



Town of Florence, Wisconsin

749 Central Ave * P.O. Box 247 * Florence, WI 54121

715-528-3595 (Ph) * 715-528-3591 (Fax)

Visit us online at www.townofflorencewisconsin.com

Jessica Klumpp, Clerk/Treasurer ijklumpp@florencewi.gov

Did You Know. . . Florence Facts **Post Election Work (shared 05-14-26)**

Did you ever wonder happens when Election Day is over? There are many election tasks that still have to be completed, and most of them do not begin until the day after the Election. Last week's Florence Facts talked about what happened when the polls closed on Election Night, this week's article will focus on what has happened in the Clerk's Office since the day after the Election.

Did you know that there is a statewide program in Wisconsin for election management? It's called WisVote. Most of the follow-up work that needs to be done is through this program. Does WisVote sound familiar? If it does, it is probably because as voters you may have heard of, or used MyVote. These are two different systems, but they do share certain information and can work together. MyVote is for voters to use to learn about where they vote, what's on their ballots, requesting absentee ballots and registering to vote. WisVote is the program that that State and Clerks use to complete tasks related to elections like printing poll books, entering voter registrations, sending and recording absentee ballots, entering ballot information, etc.

When you vote, you know that the election workers keep track of that in two identical copies of the poll book. **Did you know the clerk uses that information to record voter participation?** After the election is over, the clerk uses the WisVote program to record participation for those who voted at each election. The poll book on the screen in WisVote matches the printed poll book, so the clerk can go page-by-page to record each voter's participation.

Did you know that once voter participation is recorded in WisVote that you can see it in your voter record? If you go to the MyVote website and pull up your voter record you will see your voter history. You can see each election that you voted in and if you voted at the polls or by absentee. It may take up to 30 days to show in your record. The only thing recorded is your name and your method of voting. There is no way for the record to show how you marked your ballot.

Speaking of your voter record, have you ever wondered how it got there? **Did you know that the voter registration form that you complete is entered into the WisVote system?** If you register to vote on Election Day, those forms are typically entered the day after the election. Then voter participation is recorded as well.

Did you know that if you registered after having been registered somewhere else in Wisconsin that with the WisVote system, in most cases, your voter record will be pulled from your former address to your current address? It is the reason that you are asked if you were registered to vote somewhere else. It is a way to move your voter registration from one place to the next, so that way you only have one voter record. Your previous voting activity is also pulled over with your voter record.

Did you know if you register to vote on Election Day, the Wisconsin Elections Commission will send you a post card to confirm your voter registration? It is the reason that the election worker registering you will ask if you have a different mailing address. You do not need to do anything with the post card that you receive. It's just a confirmation that you registered to vote. If the mailing address is incorrect, the post card will get returned as undeliverable to the Clerk's Office. It is then up to the Clerk's Office to determine why it was



undeliverable and if the voter record needs to be updated. This typically only happens when a voter has a PO Box, which is different from their physical address.

Did you know that the number of voter participations entered into WisVote has to match the number of voters from Election Day? When entering the participation, the number of voters who voted at the polls and absentee also have to be the same as the actual numbers from Election Day. It is an additional check to make sure that everything is recorded correctly. Even after the Clerk is done entering voter participation, after the County canvas is complete the state will verify it and it has to match before the Election can be closed out.

Did you know that there is follow-up that is done with some absentee voters after an election? If a voter is receiving absentee ballots as an indefinitely confined voter, they have to return their ballots in April and November elections in order to keep receiving absentee ballots. If they do not return a ballot from April or November, then the Clerk is required to send them a letter asking them if they wish to continue receiving absentee ballots as an indefinitely confined voter. If they do not want to, there is nothing else the voter needs to do. If they want to keep getting ballots, they need to sign the letter in the space provided and return it to the Clerk within 30 days.

If a voter has requested to receive absentee ballots for the calendar year, they have to return their ballots for every election. If they do not return a ballot, then their calendar year request is canceled. There is no required notification that must be sent to calendar year voters, but the Clerk's Office does send a letter informing the voter that their request was canceled because they did not return a ballot. This letter also explains to the voter how to go about requesting an absentee ballot in the future.

Some of the follow-up that happens after an election happens through the Wisconsin Elections Commission. **Did you know that the State of Wisconsin is part of the ERIC system?** ERIC is the Election Registration Information Center. Basically it means if a voter changes their address through an official channel – i.e. the post office, a fishing or hunting license, the DMV – it will flag that voter and prompt a postcard be sent to the voter asking “Did You Move?” It also prints that notation on the poll book so that election workers can ask the voters that question if they come to vote. If a voter hasn't moved, nothing more needs to be done. If a voter has moved, then there is follow-up that will need to happen.

Did you know there are other items that the Elections Commission checks that happen through the WisVote system? If a voter registration happens and the voter doesn't get linked with their previous voter records, the WisVote system will flag both voter records for the clerk to look at them to see if there is a match. Other checks the system runs includes felons, who are ineligible to vote, and death record matches. In all three cases, the clerk looks at both records and determines if it is the same voter or not. Clerks also look at obituaries in the paper and local funeral homes in order to keep the voter records as up-to-date as possible.

The Town of Florence is proud to have open, transparent government. It means that people can clearly see what the Town is doing, why it is doing it, and how decisions are made. Open and transparent means that information is not hidden, decisions are made at meetings open to the public, and questions and answers can be shared from the Board with the community. The ultimate goal is that people can see and understand the decisions that are made, how to ask questions, and share information

One way the Town of Florence is looking to accomplish this is by sharing informational facts about the Town and the Town's government. Through sharing facts, the Town is looking to help increase awareness and understanding of local Government.