

**Post-Election Audit
of the
April 3, 2018 Election**

April 19, 2018

Room 354, City-County Building

Madison, WI

Debriefing Report

May 11, 2018

Anne Murphy-Lom, Lead Auditor

Jon Becker, Auditor

Anne Habel, Auditor

Jeanne Thieme, Auditor

Daina, Zemliauskas, Auditor

Overall, the April 19th Post-Election Audit went very well. The two wards randomly selected for audit include:

- City of Madison, Ward 8
- Village of Oregon, Wards 7-10

Auditors Anne Murphy-Lom (Lead) and Jon Becker served as ballot couriers on Wednesday, April 18, 2018 to collect ballots from the of Clerks Office for the Village of Oregon, maintaining the chain of custody at all times, and transported them to the Dane County Clerk's Office. The City of Madison Clerk's Office transported ballots from Ward 8 directly to the Dane County Clerk's Office, maintaining chain of custody on April 17, 2018.

Auditors Anne Murphy-Lom (Lead), Jon Becker, Anne Habel, Jane Thieme, and Daina Zemliauskas went to Room 354, City-County Building, Madison, WI on Thursday, April 19, 2018 to conduct an audit of paper ballots for City of Madison, Ward 8 and Village of Oregon, Ward 7-10 from the April 3, 2018 election.

Audit Timeline:

Audit Preparation Timeline (Lead Auditor):

11:45 am – 12:30 pm 3/23/18: April 4 Post Election Audit scheduling/logistics

4:30 pm – 5:00 pm 4/10/18: April 4 Post Election Audit scheduling/logistics/selection of wards

8:00 am - 8:30 am 4/11/18: April 4 Post Election Audit Scheduling/logistics

5:30 pm – 7:30 pm 4/15/18: Review and revision of audit paperwork

8:00 am – 8:30 am 4/16/18: April 4 Post Election Audit Scheduling/logistics

8:45 am – 10:15 am 4/18/18: Ballot transport from Village of Oregon prior to audit

7:00 pm – 8:00 pm 4/18/18: Final audit preparations including revision and printing of materials

8:00 am – 12:30 pm 4/18/18: Conduct Post-Election Audit of 4/3/18 election

Audit Courier Timeline (verifying Chain of Custody)

April 17, 2018 – City of Madison

Ballots from the City of Madison were delivered to the Dane County Clerk’s Office on April 17, 2018, maintaining chain of custody.

April 18, 2018 – Village of Oregon

8:15 am: Met Jon Becker at agreed on location; drove together in John Becker’s vehicle to Village of Oregon’s Clerk’s Office.

9:05 am: Arrived at Village of Oregon Clerk’s Office.

9:23 am: Received 2 ballot bags (seal numbers 92580 and 92581) and signed chain of custody report.

Drove ballots to City-County Building together in Jon Becker’s vehicle with Anne Murphy-Lom, maintaining chain of custody.

10:03 am: Arrived at City-County Building; Anne Murphy-Lom and Jon Becker transferred 2 ballot bags (seal numbers 92580 and 92581) to Dane County Clerk’s office, maintaining chain of custody.

Audit Timeline (verifying Chain of Custody) April 19, 2018:

8:00 am: Lead Auditor arrived at City-County Building to verify room set-up/accessibility.

8:30 am: All Auditors met in lobby of City-County Building to discuss procedure and receive audit paperwork.

8:37 am: Auditors obtained chain-of-custody initials; received ballot bags, and location-specific polling place incident reports with location-specific County election night tabulator report tapes; all auditors maintained chain-of-custody during final transport of materials from County Clerk's Office to Room 354, City-County Building.

8:45 am: Auditors entered Room 354; upon entry to room, auditors publicly announced "*We are auditors with the Dane County Clerk's Office. Our purpose is to conduct a public meeting regarding a post-election audit of paper ballots of select Dane County polling locations from the April 4, 2018 election. The randomly selected wards are City of Madison, Ward 8 and Village of Oregon, Wards 7-10.*"; Auditors unloaded audit materials and prepared audit room.

9:00 am: Lead Auditor made introductory remarks. There were no observers or press in attendance throughout the audit.

9:00 am: Lead Auditor assigned Auditors Jane Thieme and Daina Zemliauskas to audit Village of Oregon, Wards 7-10; assigned Auditors Jon Becker and Anne Habel to audit City of Madison, Ward 8.

9:03 am: Audit commenced:

- Auditors of Village of Oregon: Ballot Bags #92580 and #92581 were was opened and tallied.
- Auditors of City of Madison: Ballot Bag #68321 was opened and tallied. Ballots from other wards were removed.

10:06 am: 3 absentee ballots in Village of Oregon were marked in pencil

10:25 am: 1 ballot in the Village of Oregon was marked with a line straight through rather than the circle filled in

11:20 am: Auditors of Village of Oregon, Wards 7-10 completed final bag tally, arriving at totals which matched the election night tape totals (797 total votes). Auditors reviewed and reconciled tally sheets.

11:25 am: Auditors of City of Madison, Ward 8 completed final bag tally, arriving at totals which matched the election night tape totals (635 total votes). Auditors reviewed and reconciled tally sheets.

11:35 am: Auditors of Village of Oregon, Wards 7-10 resealed ballots in new ballot bag.

- New Ballot Bag Seal #80302 (contains contents of ballot bag seal #92580 & #92581)

11:40 am Auditors of City of Madison, Ward 8 resealed ballots in new ballot bag.

- New Ballot Bag Seal #80303 (contains contents of ballot bag seal #68321)

11:45 am: Auditors completed and verified paperwork:

- Ballot bags were signed by all Auditors and seal numbers were added to Polling Location

Inspectors Statements as well as Audit Inspectors' Statements.

- Lead auditor reviewed Audit Tally Sheets and Audit Inspectors' Statements. All auditors reviewed Audit Inspectors' Statements.
- Auditors gathered all paperwork and ballots; all auditors transferred audit materials to Dane County Clerk's Office (maintaining chain of custody). Auditors left the room at 11:52.

11:54 am: Dane County Clerk received all paperwork and ballots. Ballots were secured in Dane County Clerk's Office.

12:00 pm: Audit complete. Auditors left City-County Building.

Results of Post-Election Audit, April 19, 2018

City of Madison, Ward 8

Justice of the Supreme Court

Post-Election Audit Results: (635 total ballots)

Candidate	Vote Tally
Rebecca Dallet	507
Michael Screnock	121
Write-In	0
*Undetermined	0
Blank	7

*Undetermined: ballots which the auditors could not determine intent

Publicly Reported Results provided by County Clerk: (635 total ballots)

Candidate	Vote Tally
Rebecca Dallet	507
Michael Screnock	121
Write-in	0
*Undetermined	0
Blank	7

Results of Post-Election Audit, April 19, 2018

Village of Oregon, Wards 7-10

Justice of the Supreme Court

Post-Election Audit Results: (797 total ballots)

Candidate	Vote Tally
Rebecca Dallet	609
Michael Screnock	183
Write-In	1
*Undetermined	0
Blank	4

*Undetermined: ballots which the auditors could not determine intent

Publicly Reported Results provided by County Clerk: (797 total ballots)

Candidate	Tally
Rebecca Dallet	609
Michael Screnock	183
Write-in	1
*Undetermined	0
BLANK	4

Observations

The April 19, 2018 audit of paper ballots continues to take significantly less time to count than earlier audits due to a lower overall turnout, experienced auditors, and only auditing a single race. The audit took less than 3 hours from start to finish. Two auditors were easily able to conduct the audit of a ward efficiently. I would recommend 3 people for each ward when there is a presidential or other high turnout election.

The auditors are continuing to use audit tally sheet based off one created and distributed by the WEC. All auditors agreed that these tally sheet was easier to keep track of the overall count and to reconcile numbers throughout the process. The auditors are now keeping track of undetermined and blank ballots separately so reconciliation of numbers is easier.

City of Madison, Ward 8

- The total number of ballots counted by auditors in City of Madison, Ward 8 equaled the total number of ballots reported on the tabulator tape from election night from City of Madison, Ward 8.
- The total votes counted by auditors in City of Madison, Ward 8 in the Justice of the Supreme Court race equaled the total number of votes reported on the tabulator tape from election night from City of Madison, Ward 8.
- All candidate vote totals counted by auditors in City of Madison Ward 8 in the Justice of the Supreme Court race equaled the candidate vote totals reported on the tabulator tape from election night from City of Madison, Ward 8.

Village of Oregon, Wards 7-10

- The total number of ballots counted by auditors in the Village of Oregon, Wards 7-10 in the Justice of the Supreme Court race equaled the total number of ballots reported on the tabulator tape from election night from the Village of Oregon, Wards 7-10.
- The total votes counted by auditors in Village of Oregon, Wards 7-10 in the Justice of the Supreme Court race equaled the total number of votes reported on the tabulator tape from election night from Village of Oregon, Wards 7-10.
- All candidate vote totals counted by auditors in the Village of Oregon in the Justice of the Supreme Court race equaled the candidate vote totals reported on the tabulator tape from election night from Village of Oregon, Wards 7-10.

Recommendation: There are no explicit recommendations from this audit as overall. Both wards did very well. There were no errors seen by the auditors.

Creatively Marked Ballots

There were very few instances of ballots which intent could be determined but were marked in a way which in another instance might not have been detected by the tabulator. Instances included:

- Ballots marked in pencil
- Lines through circle, rather than filled-in

These were noted in the timeline above.

Recommendation: Voter outreach seems to be correcting this issue. We should continue voter education outreach at the polling place, emphasizing the best practice **to completely fill in the oval** to indicate voter intent on the ballot.

Action Plan:

- Lead Auditor should continue to refine audit procedures reflecting recommendations and best practices and continue to follow changes as they occur.

Addendum:

- Post-Election Audit Tally Sheet (Template), City of Madison, Ward 8, April 4, 2018 Audit
- Post-Election Audit Tally Sheet (Template), Village of Oregon, Wards 7-10, April 4, 2018 Audit
- Post-Election Audit Inspectors Statement (Template), City of Madison, Ward 8, April 4, 2018 Audit
- Post-Election Audit Inspectors Statement (Template), Village of Oregon, Wards 7-10, April 4, 2018 Audit
- Day of Audit Procedure Checklist
- April 4, 2018 Post-Election Audit Staff Timesheet