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DATE: August 30, 2019

TO: Wisconsin Municipal Clerks
Wisconsin County Clerks
City of Milwaukee Election Commission
Milwaukee County Election Commission

FROM: Michelle R. Hawley, Training Officer
Michael Sabaka, Elections Security Trainer

SUBJECT: **Badger Book Purchasing and Borrowing Processes – 2020 Elections**

The Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC) is making Badger Books available to purchase for the 2020 elections. Two configuration options are available for purchase, and both packages include HP's Elite POS G1 8GB retail unit as the main piece of hardware. The data sheet for this device is attached to this Clerk Communication.

It is important to be informed and to ensure Badger Books will be a good fit for your municipality. As a result, WEC staff compiled a list of items municipalities should know prior to considering the implementation of electronic poll books. While this is not an exhaustive list, it highlights major areas identified since the Spring 2018 roll out. Attached please find a copy of the "Badger Book Purchasing Considerations" document.

Due to the anticipated high voter turnout during the 2020 Elections, the WEC will lend additional Badger Books to purchasing municipalities, if needed.

<u>Purchasing</u>
The window to place a Badger Book order will be from September 16 to October 18. Municipalities that purchase will do so directly from Paragon Development Service (PDS), the provider of the Badger Book hardware. For your information, listed below are the current costs associated with purchasing as provided by PDS. Direct quotes will be provided to each interested municipality by PDS. Per PDS, this quote may increase (between 3%-8%) as a result of potential tariffs.

> **Package 1 – Badger Book with Integrated Column Printer (approx. $2,108 total)**
> - $1,880.00 per Badger Book Station
> - $228.00 per Polling Place (router, thermal receipt paper, and USB Device)
>
> **Package 2 – Badger Book with Stand-Alone Printer (approx. $2,097 total)**
> - $1,904.00 per Badger Book Station
> - $193.00 per Polling Place (router, thermal receipt paper, and USB Device)

Please use the following steps to place your order of Badger Books through PDS.

> **Step 1:** Set up an account with PDS (May be done immediately)
> - Complete and send the "Client Registration" form and tax-exempt information to Dana Berner at TeamGovEdu@pdsit.net. The "Client Registration" form is attached to this Clerk Communication.
>
> **Step 2:** Indicate your purchasing plans (May be done between September 16 and October 18, 2019.
> - Email the number and type of machine(s) that will be purchased to Dana Berner at TeamGovEdu@pdsit.net.

Device Information

Each Badger Book package contains a 2-D barcode scanner, thermal receipt printing functionality, Windows 10 Pro, a wireless keyboard and mouse, and PDS configuration services. A per polling place package includes a wireless router, a secure USB, thermal receipt paper, and configuration services.

Badger Books with an integrated column printer are about two inches taller and will require more frequent printer paper replacement, however they do not need to be manually connected to the Elite POS unit (Badger Book Tower) with a cord, unlike the Badger Book stand-alone unit.

The WEC will be exploring additional hardware options for Badger Book implementation AFTER the 2020 Elections. All current Badger Book models will continue to be supported into the future, regardless of whether or not the WEC decides on a new Badger Book model.

Should municipalities choose to purchase Badger Books for use in 2020 elections, WEC staff will be in contact regarding implementation, training, etc., to ensure they have the support necessary for a successful implementation.

Borrowing

Due to the anticipated turnout for the 2020 elections, the WEC will lend out its supply of Badger Books to municipalities who may need extra devices. It is important to note that there are a limited number of Badger Books to lend per election.

If you have additional questions about the Badger Book Borrowing or Purchasing Programs, please contact the WEC Help Desk at (608) 261-2028 or elections@wi.gov. If you have technical hardware questions, please contact Dana Berner at (262) 569-5366 or TeamGovEdu@pdsit.net.