

## **FAQs: Election Day Duties: Special Topics**

**Q: In example 2 why wouldn't Steve Ernst be counted if he is the only "registered" candidate - Johnny is not registered?**

A: You can't tell which write-in candidate they wanted, so neither can be counted.

**Q: Really hard to compare books during busy elections.**

A: We do understand, especially during elections with high turnout of voters, but it is a recommended "best practice."

**Q: If they don't have a driver's license with them, can they look up online their #?**

A: There is a phone number in the Election Day Manual that they can call. I don't think they can find it online.

**Q: It is acceptable to revise this form for your municipality as long as you have the minimum information on the master document, correct?**

A: Yes.

**Q: Is it possible to add more signature lines on the GAB-104 for the Election Inspectors to sign and indicate the times they've worked?**

A: You can modify the word document found on our website.

**Q: Please restate what you just said about when to count registered write-ins and when to count regular write-ins. Is the rule included in these materials?**

A: It's outlined in the bullet points at the bottom of page 15.

**Q: You said earlier that counting write-ins for a Spring Election will be different because in some cases people will be able to vote for more than one candidate per contest. If that is true, shouldn't we have Examples for Counting Write-In Votes for scenarios dealing with Vote for 2 or 3, etc.?**

A: Yes, we will put some together and post them with this webinar (examples were posted February 3 and will be a topic on the March 10 webinar, "Preparing for the April Election.")

**Q: There should be a webinar just on counting votes with several exercises. The topic seems to be changing and getting more confusing as time goes on.**

A: Yes, there have been changes in the law. This will also be a topic on the March 10 webinar, "Preparing for the April Election."

**Q: Wouldn't a vote be subtracted for Walker in #3 also?**

A: Neither Walker or Hulseby will have a vote tallied for them.

**Q: Example 2; Steve is registered so wouldn't his count?**

A: Since there are two write-ins, you can't determine voter intent so neither vote is counted.

**Q: Just like Example 8 being counted even though circle not filled in.**

A: The voting equipment has recorded a vote for the ballot candidate and the tape must be adjusted to subtract a vote for the ballot candidate. The write-in must be tallied.

**Q: Example 2 should have counted like Example 8; Steve is registered and Bruce is registered but neither had a circled filled in...**

A: The presence of two write-ins in a “vote for one” situation means neither write-in can be counted because you can’t determine voter intent.

**Q: When machine results are sent by modem, how are these adjustments to the tape accounted for in the election results, as those sent by modem will not be a true representation of the election results provided by modem and to the public instantaneously?**

A: County clerks may use different processes for corrections to the results tape on Election Night, but election inspectors should always document changes to the results tape on the Inspectors’ Statement, which will be reviewed by the county clerk as part of the county canvass process.

**Q: When four wards report separately but share one voting machine at the same polling location, how can voter numbers be compared to the number of votes on the machine?**

A: If your reporting unit shares a tabulator with other reporting units, you will need to communicate with those other inspectors to determine the total number of voters to check against the machine count for reconciliation purposes. At the end of the night, the machine should indicate the total ballots cast in each reporting unit for end-of-night reconciliation purposes.

**Q: Please discuss when electronic tallies should be adjusted.**

A: Election inspectors are required to go through optical scan ballots at the end of the night to look for write-in votes that were not marked in a way that the voting equipment could recognize, but that would be counted. For example, in a Vote for One contest, the voter voted for a candidate on the ballot, but also wrote in a name on the write-in line and did not fill in the oval/connect the arrow. In this case, the voting equipment would not “see” the write-in vote and would record a vote for the ballot candidate. However, because the write-in vote trumps the vote for the ballot candidate, the election inspectors must make a correction to the results tape, subtracting one vote from the ballot candidate and adding a vote to the write-in. The election inspectors should then record the incident on the Inspectors’ Statement (GAB-104).

**Q: Would you also review the tape adjustment for #9 as it would only be a subtraction from the optical scan candidate, but you would not record on the write in side???**

A: Todd is an unregistered write-in for an office where there is a ballot candidate. The write-in vote is not counted for him.

**Q: We find the best process is to lay one book's page next to the other book's page. A visual scan will show a difference in number or not lining up right pretty quickly.**

A: Thanks for the input.

**Q: Here in Waukesha County, there is a policy whereby the self-provider keeps the signed poll book. Only a relier sends the signed poll book to the county. This has really helped.**

A: Thanks for the input.

**Q: On the examples, would you please include the tape adjustment process? Thanks :) You all are excellent!**

A: We will, thanks for the input and kind words.

**Q: Thank you for detailing the change on electronic tallies. I don't believe the adjustments are often done, and I appreciate the notation on the GAB-104.**

A: Your welcome and thanks for the feedback.

**Q: Often the error is found with EDRs that weren't subsequently told to go to the poll list. Somehow those get missed most.**

A: Thanks for the input.

**Q: For the February Primary, if there is nothing county, state or federal on the ballot, is there any necessity to return any paperwork to the county?**

A: No, the county doesn't get anything.

**Q: Why is #7 vote counted? Diana is not a registered write in.**

A: There is no ballot candidate, see bullet 2, bottom of page 15.

**Q: For those with the special partisan primary for state senate district 20, if there is no candidate on the ballot for a party, say Constitutional, and there are no registered write-in candidates, do we have to count any and all write-ins?**

A: For partisan primaries, you treat each party's contest separately, so you would count all write-ins, but not where you have ballot candidates in that contest.

**Q: We didn't get any pages after 19... Should we have?**

A: I added the two slides for reconciling poll lists to the presentation. They will be included in the packet with the webcast if you want to print them off.

**Q: If there is sufficient candidates for each office and no registered write-ins. We still check for write-ins to adjust votes should scenario 9 happen, correct?**

A: Yes.

**Q: Hello - Please explain when "scattering" is used. Thanks!**

A: It's really only a county or state level term, municipal clerks won't really use scattering.

**Q: If you have candidates for every office and no registered write in candidates, we tally votes with an M-100, tally sheets should be blank because there is no registered write-ins.**

**Do we mark tally sheets to show somehow that due diligence was done for the clerks?**

A: In the GAB-104 or just written on the tally sheet.

**Q: Where and/or how do you suggest provisional registration forms that need a DL # or ID# be kept until voter comes back or until it is taken to the clerk's office.**

A: Keep them in a separate envelope or folder.

**Q: How does the polling place keep the provisional registration form until it is taken to clerk's office?**

A: See above.

**Q: I missed the status of Voter Photo ID - is there anything new?**

A: It has been appealed to the USSC and if the USSC takes the case, which we predict it will, we do not expect a decision until this summer.

**Q: You indicated GENERALLY a write-in vote will take precedence over a vote for a person whose name is printed on the ballot for the same office - WHEN would a write-in vote not take precedence?**

A: There are several exceptions, which we will be going through shortly.

**Q: Being this webinar is ending early - what number of hours do we use?**

A: This webinar counts for 1.5 hours of training