

Steven Ward

From: Dwight Shellman
Sent: Monday, December 07, 2015 8:33 AM
To: Steven Ward
Cc: Edward Morgan
Subject: FW: UVS

This is a public comment for the 12/111 PERC meeting.

From: Corinne Lengel [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, December 04, 2015 4:31 PM
To: Wayne Williams [REDACTED]
Cc: Dwight Shellman [REDACTED]
Subject: UVS

Dear Secretary Williams and PERC members:

Regretfully, I did not make the meeting today in person but did listen to it live in its entirety. It was a very informative five hours and I must say I do not envy your decision in the least. Thank you all for the tremendous amount of work you have done so far and will continue to do in the next several days. Your commitment is admirable.

I wanted to share a couple of points from the perspective of a small county.

I gallantly offered to be one of the first counties to purchase equipment in 2016 no matter which vendor was chosen, but after listening today I realized that each of the systems still has bugs that need to be worked out. Thus, I may be rethinking my hasty decision.

It seemed from today's testimony that Dominion had an almost perfect pilot in both Denver and Mesa counties but we all know that nothing is ever perfect. I wonder what problems were potentially not encountered and may still surface at a later date. Not something I personally want to discover in a presidential election year.

Although Clerk Martin reported that the issues faced with Clear Ballot will most likely be resolved by January 19, I am suddenly leery of purchasing a new system in February when the last day to submit our election plan to the SOS is March 30. This quick turnaround time, particularly when small offices handle so many job duties in addition to elections, is beginning to worry me a little. I am concerned that we will not have the time it requires to fully learn the new system before having to place our ballot order for the primary election. And I am certainly not comfortable with designing our own ballot for the first time in such a critical election year.

My apologies to ES&S but I simply did not care for the system at all.

That leaves Hart...our trusted partner for the past decade. While I realize that Hart seems to have rated lowest on some of the questions presented today, I am a personal advocate for evidence, dependability, and peace of mind. I believe in Hart Verity, especially for a small county like Lincoln. I've successfully conducted/overseen seventeen elections in the past eleven years as county clerk; most of them with Hart by my side. It's hard to give up on an old friend... More importantly, Hart's ballot design team is incomparable and I value this aspect more than anything else. If I cannot use Hart for ballot design and production in 2016, I most certainly will not move to a new system until 2017 or later.

Lincoln County will adopt its 2016 budget next Tuesday, December 8, and the election department will have been approved a designated expenditure for voting equipment. I have received quotes from all four of the UVS vendors and only two of them came in under my approved budget amount; one of which is ES&S. The other is Hart. I was distressed, perhaps shocked is a better word, to receive the quote from Clear Ballot, which was over double my allotment. This will not be possible for Lincoln County in 2016. Nor will a purchase from Dominion.

In closing, I would like to give my vote to the Hart Verity system, based on familiarity, proof of excellence, and price. I realize that the vote of a small county often gets quashed by the majority, which I certainly understand, but I also know that a silent voice is never heard at all.

Thank you so much for your time and again, I appreciate all that faces you in the next few days. I sincerely wish you the best of luck.

Corinne

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