

Steven Ward

From: Harvie Branscomb [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, August 05, 2015 12:49 PM
To: Dwight Shellman
Cc: [REDACTED]; Steven Ward
Subject: comments on SOS posted county evaluation document for PERC

Branscomb comments pertaining to 20150730 County Evaluation Form V2:
(please forward to PERC and post)

The problem with this method of evaluating is that all the counties with the pilots are already devoted advocates for the piloted system to some extent and so they will tend to be optimistic in any qualitative evaluation. Asking for quantitative results will help to reduce this effect. The perspective of the county- what previous system they come from will affect their satisfaction with the current system- so the results of qualitative judgements will not be comparable between systems. These are big problems for this methodology. None of the counties are in a position to grade these systems because they cannot touch the other systems in competition and have only usually one or maybe two legacy systems to compare to. What is needed is a set of evaluations where evaluators get equal access to functions on each of 4 systems. Then they can be asked to rank the quality of each system according to the question asked.

Here are suggestions for quantitative extensions within the existing format:

a,b) Data base/ ballot design: how many hours did it take to create the database? test the database? program the ballot artwork? how many contests? how many times printing the ballot for proof? How many times contacting vendor for help? How long? Any issues with length of ballot, pagination, precinct encoding, etc.?

c) Programming Devices: How much time to set up? How much time per device? How much time to test? How perform the test?

d) Testing: Is there a spec for a hardware test other than power on confirmation? How many steps in the test? How long does it take? How many issues discovered? How long did the remedy take? What process undertaken for statutory audit? How much time taken for each contest?

How many contests required investigation? Why no BMDs on 17?

e) Set up and Break Down: How much time per machine? How many people involved? Special packing requirements? Space requirements? Connectivity issues?

f) Tabulation: Does the system provide you with an opportunity to discover anomalies or discrepancies in tabulation? Can you cross check tabulation by adding votes to undervotes and overvotes per contest per district to check if the total ballots cast is met? Is this meaningful?

Are there adjustable parameters for tabulation precision? How test and adjust and when? How long does this take? how many contests were required to be suppressed? How much time did this take? Batch

tabulation: How much time does it take to export batch tabulations for every batch? How much time to export electronically? How much time to export cast vote records electronically? How much time to export cast vote records into a format that can be used for audit? How many ballots processed? How many scanners? How many scanner/hours in operation? How many damaged ballots? How many double feeds? How many scanner stops? (Best to log time at beginning of scan and end of scan if practical if system does not make this log.) What is fastest scan time per batch adjusted for batch size? Why? What is slowest prorated scan time per batch? Why? How many batches deleted? Why? How many batches rescanned? Why?

f2) Adjudication: How many terminals for adjudication? How long average per adjudicated ballot? Max time? Min time? Ability to report? Clarity of the presentation and the input mechanism? How many team/hours of adjudication? How many ballots adjudicated?

g) Training: Items 23, 24!!!! Yes thank you they are quantitative!
Preferably ask election judges to ask their questions on paper so they can be used later to improve documentation. How many questions asked?
Item 25- "rank" usually means place in order not just arbitrarily grade- did you mean this?

h) Voting System Exports: how much time to export for Runbeck, Scytl, E1C? How many support calls needed for each?
How much time to export ballot scans, cast vote records? How much time to redact scans, cvrs for CRS 24-72-205.5?
How much time to export audit log, other audit and configuration reports?

i) Reporting: How many post 7PM reports made? How much time to create each report? What is minimum time between reports? Maximum? Why?

j) Canvass: Where do you get precinct reports of ballots cast? Time to report, print precinct reports of votes counted? Time to compare records?

k) System Documentation: How many times needed to reference system documentation? How many require escalation to support? Best to record these for improvements to documentation.

For each of above- report how much difficulty encountered and why. Also report benefits recognized from comparison to past experience and why.
This is the quantitative part.

I expect that with perhaps one or two exceptions, all counties will report A or B for their system and any use of this questionnaire as provided today will not be useful for selecting a system. With the quantitative data it may be useful.
