
Post-Election Audit of the April 6, 2021 Election

Audit Date:

April 22, 2021

Room 351, City County Building
Madison, WI

Lead Auditor:

Anne Murphy-Lom

Auditors:

TR Loon

Rosalie Powell

David Spies

Jeanne Thieme

Overall, the April 22, 2021, Post-Election Audit went well. The two wards randomly selected for the audits include:

- City of Madison, Wards 102
- Town of Vermont, Wards 1-4

Lead Auditor, Anne Murphy-Lom, served as the ballot courier on April 19, 2021 to collect the sealed ballot bags from the of Clerk's Office for the Town of Vermont, maintaining chain of custody and transported them to the Dane County Clerk's Office. Lead Auditor, Anne Murphy-Lom, met a representative for the City of Madison Clerk's Office at their tabulator storage location to retrieve the sealed ballot bags for Ward 102 on April 16, 2021, and transported the ballot bags to the Dane County Clerk's Office, maintaining chain of custody.

Auditors Anne Murphy-Lom, TR Loon, Rosalie Powell, David Spies, and Jeanne Thieme went to Room 351, City-County Building, Madison, WI on Monday, April 22, 2021, to conduct an audit of paper ballots for City of Madison, Wards 102 and the Town of Vermont, Wards 1-4 from the April 6, 2021 election.

Audit Preparation Timeline (Lead Auditor)

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| 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm 4/6/21 | April 6 Post Election Audit scheduling/logistics |
| 8:30 am – 9:30 am 4/16/21 | Ballot transport from City of Madison Storage Facility |
| 2:30 pm – 4:15 pm 4/19/21 | Ballot transport from Town of Vermont Clerk's Office |
| 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm 4/19/21 | April 6 Post Election Audit scheduling/logistics/selection of wards |
| 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm 4/21/21 | Final audit preparations including revision and printing of materials |
| 8:00 am – 11:00 am 4/22/21 | Conduct Post-Election Audit of April 6 election |

Audit Courier Timeline (verifying Chain of Custody)

Monday, April 19, 2021 – Town of Vermont

2:30 pm: Lead Auditor, Anne Murphy-Lom, drove in her own vehicle to Town of Vermont Clerk's Office.

3:13 pm: Arrived at Town of Vermont Clerk's Office. Received 1 ballot bag (seal number 55427917) and signed chain of custody report. Drove ballots to City-County Building, maintaining chain of custody.

4:07 pm: Arrived at City-County Building; Anne Murphy-Lom transferred 1 ballot bag (seal number 55427917) to Dane County Clerk's office.

Friday, April 16, 2021 – City of Madison

8:30 am: Lead Auditor, Anne Murphy-Lom drove to City of Madison tabulator storage facility ballots to receive ballot bags.

8:56 am: Received 1 ballot bag (seal number 00134337) and signed chain of custody report. Drove ballots to the City County Building, maintaining chain of custody.

9:20 am: Arrived at City-County Building; Anne Murphy-Lom transferred 1 ballot bag (seal number 00134337) to the Dane County Clerk's office.

Audit Timeline (verifying Chain of Custody) on April 22, 2021

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

8:45 am: All Auditors met in lobby of City-County Building to discuss procedures and receive audit paperwork.

8:45 am: Auditors obtained chain-of-custody initials; received ballot bags, location-specific polling place incident reports, and election night tabulator report tapes for the County Clerk; auditors maintained chain of custody during final transport of materials from County Clerk's Office to Room 351, City-County Building.

8:55 am: Auditors entered Room 351; 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 6, 2021, election. The randomly selected wards are City of Madison, Ward 102 and Town of Vermont, Wards 1-4.*" Auditors unloaded audit materials and prepared audit room.

8:58 am: Lead Auditor assigned Auditors Jeanne Thieme and David Spies to audit City of Madison, Ward 102; assigned Auditors TR Loon and Rosalie Powell to audit Town of Vermont, Wards 1-4.

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

9:06 am: Audit commenced:

- Auditors of Town of Vermont: Ballot bag #55427917 were opened and tallied.
- Auditors of City of Madison, Ward 102: Ballot bag #00134337 was opened and tallied.

10:28 am: Auditors for the City of Madison, Ward 102 completed the audit tally. Auditors reviewed and reconciled tally sheets. The number of votes matched the number on the results provided by the County Clerk's Office. *Note: Wards 102 and 121 were sealed in the same ballot bag and had to be separated prior to the count. One ballot did not have a ward marked but auditors were able to determine that it was from Ward 102 based on the ballot style.*

10:38 am: Auditors for the City of Madison, Ward 102 resealed ballots in new ballot bag.

- New ballot bag seal #008189 (contains contents of ballot bag seal #00134337)

10:44 am: Auditors for the Town of Vermont, Wards 1-4 completed the audit tally. Auditors reviewed and reconciled tally sheets. The number of votes matched the number on the results provided by the County Clerk's Office.

10:44 am: Auditors for the Town of Vermont, Wards 1-4 resealed ballots in new ballot bag.

- New ballot bag seal #008190 (contains contents of ballot bag seal #55427917)

10:55 am: Auditors left audit room.

10: 59 am Dane County Clerk received all paperwork and ballots. Ballots were secured in Dane County Clerk's Office.

11:00 am: Audit complete. Auditors left City-County Building.

Results of Post-Election Audit

City of Madison, Ward 102

State Superintendent of Public Instruction

Post Election Audit Results: (389 total votes)

Candidate	Vote Tally
Jill Underly	313
Deborah Kerr	69
Write-In	0
*Undetermined	0
Blank	7

*Undetermined: ballots which the auditors could not determine intent

Publicly Reported Results provided by County Clerk: (389 total votes)

Candidate	Vote Tally
Jill Underly	313
Deborah Kerr	69
Write-in	0
*Undetermined	0
Blank	7

Results of Post-Election Audit

Town of Vermont, Wards 1-4

State Superintendent of Public Instruction

Post-Election Audit Results: (341 total ballots)

Candidate	Vote Tally
Jill Underly	238
Deborah Kerr	92
Write-In	1
*Undetermined	0
Blank	10

*Undetermined: ballots which the auditors could not determine intent

Publicly Reported Results provided by County Clerk: (341 total ballots)

Candidate	Tally
Jill Underly	238
Deborah Kerr	92
Write-in	1
*Undetermined	0
Blank	10

Observations

The April 22, 2021 audit of paper ballots only took about 2.0 hours, which was expected with a low turnout election. Two auditors were able to conduct the audit of each ward efficiently.

The auditors are continuing to use audit tally sheets based off one created and distributed by the WEC. All auditors agreed that the tally sheets make it easy to keep track of the overall count and to reconcile discrepancies throughout the process. The auditors are now keeping track of undetermined and blank ballots separately as well, which also makes the tally easier to reconcile.

The auditors would like to thank chief inspectors and their teams who continue to provide good information on the Inspector's Statement. The documentation on those statements make it much easier for the auditors to reconcile numbers and understand discrepancies.

City of Madison, Ward 102

- The total number of ballots counted by auditors in City of Madison, Ward 102 equaled the total number of ballots reported on the tabulator tape from election night from City of Madison, Ward 102.
- The total votes counted by auditors in City of Madison, Ward 102 for the State Superintendent of Public Instruction equaled the total number of votes reported on the tabulator tape from election night from City of Madison, Ward 102.
- Vote totals counted by auditors in City of Madison Ward 102 for the State Superintendent of Public Instruction equaled the candidate vote totals reported on the tabulator tape from election night from City of Madison, Wards 102.

Town of Vermont, Wards 1-4

- The total number of ballots counted by auditors in Town of Vermont, Wards 1-4 equaled the total number of ballots reported on the tabulator tape from election night from Town of Vermont, Wards 1-4.
- The total votes counted by auditors in Town of Vermont, Wards 1-4 for the equaled the total number of votes reported on the tabulator tape from election night from Town of Vermont, Wards 1-4.
- Vote totals counted by auditors in Town of Vermont, Wards 1-4 for the State Superintendent of Public Instruction equaled the candidate vote totals reported on the tabulator tape from election night from Town of Vermont, Wards 1-4.

Recommendation: Please remind election officials to identify the ward when handing out a ballot.

Creatively Marked Ballots

There were some 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:

- Lines through circle, rather than filled-in
- Marks (even small ones) in more than one circle, which causes an overvote.
- Including a write-in as well as voting for another candidate or not filling in the write in circle.

Recommendation: Voter outreach could correct these issues. 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. Clerks should also emphasize the importance of an election official monitoring the tabulator so that an and can immediately assist a voter if the tabulator identifies an overvote.

Action Plan:

- Lead Auditor will 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 102, April 22, 2021 Audit
- Post-Election Audit Tally Sheet (Template), Town of Vermont, Wards 1-4, April 22, 2021 Audit
- Post-Election Audit Inspectors Statement (Template), City of Madison, Ward 102, April 22, 2021 Audit
- Post-Election Audit Inspectors Statement (Template), Town of Vermont, Wards 1-4, April 22, 2021