECURE!
Election coordinator: Tennessee election systems safe, despite Democratic calls for paper ballots

Jordyn Bule, USA TODAY NETWORK - Tennessee Published 6:49 p.m. CT Feb. 20, 2018

Tennessee’s election systems are safe, despite a call from some Democrats for a multi-million paper ballot backup system, a top election official said Tuesday.

“I am very confident our election systems are secure,” Tennessee Elections Coordinator Mark Goins said by telephone Monday. “Elections are run by local people in a bipartisan fashion. It would be extremely difficult to affect the vote tallies, just because of the way the system is set up.”


More: Some states are returning to paper ballots to prevent interference (/video/news/politics/elections/2018/02/19/some-states-returning-paper-ballots-prevent-interference/110623498/)

Goins, who spoke on behalf of Tennessee Secretary of State Tre Hargett on Monday, attended confidential briefings with Hargett on election security in Washington, D.C., last week. Goins addressed concerns raised by Democrats.

On Friday, U.S. Rep. Jim Cooper, D-Nashville, told reporters (/story/news/2018/02/16/jim-cooper-tennessee-voting-system-hacking/345881002/) that warnings from the national intelligence community point to a “serious threat” to the nation’s voting system, and immediate changes are needed in Tennessee to avoid a compromised 2018 election cycle.


Similarly, on Monday morning, Senate Minority Caucus Chairman Jeff Yarbrough, R-Nashville, expressed frustrations that his own bill calling for paper ballots stalled in the Senate State and Local Government Committee.

“it’s disturbing the Senate appears uninterested in having a conversation about a paper trail, which is pretty essential to the integrity of our elections in our democracy,” he said. “There’s bipartisan consensus in Washington that our elections are under attack by foreign governments with sophistication. It is baffling there is not greater concern from the other side of the aisle on this issue.”

Adam Kleinheider, a spokesman for Lt. Gov. Randy McNally, R-Oak Ridge, said the speaker looked forward to talking to Hargett about what he learned in Washington.

But Goins said Monday afternoon there has been confusion about the nature of threats and when they originated.

“I realize Congressman Cooper had the press conference on Friday, but this wasn’t a Friday sounding the alarm situation,” Goins said. “The alarm, actually if you go back and look historically, was really sounded during the 2016 election and even prior to that.”

The elections coordinator said bad actors are always looking to disrupt the system, thus far through secondary means such as influencing voters through social media, hacking into politicians social media feeds and changing election results on local websites.

These actions can hurt voter confidence, he said, but actually changing vote tallies is a another matter, and Goins said he is confident can’t happen.

“I’ve watched the (U.S.) Senate hearing Congressman Cooper was talking about,” he said. “There’s nothing new out there. All this information your hearing is information that was available during 2016 or shortly thereafter.”

He said Tennessee has not been targeted in efforts to attack the actual voting system, nor has there been a breach in system security.

“There is absolutely no evidence whatsoever that vote tallies were tampered with,” he said.

Goins said he believes some lawmakers’ calls for paper ballots are misplaced.

“It’s very costly to go to paper ballots. It’s one thing to say that voting machines can be hacked, but the reality is there are 95 counties here and thousands of machines and they are in secure locations,” he said. “They are not connected on the Internet, and the Internet capability is disabled.”

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