ROVAC 01-26-23 Technology Committee Notes – Updated

L. Tabulators

- o UCONN looking for information on Tabulator problems to help make the case to get out of LHS contract early, currently contractual period ends 2027.
- o Action Item: County Chairs encouraged to get the word out to their towns to share tabulator malfunction and failures. The reports of Tabulator problems to be sent to Anna Dickerson (adickerson@woodbridgect.org)

2.Status of new Database development

- o Selection of vendor (7 applied) was made in June 2022:
- o Discussion of contract was completed around August 2022.
- o At the Atty General's office awaiting sign off.
- o Concerns about the delay:
  - System we have now is not supported
  - System we have now will not support Early Voting
  - Timeline and window of opportunity for a relatively low impact implementation before the Presidential election year is rapidly closing
  - Tech committee could help ease the transition
- o **Action items** that Tech Committee can do to ease transition.
  - **Rich Martin** to craft letter to new Secretary of State, which would include:
    - – Electronic poll books – statewide use- are essential for Early Voting
    - – Upgrades to support Early Voting (aka some method of identifying individuals who have early voted – with an EV or other indicator, similar to the "A" for absentee are also critical
    - – Reinforce the need for training and training materials, which Lisbeth Becker indicated had been an emphasis of the RFP
  - **Lewis Fiore & Doug Lary** to craft a "how to job aid" to be shared with all towns that documents:
    - – Cleaner our data, easier the conversion. Means each town getting rid of duplicates, periods, commas, etc. in voter records
    - – Other possible problem data: Unit #s, residential town name in towns that have towns within towns – e.g. Storrs / Willimantic
    - – Using postal zip + 4 where the +4 equals four zeros (∅) can be a signifier of a data problem
    - – Running reports, download to disk file, and using Excel to find troublesome data
    - – Note that although the vendor can create software data scrubbers for some issues, the cleaner the data the vendor gets, the better for expediting.

3. e-Poll Books

- o < 50 towns use e-Poll Books
- o As noted above in item 2, e-poll books are essential for Early In Person Voting and will be a key point in the letter Rich is crafting for the Secretary of State.
- o SOTS has yet to approve use of e-poll books or make a recommendation for a particular e-Poll book to use
- o Several towns see e-poll books as cost-prohibitive
- o Positive arguments for towns' needing to justify expense included, but were not limited to:
  - Ease of uploading data to CVRS
  - Eliminates need for unofficial checkers because a link /widget can be posted on town website providing community access to general voting numbers and even specific links for Town Committees to see voters who have voted or not yet done so
  - Can reduce staffing needs or staff hours spent in uploading
- o **Action item**: **Lisbeth Becke**r to research what e-books are in use in CT, what's available, and what are the e-books used by the states (Colorado, Georgia, Kentucky, Massachusetts, and North Carolina) who were cited in the Report on Early Voting as being interviewed.

4. EMS

- o Some towns still having difficulties with dropping numbers; others reported no issues.