WHAT IS CENTRAL COUNT?

Ballots received at the polls will be transferred to one location in the county where the ballots will be scanned and tabulated. The results will then be uploaded to the Secretary of State to be reviewed by the public on the website.

HOW IS CENTRAL COUNT DIFFERENT FROM PAST ELECTIONS?

Optical scanners were used at the polls. The results were counted on a memory card. The memory card was transferred to a central location where the results were combined with all other polls, mail, etc. then uploaded to the Secretary of State to be reviewed by the public on the website.

WHAT CHANGES WILL THE VOTER SEE WHEN THEY GO TO THE POLLS?

The voter will now place their voted ballot into a secured ballot box instead of the optical scan tabulator. Previously the optical scan would notify the voter of an over vote (voting for more than the number to be elected). Voters will need to review their ballot for over votes before placing it into the secured ballot box.

WHAT IF THE VOTER MAKES A MISTAKE ON THEIR BALLOT?

If a voter over votes or spoils their ballot and has not yet placed it in the secured ballot box, they may be issued a replacement ballot by the poll worker.

WHAT DO VOTERS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THEIR VOTING PRIVACY?

Voter personally identifiable information such as social security number and driver’s license is private. A person votes in secrecy and drops their cast ballot into a secure box. A voter’s name is not tied to their ballot.

DESCRIBE THE SECURITY FOR BALLOT BOXES?

Ballot boxes are sealed with tabs, locks and serial numbers. Once the ballot box is ready to be transported back to central count the opening is sealed until the receiving board checks in the ballot box. Only after the receiving board verified that no tampering has occurred and the serial numbers have been checked will the ballots be removed from the ballot box and delivered to the central count tabulating room.

WILL THE ELECTION RESULTS STILL BE RELEASED IN A TIMELY MANNER?

The initial election night results are released at 8 pm. This is an hour after the polls have been closed. These initial results are typically the early voters who have cast their ballot by mail.

WHAT CAN WE TELL VOTERS ABOUT PEVL, AND THE IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING CURRENT VOTER REGISTRATION INFORMATION?

If a person has signed up to vote by mail, you have to ask to be removed from the list. If the voter forgets to vote his/her mailed ballot and then subsequently shows up to the polls to vote, he/she will be given a provisional ballot. The vote will not count until the Recorder’s office determines that a mailed ballot was not cast. It is important to maintain a current voter registration file. A voter should only vote in the precinct
where they currently reside. Be sure to check the list of required identification to bring to the polls before arriving to vote.

CAN INDEPENDENTS VOTE IN THE PRIMARY ELECTION?

Yes, independents may vote in the primary election but they must choose which partisan ballot they want to vote. If voting early, they need to notify my office which partisan ballot they would like to receive in the mail or, if voting at the polls, tell the poll worker which partisan ballot they want on Election Day.