WHY CONDUCT A POST-ELECTION REVIEW (PER)?

<u>Mission:</u> To protect the votes of your citizens by checking the accuracy of the machine counts in order to enhance security and transparency and to build voter confidence.

What your peers are saying:

<u>Weston Rolf, Mayor City of Oak Grove:</u> *"Nobody can confirm that the voting machine counted the ballots correctly on Election Day. It is important to me as your mayor that your vote counted."*

<u>Deb Musgrove, Ramsey City Council:</u> *"We value double checking everything in our society so why wouldn't we double check the counting of our votes."*

<u>Others are saying:</u> *"We spend millions on our budget so we can afford a few thousand dollars to hand count our votes."*

What is PER?

The post-election review (PER) is a manual recount (or "audit") of the paper ballots of randomly-selected precincts for specific offices following each state general election. It compares the hand count with the results from the machines in order to determine accuracy within defined standards. The precincts and offices to be counted is determined by the County Canvassing Board which meets 3-8 days after the general election. The hand count takes place between 9 and 14 days after the general election (206.89).

Municipalities can request to add precincts & offices

1. Determine number of precincts and offices to hand count (see below)
2. Calculate time and cost(see calculator below) based upon:
   a. number of precincts and offices to be hand counted
   b. estimated or known number of ballots in each precinct
   c. hourly rate of pay to election judges if not waived
3. Adopt resolution to request inclusion in PER (see templates below)
4. Send resolution to county auditor or elections manager
5. Provide election judges to hand count
6. Cooperate with county during hand count
7. Pay election judges

County can facilitate requests by expanding sample

a. This request will be considered by County Canvassing Board. This board consists of five members: two county commissioners, the County Auditor, the County District Administrator, and Mayor of the largest city in the County). There is some flexibility in that each member can appoint a designee to appear for them and/or the County Auditor can appoint an eligible voter in the County to fill any vacancy. (MS 204C.31).
b. The Canvassing Board must meet 3 to 8 days after the November 5, 2024 election, so between November 8-13. They make the decision about how many precincts are randomly drawn and how many offices are included (MS 204C.33 as amended in 2024).
c. The Post-Election Review (PER) is held 9 to 14 days after the November 5, 2024 elections, so between November 14-19 (MS 206.89).
d. Each municipality involved in the hand count provides election judges to conduct the count and pays them (MS 206.89, Subd. 9).
e. The County elections department trains and supervises the hand count.
f. The method of hand counting is the Piling System (MS 204C.21) and re-count protocols (204C.361).
g. There are provisions in Statutes to deal with any deviants between the machine count on Election Day and the hand count under the PER (MS 206.89, Subd. 5).

Statutory Authority

a. PER authorized & required: [Sec. 206.89 MN Statutes](#)
  i. Option to expand precincts (MS 206.89, Subd. 2)
  ii. Option to expand offices (MS 206.89, Subd. 3)
b. Hand Count Method is Piling System: [Sec. 204C.21 MN Statutes](#)
c. County Canvassing Board: [Sec. 204C.31 MN Statutes](#)
d. PER Guide: [2022 Post-Election Review Guide (state.mn.us)](#)
e. Sample hand count time & cost calculation (see below)
f. Sample resolutions: Oak Grove (4/29/2024) & Ramsey (6/11/2024)
g. Sample resolution: City of Spring Lake Park

A FEASIBLE STRATEGY

- Use tabulators as mandated by State law
- Conduct Expanded Post-Election Review (PER)
- Hand count votes only for competitive offices

SEE SPRING LAKE PARK 2024 HAND COUNT CALCULATOR PER PRECINCT BELOW

SPRING LAKE PARK 2024 HAND COUNT CALCULATOR PER PRECINCT

1. Determine Number of Offices or Counts

Office	PLAN	MAX	# Counts On Ballot	Contested or Not
US President	1	1	1	Always contested
US Senator	1	1	1	Always contested
US Representative	1	1	1	Always contested
MN Senator	0	0	0	None in 2024
MN Representative	1	1	1	Usually contested
County Board	1	1	1	District 6
Mayor	0	0	0	Up in 2026
Council (2 at-large)	4	4	4	May not be contested
School Board (3 or 4 at-large)	0	0	0	Up in 2025
Soil & Water Conservation	0	0	0	Up in 2026
Judicial (Supreme, Appeals, District)	0	0	24	Usually not contested
Other: Questions	0	0	?	Always contested
Total Number of Counts Per Ballot	9	9	33	

City Council and School Board seats which are elected at large when contested require
a count or ballot sort for each candidate. For example, if the voter selects 2 of 4
council members, then each ballot is sorted 4 times. Likewise, if a voter selects 3 of 6
or 4 of 8 school board members, then the ballot must be sorted/counted 6 or 8 times.
Spring Lake Park ISD#16 school board offices are elected in odd numbered years.

2. Determine Time and Cost

			Sources
Number of offices or Counts	9	9	Total from estimator above
Number of ballots in precinct	2,150	2,150	Average per precinct in 2020
Total votes/sorts (offices x Ballots)	19,350	19,350	Calculated
Time to process each vote (seconds)	6	6	Known from time studies
Total Seconds (votes x 6 seconds)	116,100	116,100	Calculated
Total Hours (total seconds/3600)	32.3	32.3	Calculated
2-person judge team (hours x 2)	64.5	64.5	Calculated
Election Judges hourly rate of pay	$13.00	$13.00	Estimated city rate
Total Cost (judge team hours x rate)	$839	$839	

*Source: *Hands-On Elections*, Nancy Tobi, 2010, pp 92-93. This time includes judge training
organizing work, sorting, stacking, counting and tallying of votes on all ballots.

Directions for use:

The calculator above is set up to change based upon your inputs.

1. In Column B Rows 4-15 enter the offices to hand count.
2. In Column B, Row 24 enter the number of ballots in each precinct estimated or known.
3. In Column B, Row 30 enter the election judges hourly rate of pay.
This set of data will produce a cost estimate.
Disclaimer: This estimate does not include general administrative costs.

Disclaimer: this estimate reflects an approximate cost for hand counting by election judges and does not include other potential administrative costs.

(Upon request, ACEIT will provide this Excel spreadsheet on USB)

CITY OF OAK GROVE

City Council votes 5-0 to hand count all four precincts and all competitive offices in November Election under Post-Election Review (PER)

April 29, 2024

Rolf for Oak Grove
8m · 🌐

There has been a lot of discussion about election integrity over the years and I think it is time to make sure things are being done correctly.

I requested to have this resolution added to the council agenda this past Monday as a discussion item and the resolution passed 5-0!

This signed resolution will be sent to Anoka County requesting they conduct a post-election review on our four precincts this November. It is important to me as your mayor that your vote counts.

I would like to thank the council for supporting this resolution.

RESOLUTION 24-055

CITY OF OAK GROVE
COUNTY OF ANOKA
STATE OF MINNESOTA

REQUESTING 2024 GENERAL ELECTION POST-ELECTION REVIEW

CITY OF RAMSEY

City of Ramsey
Agenda
Regular City Council
Tuesday, June 11, 2024

City of Ramsey seeks to hand count votes during the 2024 Post-Election Review

Adopt Resolution #24-142 Requesting General Election Post-Election Review

Ramsey City Council voted 7-0 to hand count 2/3 of their 9 precincts under Post-Election Review (PER) for the 2024 General Election. This will include all offices with more than one candidate, with the exception of judicial offices.

CITY OF OAK GROVE RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION 24-055

REQUESTING 2024 GENERAL ELECTION POST-ELECTION REVIEW

WHEREAS, the City council of the City of Oak Grove desires to have a Post-Election Review (PER) conducted on the results of all four of its precincts for the 2024 general election pursuant to Minnesota Statute 206.89; and

WHEREAS, PER are conducted at precincts that must be chosen by lot by the Anoka County Canvassing Board, but there is not a limit on the number of lot selections that may be performed and there is not a restriction on establishing the lot from which the selection is made; and

WHEREAS, a PER is required to include counting the votes for President or Governor, United States Senator, and United State Representative; and the county-appointed post-election review official may conduct a PER of votes cast for additional offices; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to have a PER performed for all four of its precincts and to include all offices for which there is more than one candidate;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RAMSEY, ANOKA COUNTY, STATE OF MINNESOTA, as follows:

1. In the event an Oak Grove election precinct is selected for a Post-Election Review (PER) of the 2024 general election, the City Council requests that the Anoka County Canvassing Board perform a second lot selection that includes only the other three precincts in Oak Grove and select three additional precincts.

2. In the event an Oak Grove election precinct is not selected for a PER of the general election, the City Council request that the Anoka County Canvassing Board perform a second lot selection that includes only the four precincts in Oak Grove and select four precincts.

3. The City Council request that any PER of an Oak Grove precinct include all elections in which there are more than one candidate.

Adopted by the City Council this 29th day of April 2024.

_____
Mayor

ATTEST:

_____
City Clerk (Seal)

CITY OF RAMSEY RESOLUTION

Councilmember introduced the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

RESOLUTION #24-142

RESOLUTION REQUESTING GENERAL ELECTION POST-ELECTION REVIEW

WHEREAS, the City council of the City of Ramsey desires to have a Post-Election Review (PER) conducted on the results of two-thirds of its precincts for general elections pursuant to Minnesota Statute 206.89; and

WHEREAS, PER are conducted for precincts that must be chosen by lot by the Anoka County Canvassing Board, but there is not a limit on the number of lot selections that may be performed and there is not a restriction on establishing the lot from which the selection is made; and

WHEREAS, a PER is required to include counting the votes for President or Governor, United States Senator, and United State Representative; and the county-appointed post-election review official may conduct a PER of votes cast for additional offices; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to have a PER performed for two-thirds of its precincts and to include all offices for which there is more than one candidate but exclude all judicial offices.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RAMSEY, ANOKA COUNTY, STATE OF MINNESOTA, as follows:

1. In the event a Ramsey election precinct is selected for a Post-Election Review (PER) of the general election, the City Council requests that the Anoka County Canvassing Board perform a second lot selection that includes only the other precincts in Ramsey and select additional precincts to reach the threshold of two-thirds.

2. In the event a Ramsey election precinct is not selected for a PER of the general election, the City Council request that the Anoka County Canvassing Board perform a second lot selection that includes only Ramsey precincts and selects two-thirds of the precincts.

3. The City Council request that any PER of a Ramsey precinct include a review of the results of all state, county, and city offices, except judicial races, that include more than one candidate.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Councilmember, and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof:
and the following voted against the same:
and the following abstained:
and the following were absent:
Whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted by the Nowthen City Council this the 11 day of June, 2024.

_____

                                  Mayor

ATTEST:

_____

City Clerk.

SPRING LAKE PARK SAMPLE RESOLUTION

(To select 1 of 2 Precincts)

RESOLUTION #_____

RESOLUTION REQUESTING GENERAL ELECTION POST-ELECTION REVIEW

WHEREAS, the City council of the City of Spring Lake Park desires to have a Post-Election Review (PER) conducted on the results of one its two precincts for general elections pursuant to Minnesota Statute 206.89; and

WHEREAS, PER are conducted for precincts that must be chosen by lot by the Anoka County Canvassing Board, but there is not a limit on the number of lot selections that may be performed and there is not a restriction on establishing the lot from which the selection is made; and

WHEREAS, a PER is required to include counting the votes for President or Governor, United States Senator, and United State Representative; and the county-appointed post-election review official may conduct a PER of votes cast for additional offices; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to have a PER performed for one of its two precincts and to include all offices for which there is more than one candidate but exclude all judicial offices.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SPRING LAKE PARK, ANOKA COUNTY, STATE OF MINNESOTA, as follows:

1. In the event one Spring Lake Park election precinct is selected for a Post-Election Review (PER) of the general election, the City Council requests that the Anoka County Canvassing Board perform no further selections exclusively from Spring Lake Park.

2. In the event that no Spring Lake Park election precincts are selected for a PER of the general election, the City Council request that the Anoka County Canvassing Board perform a second lot selection that includes only Spring Lake Park precincts and select one of its two precincts.

3. The City Council request that any PER of a Spring Lake Park precinct include a review of the results of all state, county, and city offices, except judicial races, that include more than one candidate.

Adopted by the City Council this ____ day of _____ 2024.

_____
Mayor

ATTEST:

_____
City Clerk (Seal)

THANK YOU

The Anoka County Election Integrity Team (ACEIT) thanks you for this opportunity to present information in support of secure, transparent and locally-controlled elections.

We stand ready to assist and support local officials in making decisions to further these goals.

Anoka County Election Integrity Team (ACEIT)

Email address: aceit@aceit.vote

Website: www.projectminnesota.com/anoka/

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