ROVAC TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE AUGUST 31 2016 MEETING WITH TED BROMLEY

Attendees: Lisbeth Becker, Mike Wyman, Len Bach, Lisa Santangelo, Dorothy Mrowka, Stuart Wells, Marla Cowden, Lou Battipaglia, Tony Esposito, Anne-Marie Mastroianni, and Ann Kilby. Guests: Ted Bromley and Lou Button.

Discussion:

Introduction
- Lisbeth opened the meeting at 10:04 am
- Everyone introduce themselves.
- Lisbeth stated we would schedule meetings well in advanced so that Ted Bromley or other SOTS staff can attend. Ted Bromley stated that maybe the IT Director or Steve Mason could sometime attend. The schedule of these meetings will be documented on the ROVAC Technology Section of the ROVAC web site.
- Lisbeth would like to see that the ROVAC Technology Committee be the information link between ROV and SOTS staff as it relates to technology.   Ted agreed and it would be great to go to the Technology Committee as the focal point for technology communication.
- Participation on the SOTS technology workgroups would not be limited to the technology committee members but the ROVAC Technology Committee must be part of communication hub.
- All ROVAC Technology Committee meetings are opened for ROVs to attend.
- Our next meeting is scheduled for December 1st at 10 a.m. in Glastonbury.

CVRS (CT Voter Registration System) – Capacity and Performance Concerns
Marla opened the discussion about capacity based on her 2012 experience and what happened just two weeks earlier to cause the system to have performance problems.
  o Ted stated that the problem was a mainframe problem and how they coded the changes to implement the DMV on-line voter registration and DMV Tumbleweed. The connection code was not clearing the connection when access to the CVRS internet portion and the mainframe portion. So in other words, the system was building and building these connections where when a CVRS operator logged out of the system, the connection to the mainframe still exists causing a traffic jam. The programmer wrote code to fix this problem.
Concern remains with the addition of multiple functions including the following and what will be the impact on Election Day?

- o On-Line Voter Registration from the SOTS web site and from the DMV; Tumbleweed is now on-line through CVRS which is known as DMV Changes.
  - o The Town Clerk Absentee Ballot Module.
  - o Printing a voter registration cards from the on-line modules.

- Ann proposed that we perform a performance test where all the Registrar of Voters would sign in - since on Election Day all Registrar of Voters will be using the CVRS system as well EDR staff. It was decided by the group that on Tuesday, September 27, 2016 at 10 to 11 am, we would conduct a performance test where all Registrar of Voters will sign into the system. We would communicate this to all Counties and announce it at the September's ROVAC Conference. Also, Lisbeth would send an email blast on September 26 to reminder the ROVs that we will be conducting a performance test the next day.

SHOULD WE SHUT DOWN THE ON-LINE VOTER REGISTRATION BETWEEN NOVEMBER 2ND AND NOVEMBER 7TH (NO MAIL-IN REGISTRATIONS ARE ALLOWED)

- Discussion was held on the pros and cons. Marla Cowden made a motion to write a recommendation letter to the ROVAC Board to leave open the on-line voter registration between SOTS and DMV. If the ROVAC Board agrees with this recommendation, the recommendation will then be sent to the SOTS for their approval. Ann Kilby seconded this motion. A vote was held. Voting results of the ROVAC Technology Members: 7 voted - yes, 1 voted - no, and 1 member was absent.

- This motion would mean – That a voter can continue to submit their voter registration through SOTS on-line voter registration or DMV registration. The law still applies that these potential electors do not qualify for registering to vote unless they are processed at the Election Day Registration (EDR) location in their Town. **It will be the ROV's responsibility not to process these voter registration(s)**.

IS THE SOTS ANNOUNCING TO THE MEDIA THE NEW CHANGES ON PRESIDENTIAL BALLOT?

Ted stated that the Denise Merrill will have a TV advertisement on this change close to the Election Day similar to last year EDR announcement. She will also have a TV advertisement on EDR.

REGISTRATIONS FROM ONLINE (FROM SOTS WEB SITE) AND DMV

- We asked Ted if the system could check if a voter is already registered before a person started to complete their on-line or DMV voter registration information.

  - For DMV, Ted believes the answer is No. The DMV system is a mainframe system created in the 70s. The DMV personnel do not have access to the Internet. Also, the only way the SOTS implemented these DMV changes and enhancements was because of the Department of Justice complaint.

  - Marla asked Ted if there was a problem if she presents her concerns to her Selectman and asked it to be brought to the CCM organization. Ted stated it was not a problem.

The broader concern is the costs to the town on re-registering voters including the cost of paper, toner, staff, etc.)

(Information: DMV are using dumb terminals which access only the mainframe. The recent upgrade to DMV is related to vehicle registration not driver licenses. The driver license application upgrade is another phase which has not been started.)

- Further discussion on this topic will be on addressed at December 1st meeting.

- The ROVAC Technology Committee Members recommended when printing the registration card – remove the information on top of the card and have the capability to print it on 5 ½ by 8 ½ card stock. Ted stated he would discuss it with IT to determine implementing this change. (Note – we cannot recommend a 5 ½ by 8 card stock since the printer driver does not support this measurement.)

- For these registrations, the "block" on the bottom of the card says "S". Can we change this to indicate the registration came from SOTS web site, DMV new registrations, and DMV Tumbleweed? This recommendation was made by Mike Wyman and Lisa Santangelo. Ted will investigate.

DMV - TUMBLEWEED

- <u>SOME TOWNS HAVE ZIP CODE THAT COVERS OTHER TOWNS -</u> Dorothy and Tony have voters who have zip code that cover other towns. How can we see these voter's address changes in Tumbleweed since the information goes to the other town. Ted did not have answered today, but will be working with DMV how to resolve this issue.

- <u>ADDRESS CHANGED WHEN A THIRD TOWN IS LISTED</u> – Lisa stated when using the SFILE's Tumbleweed (old system), her staff would performed a state-wide search on the voter to ensure the voter was not listed in other town. For example, a voter who was resident of Middletown now moves to Portland, and when performing a state-wide search this voter was previously a resident of Marlborough – should we notify Marlborough that the voter has moved to Portland? This question was addressed to Ted? Ted stated that she can send the information to Marlborough and it is ROV in Marlborough to decide what action they would take?

Ted agreed to find out whether the DMV Tumbleweed searches locally or state-wide. It should be a state-wide search.

For information in the new DMV Tumbleweed, the CVRS and DMV system matches DMV ID information. In other words on the above example, when CVRS shows the 3rd town, the voter DMV information has been matched.

- It is permissible to amend the letter provided on the Tumbleweed system for those DMV changes by non-registered.

DMV – NEW REGISTATIONS

- Mike recommend when printing the list it should be sorted by last name, suffix, first name and middle initial.

DMV – NON-DMV APPLICANT

- We asked Ted if we could emphasize on the screen that "NO REGISTRATION UNTIL THIS REGISTRATION IS MAILED TO THE ROV OFFICE". Ted will investigate.

- Ted stated he is looking if it feasible to send a follow-up email (if email is available) to the recipient that your registration has been processed since you have not mail your registration.

- Also, sort the list in alpha name order before printing the list.

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VOTER REGISTRATION DATA

- The DMV data is uploaded to CVRS on a daily basis. The DMV data is back up based on "Federal" and "State Policy" guidelines.

- The CVR data is backup nightly on a server in Mass. And Groton, CT

IVS

- The SOTS will have an IVS presentation at the Fall ROVAC conference on SOTS Day. The presenter will be Brad from IVS. He will also provide a TO DO/NOT TO DO CHECKLIST at this presentation.

- Training will be held for ROV during the week of October 3rd. Training will include creating a test deck, helping hints to improve creating a test deck, and a manual.

- For this Election November 8th ONLY, the vendor will provided one IVS Specialist on-site for each of the 8 counties.

- SOTS is thinking of providing a video or utube training tool for ROVs.

- SOTS is providing the IVS equipment for EDR.

- Future Uses – Later Down The Road – Stuart stated the IVS can be used to read the Tabulator's Tape. The IVS can be optical Reader.

EMIS

- Mike suggested a practice session be developed for ROV to practice in their office. Marla stated that Peg Reeves Shirley Surgeon, and Heather Augeri are developing a practice session with 3 polling places. Marla stated that SOTS should review the results of the practice sessions to see if a ROV needs further training.

- Tony stated Brad was very helpful in the last election/primary.

- Lou Button stated there will be training in September and October. Based on budget concerns, Lou asks the committee whether additional training is further needed.

- Ted stated that the Town Clerk has provided additional enhancement to EMIS. Marla has some ideas to enhance EMIS. Ted is interested in obtaining a list of enhancements to be considered after the November 8 Election.

Electronic Poll Books

- UCONN has reviewed 5 vendors. Each system can be hacked.

- A couple of vendors have enhanced their system and they are being reviewed again. But will not be available for the November 2016 Election.

- The SOTS funds are still available. No sure what the policy will be: SOTS buys them, or the town purchase the Electronic Polls Books and reimburse by SOTS.

- The requirements are priorities (i.e. Mandatory, Medium, and Low). A vendor does not have to meet all requirements. They must meet Mandatory.

- The Pollbooks must not use the WIFI or the Cloud for the system to work. Some of the equipment needs to have these capabilities to work.

- Other requirement is for the Pollbooks to have quick way (or ease of use) to recover on Election Day.

- Other potential uses for Pollbooks would be the capability to access the CVRS system for the purpose to remove voters from the other town on Election Day in coordination with EDR.

UCONN Audit Machine

- UCONN will be setting up 20 workstations at the SOTS office in September. Anyone ROV would like to utilize this system for November 8 Election Audit will need to bring their ballots to the SOTS office. Using this equipment will be on volunteer basis.

Sincerely,

Ann Kilby
Secretary