



## League of Women Voters of Minnesota Records

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**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA**

555 WABASHA • ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55102

PHONE: (612) 224-5445



**MEMO**

**TO:** Election Survey Committee Members

**FROM:** Erica Buffington

**SUBJECT:** Meeting

**DATE:** October 21, 1977

There will be a meeting of the Election Survey Committee on Wednesday, October 26th, at 1:00 p.m. in the state office. Please call the office if you cannot attend.

We will review the survey questions and re-write if necessary. Since our deadline for completion of the study guide is only 2 months away, it is essential that as many members of the committee be at the meetings as possible.

## Election Suvery Guide for Local Leagues

- I Introduction
- II Basic information about the municipality and judges (election officials answer these)  
  
Personal information about and from the election judges.  
  
(salary, maximum age, hours worked, how selected, population of municipality, number of registered voters, number of ballots used, rural, urban, suburban, number of judges who worked, how assigned, etc.)
- III Working Conditions  
breaks, meals brought in, adequate space, area for election day registration, shifts,
- IV Training  
training session, length of time, paid, use of machine, registration, material to study, when were training sessions held
- V Absentee Ballots  
how many received, when received, who delivered them, errors in filling out (certification) were you trained ~~XX~~ in procedure of opening and counting
- VI Election Day Registration and Follow-up  
how many registered at primary and at general election, fraud, mistakes, any follow-up on election day registration afterwards, different areas for registration
- VII Problems  
paper, lever, electronic, type used. were paper ballots pre-counted before election and who verifies this. jammed lever machines, punch card problems.
- VIII Suggestions from judges for improvements:  
training of judges, working conditions, enforcement of election laws,

# Election Survey Committee

Minutes, Oct. 12, 1977

Committee Members Present: Carol Bergeson, Ann Wordelman, Joan Newmark, Grace Harkness, Betty Sailer, Bernie Metzner, Erica Buffington.

Agendas were distributed, as well as some material from the Sec. of State's Office and a copy of the St. Paul LWV questionnaire sent to their election judges.

The committee decided on several areas that should be covered in the survey. It was also decided that two separate questionnaires would be drawn up. One would be for election judges and the other for the person (city clerk or county auditor, etc.) responsible for voter registration and election procedures at the local level. The local Leagues would be responsible for conducting the surveys. The goal is to get responses back from the local voter registration and election procedure person by late February, 1978. The election judge survey would be sent out later. No definite time frame was set up.

The areas listed for survey questions were:

1. Basic information about judges and background information about each municipality ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
2. Working conditions at the polls
3. Training of judges
4. Absentee Ballots
5. Election Day Registration and Follow-up  
~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
6. Problems
  - paper ballot precincts
  - lever machine precincts
  - electronic precincts
7. Suggestions from judges for improvements

An introduction, explaining how and why this guide came about and basic information will also be included.

The proposed time line was discussed and accepted with one change -- the moving back of the deadline from March to February 28th for the local leagues to return the survey questionnaire from election officials to the state office.

The next meeting was set for Wednesday, October 26th, 1:00 p.m. at the state office.

TRAINING

OCT 8 1977

- A. Did you attend a training session? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
- How long? 1 hour \_\_\_\_\_ 2 Hours \_\_\_\_\_ Over 2 hours \_\_\_\_\_
- Were you paid? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ If you were, how much? \_\_\_\_\_
- Were you paid transportation & mileage? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
- B. During training session, were you instructed in
- Election day registration? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_
- How to use voting machine Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
- by demonstration Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
- by lecture without demonstration Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
- C. Were you given material to take home to study? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
- D. If you did not attend training session, did you have a personal conference with appointing authority? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
- How? Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Person \_\_\_\_\_
- E. ~~Was training session held~~ How close to election was training session held?
- Within one week \_\_\_\_\_
- Within two weeks \_\_\_\_\_
- Over two weeks \_\_\_\_\_

ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Ann Wordelman

- 1) Were the judges in your polling place trained in the procedure for opening and counting absentee ballots?
- 2) How many absentee ballots were received at your polling place?
- 3) Who delivered the absentee ballots to your polling place( city staff, mailman, other)?
- 4) What time of the day were absentee ballots delivered?
- 5) Were any ballots missent to the wrong city/address? (For example, St. Louis Park rec'd ballots addressed to St. Cloud and had to discount them as spoiled ballots).
- 6) Were there errors in the filling out of absentee forms, such as the certification of signature?
- 7) Were the absentee ballots checked against the home address of persons such as students to ensure against double voting?
- 8) Was city staff trained to handle procedure of filling out absentee applications properly? Were they polite in giving instructions to those who applied for absentee ballots in person?

OCT 17 1977

Election Survey Committee Oct. 1977

Questions for Election Officials

About the municipality:

Population: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Registered Voters: \_\_\_\_\_

Ballots Used: Electronic \_\_\_\_\_  
Machine \_\_\_\_\_  
Paper \_\_\_\_\_

Number of precincts: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of registered voters in largest precinct: \_\_\_\_\_  
" " " " smallest precinct: \_\_\_\_\_

Predominantly 1. rural \_\_\_\_\_  
2. Suburban \_\_\_\_\_  
3. Urban \_\_\_\_\_

About the judges:

Total number of judges working at last general election \_\_\_\_\_  
" " " " primary election \_\_\_\_\_

Number of judges working at last election at the:  
largest precinct \_\_\_\_\_  
smallest precinct \_\_\_\_\_

Are judges assigned on the basis of number of registered voters in a precinct? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
If yes, how many judges were used per 1000 registered voters at the last election? \_\_\_\_\_

Are judges assigned on the basis of number of voting machines used in a precinct? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
If yes, how many judges were used per machine? \_\_\_\_\_  
How many machines were used per 1000 registered voters? \_\_\_\_\_

Were extra judges assigned on Nov 2, 1976 because of election day registration? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, how many were assigned to each precinct? \_\_\_\_\_

Salary: What is your compensation schedule for election judges?

Hourly wage \_\_\_\_\_  
Flat wage per election \_\_\_\_\_  
Extra compensation for:  
transportation \_\_\_\_\_  
training session attendance \_\_\_\_\_  
being chairman of precinct \_\_\_\_\_  
other \_\_\_\_\_

*Submitted by Joan Newmark, St Paul*  
735-4541



Questions for Judges:

( Pick a specific election to monitor and survey judges as soon after that election as possible )

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_

Were you the chairman (chief judge) at your precinct?

How much were you paid? *For the election* \_\_\_\_\_ *Training session(s)* \_\_\_\_\_

How many hours did you work (# of hours between time of arrival and time of departure)?

For how many years have you served as an election judge? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your political party affiliation? (check one)

Republican \_\_\_\_\_

DFL \_\_\_\_\_

American \_\_\_\_\_

Other party (name) \_\_\_\_\_

No party affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Were you an emergency appointee at this election?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_

No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, how many hours notice were you given?

How did you first come to be an election judge? (check one)

Volunteer \_\_\_\_\_

Appointed on emergency basis \_\_\_\_\_

Asked to serve by political party \_\_\_\_\_

Asked to serve by city or town council \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

*Submitted by Joan Newmark, St Paul.*

*735-4541*



H.B.



# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

555 WABASHA • ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55102

PHONE: (612) 224-5445

## MEMO

TO: Election Survey Committee

FROM: Erica Buffington

SUBJECT: Meeting

DATE: November 11, 1977

Meeting of the Election Survey Committee, Wednesday, November 16, 1977,  
12 noon, state office. Don't forget to bring bag lunch.

We have lots to do - so please try to be on time. Call the state office  
if you can't be there.

Tentative Agenda:

Finalize ALL questions

Select 5 local Leagues as readers.

See you on the 16th!

Election Survey Committee - October, 1977

QUESTIONS FOR ELECTION OFFICIALS

About the municipality:

Population:

Number of Registered Voters: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of votes cast in 1976 primary: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of votes cast in 1976 general election: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ballots used: Electronic \_\_\_\_\_  
Machine \_\_\_\_\_  
Paper \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of precincts: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of registered voters in largest precinct: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of registered voters in smallest precinct: \_\_\_\_\_

About the judges:

1. Total number of judges working at last general election: \_\_\_\_\_  
Total number of judges working at last primary election: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Number of judges working at last election at the  
largest precinct: \_\_\_\_\_  
smallest precinct: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Are judges assigned on the basis of number of registered voters in a precinct? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
On anticipated voters? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
If yes, how many judges were used per 100 registered voters at the last election? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Are judges assigned on the basis of number of voting machines used in a precinct? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
If yes, how many judges were used per machine? \_\_\_\_\_  
How many machines were used per 100 registered voters? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Were extra judges assigned on November 2, 1976, because of election day registration? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
If yes, how many were assigned to each precinct? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Salary: What is your compensation schedule for election judges?  
Hourly wage \_\_\_\_\_  
Flat wage per election \_\_\_\_\_  
Extra compensation for:  
transportation \_\_\_\_\_  
training session attendance \_\_\_\_\_  
being chairman of precinct \_\_\_\_\_  
other \_\_\_\_\_
7. Do you have a mandatory retirement age for judges? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
If so, what? \_\_\_\_\_

QUESTIONS FOR JUDGES

(Pick a specific election to monitor and survey judges as soon after that election as possible.) After 1978 State Election

1. Age: 18 - 30 \_\_\_\_\_ 50 - 65 \_\_\_\_\_  
30 - 50 \_\_\_\_\_ over 65 \_\_\_\_\_  
Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_
2. Were you the chairman (chief judge) at your precinct?
3. How many hours did you work (number of hours between time of arrival and time of departure)?
4. For how many years have you served as an election judge?  
1st time \_\_\_\_\_ 6 - 10 times \_\_\_\_\_ over 20 times \_\_\_\_\_  
2 - 5 times \_\_\_\_\_ 10 - 20 times \_\_\_\_\_
5. What is your political party affiliation (check one)?  
Republican \_\_\_\_\_  
DFL \_\_\_\_\_  
American \_\_\_\_\_  
Other party (name) \_\_\_\_\_  
No party affiliation \_\_\_\_\_
6. Were you an emergency appointee at this election? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
If yes, how many hours notice were you given? \_\_\_\_\_
7. How did you first come to be an election judge (check one)?  
Volunteer \_\_\_\_\_  
Appointed on emergency basis \_\_\_\_\_  
Asked to serve by political party \_\_\_\_\_  
Asked to serve by city or town council \_\_\_\_\_  
Other \_\_\_\_\_

ABSENTEE BALLOTS

For election Officials

1. How many absentee ballots were received in your municipality? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Who delivered the absentee ballots to the polling place? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What time of day were the absentee ballots delivered?  
7:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon \_\_\_\_\_  
12:00 noon - 8:00 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_  
After 8:00 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_
4. What is the procedure for counting absentee ballots?

For the Judges

1. How many absentee ballots were received in your precinct? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Who delivered the absentee ballots to your polling place?  
city staff \_\_\_\_\_  
mailman \_\_\_\_\_  
other \_\_\_\_\_

3. What time of day were absentee ballots delivered?

7:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon \_\_\_\_\_  
12:00 noon - 8:00 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_  
After 8:00 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

4. Did your precinct receive any absentee ballots that should have been sent elsewhere? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

What happened to them?  
Forwarded to correct precinct \_\_\_\_\_  
Thrown out \_\_\_\_\_

5. Who counts the absentee ballots?

chief judge \_\_\_\_\_  
any judge \_\_\_\_\_  
judges at special location \_\_\_\_\_

6. Did your precinct void any absentee ballots due to errors?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons: improper verification \_\_\_\_\_  
wrong ballot \_\_\_\_\_  
sent to wrong precinct \_\_\_\_\_  
other \_\_\_\_\_

#### TRAINING

##### For the Judges

1. Did you attend a training session? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

How long? 1 hour \_\_\_\_\_ 2 hours \_\_\_\_\_ Over 2 hours \_\_\_\_\_

Were you paid? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ If you were, how much? \_\_\_\_\_

Were you paid transportation and mileage? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

2. Did you attend a training session before the primary and before the general election? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Who was in charge of the training session?

city clerk \_\_\_\_\_  
county auditor \_\_\_\_\_  
chief election judge \_\_\_\_\_  
other \_\_\_\_\_

3. During training session, were you instructed in:

Election day registration? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

How to use voting machine? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

by demonstration? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

by lecture without demonstration? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

How to use electronic machine? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

by demonstration? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

by lecture without demonstration? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

How to "use" paper ballot? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
by demonstration? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
by lecture without demonstration? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Did you receive absentee ballot training? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

4. Were you given material to take home to study? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

5. If you did not attend training session, did you have a personal conference with appointing authority? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

How? Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Person \_\_\_\_\_

6. How close to election was training session held?

Within one week \_\_\_\_\_

Within two weeks \_\_\_\_\_

Over two weeks \_\_\_\_\_

#### SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT

##### For the Judges

Do you have any suggestions for improvement in training of election judges?

Training of election judges \_\_\_\_\_

Working conditions \_\_\_\_\_

Enforcement of election laws \_\_\_\_\_

Absentee ballot procedure \_\_\_\_\_

Availability of city staff for help \_\_\_\_\_



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

555 WABASHA • ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55102

PHONE: (612) 224-5445

MEMO

TO: Election Survey Committee HB

FROM: Erica Buffington

SUBJECT: Survey questions

DATE: November 25, 1977

Enclosed are the survey questions as re-written plus the election day registration questions. Feel free to comment, change, suggest, etc. and return any and all comments to the state office no later than December 7th.

With luck, the introduction will be mailed by 1 December to be returned by December 10th.

Thanks.



QUESTIONS FOR ELECTION OFFICIALS

About the municipality:

Population

Number of registered voters: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of votes cast in 1976 primary: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of votes cast in 1976 general election: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ballots used: Electronic \_\_\_\_\_  
Machine \_\_\_\_\_  
Paper \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of precincts: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of registered voters in largest precinct: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of registered voters in smallest precinct: \_\_\_\_\_

About the judges:

1. Total number of judges working at last general election: \_\_\_\_\_  
Total number of judges working at last primary election: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Number of judges working at last election at the  
largest precinct: \_\_\_\_\_  
smallest precinct: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Are judges assigned on the basis of the number of registered voters in a precinct? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
On anticipated voters? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
If yes, how many judges were used per 150 registered voters at the last election? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Are judges assigned on the basis of the number of voting machines used in a precinct? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
If yes, how many judges were used per machine? \_\_\_\_\_  
How many machines were used per 150 registered voters? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Were extra judges assigned on November 2, 1976, because of election day registration? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
If yes, how many were assigned to each precinct? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Salary: What is your compensation schedule for election judges?  
Hourly wage \_\_\_\_\_  
Flat wage per election \_\_\_\_\_  
Extra compensation for:  
transportation \_\_\_\_\_  
training session attendance \_\_\_\_\_  
being chairman of precinct \_\_\_\_\_  
other \_\_\_\_\_
7. Do you have a mandatory retirement age for judges? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
If so, what? \_\_\_\_\_
8. Do election judges in your municipality:  
a. work in designated shifts (define) ?  
  
b. remain at the polling place from opening through counting completion?

Absentee ballots

1. How many absentee ballots were received in your municipality? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Who delivered the absentee ballots to the polling place? \_\_\_\_\_



## Absentee ballots continued

3. What time of day were the absentee ballots delivered?

7:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon \_\_\_\_\_  
 12:00 noon - 8:00 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_  
 After 8:00 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

Election day registration and follow-up

## Questions to ask city clerks (or county auditor)

1. How many voters registered on the most recent election day? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What percent of your total registration is that number? \_\_\_\_\_
3. How many voters registered on election day at the last Presidential election (November 2, 1976) ? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Was there any evidence of fraud, cheating or double voting? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
 If yes, please explain.
5. Many election judges complain about the chore of registering new voters. Do you agree with any of these statements:
  - a) Election judges are more used to election day registration now and accept it as part of their job.
  - b) Election judges strongly resent election day registration.
  - c) Election day registration is so time-consuming that it seriously interferes with the real purpose of the day, which is voting.
6. What percent of election day registrations is done incorrectly? \_\_\_\_\_
7. What training do you give election judges in the registration process:
  - a) written instructions only?
  - b) no training as registration form is self-explanatory?
  - c) one or more training sessions?
  - d) mandatory training session(s)?
8. If there is training, who gives it? (Experienced election judges, city clerk, etc.)
9. What follow-up do you do on election day registrations:
  - a) pull former registration card if moved within the city?
  - b) notify other city if voter moved from out of town?
  - c) if your city is notified that a voter registered in another location, do you check to be sure s/he didn't also vote in your location?
  - d) if you are notified that a voter has registered in another location, do you remove that voter's registration card from your files?

QUESTIONS FOR JUDGES

Pick a specific election to monitor and survey judges as soon after that election as possible. After 1978 State Election

About the judges

1. Age: 18 - 30 \_\_\_\_\_ 50 - 65 \_\_\_\_\_  
           30 - 50 \_\_\_\_\_ over 65 \_\_\_\_\_  
       Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_
2. Were you the chairman (chief judge) at your precinct? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
3. How many hours did you work (number of hours between time of arrival and time of departure) ? \_\_\_\_\_

## About the judges continued

4. How often have you served as an election judge?

1st time \_\_\_\_\_ 6 - 10 times \_\_\_\_\_ over 20 times \_\_\_\_\_  
 2 - 5 times \_\_\_\_\_ 10 - 20 times \_\_\_\_\_

5. What is your political party affiliation (check one) ?

Republican \_\_\_\_\_  
 DFL \_\_\_\_\_  
 American \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other party (name) \_\_\_\_\_  
 No party affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

6. Were you an emergency appointee at this election? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, how many hours notice were you given? \_\_\_\_\_

7. How did you first come to be an election judge (check one) ?

volunteer \_\_\_\_\_  
 appointed on an emergency basis \_\_\_\_\_  
 asked to serve by your political party \_\_\_\_\_  
 asked to serve by city or town council \_\_\_\_\_  
 other \_\_\_\_\_

Absentee ballots

1. How many absentee ballots were received in your precinct? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Who delivered the absentee ballots to your polling place:

city staff? \_\_\_\_\_  
 mailman? \_\_\_\_\_  
 other? (who) \_\_\_\_\_

3. What time of day were absentee ballots delivered?

7:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon \_\_\_\_\_  
 12:00 noon - 8:00 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_  
 after 8:00 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

4. Did your precinct receive any absentee ballots that should have been sent elsewhere? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

What happened to them:  
 Forwarded to the correct precinct?  
 Thrown out?

5. Who counts the absentee ballots: chief judge? \_\_\_\_\_
- 
- any judge? \_\_\_\_\_
- 
- judges at special location? \_\_\_\_\_

6. Did your precinct void any absentee ballots due to errors? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons: improper verification \_\_\_\_\_  
 wrong ballot \_\_\_\_\_  
 sent to wrong precinct \_\_\_\_\_  
 other \_\_\_\_\_

Training

1. Did you attend a training session? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

How long? 1 hour \_\_\_\_\_ 2 hours \_\_\_\_\_ Over 2 hours \_\_\_\_\_

Were you paid? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ If you were, how much? \_\_\_\_\_

Were you paid transportation and mileage? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

## Training continued

2. Did you attend a training session before the primary and before the general election? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
- Who was in charge of the training session:
- city clerk? \_\_\_\_\_
- county auditor? \_\_\_\_\_
- chief election judge? \_\_\_\_\_
- other (who)? \_\_\_\_\_
3. During the training session, were you instructed in:
- Election day registration? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
- How to use the voting machine? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
- by demonstration? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
- by lecture without demonstration? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
- How to "use" paper ballot? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
- by demonstration? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
- by lecture without demonstration? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
- Did you receive absentee ballot training? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
4. Were you given material to take home to study? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
5. If you did not attend a training session, did you have a personal conference with the appointing authority? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
- How? Phone \_\_\_\_\_ In person \_\_\_\_\_
6. How close to the election was the training session held:
- within one week? \_\_\_\_\_
- within two weeks? \_\_\_\_\_
- over two weeks? \_\_\_\_\_

Election day registration and follow-up

1. Many election judges complain about the chore of registering new voters. Do you agree with any of these statements:
- a) Election judges are more used to election day registration now and accept it as part of their job.
- b) Election judges strongly resent election day registration.
- c) Election day registration is so time-consuming that it seriously interferes with the real purpose of the day, which is voting.

Suggestions for improvement

Do you have any suggestions for improvement in:

training of election judges?

working conditions?

enforcement of election laws?

absentee ballot procedure?

availability of city staff for help?

other?

H.B.



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA**

555 WABASHA • ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55102

PHONE: (612) 224-5445

**MEMO**

**TO:** Election Survey Committee

**FROM:** Erica Buffington

**SUBJECT:** Introduction

**DATE:** November 29, 1977

Finally, the introduction - of sorts. This is a very rough draft. Please feel free to comment, change, rewrite, whatever.

Deadline for returning to state office is December 10th.

Thanks.

D R A F T

INTRODUCTION

Election Survey for Election Officials and Judges

This particular survey is a good example of grass roots involvement and concern. At the 1977 state Convention, direction given to the state Board stated that a study guide for monitoring election day registration and training of election judges needs to be developed. This direction came from two sources: the caucus on registration at the polls (over 60 Leaguers in attendance) and from the St. Paul LWV Board of Directors.

Information was needed, and it became apparent that the League would have to gather its own. The state committee decided the best way to get information regarding election procedures was to go to the sources: the election officials in the various municipalities and the election judges. The questionnaires for each group were then developed, and now it is up to each local League.

In order to develop a study guide for monitoring election procedures and judges training, as directed, we need feedback from the surveys. The survey results, as well as updates on election law changes, will provide the needed information.

The first step, once you have read through this information and the survey questions, is to call a committee meeting. Ideally, the VS/CI chair and the Government chair will join forces on this project. The election officials survey is to be done first. Based on past experiences, it is far better to set up an interview with your local election official than to mail the survey. Timing on this survey is tight; we need your responses no later than the first week in March, 1978, and the earlier the better. Plan to interview the person responsible for the elections in your community in January or February.

In order to obtain current information, the election judge survey is to be conducted after the November 7, 1978, general election. Not all the judges in your community need to be surveyed, unless you decide to do this. Do not survey just the chief election judge, and make sure that some of the judges are not League members.

There are two alternatives you can consider in conducting the judges survey. The surveys can be mailed to the judges, or interviews can be conducted. Whichever method you choose, be sure to notify the judges in advance so that they are aware that the survey is coming. If you choose to survey all the judges in your community, great! If not, be sure to survey at least 25% of the judges in your community. It will be

(Over)



easier for the judges to respond to the survey questions if they receive the survey as soon as possible after the general election in November of 1978, while that day's events are still fresh in their minds. Responses from the judges are due in the state office by December 15, 1978.

In addition to developing a study guide, and depending on the results of the survey, the information we obtain from you may be used in drafting or revising election laws. The Secretary of State's Office is interested in our survey results as well as in our planned study guide.

We are counting on each local League and will be eagerly awaiting the results of the two surveys.



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF MINNESOTA**

PHONE (612) 224-5445

555 WABASHA • ST PAUL, MINNESOTA 55102

**ELECTION SURVEY  
FOR ELECTION OFFICIALS AND JUDGES**

Pm - T

TO: Local Leagues

FROM: Erica Buffington, LWVMN Government Cochair

Date: January 18, 1978

INTRODUCTION

This election survey is a project reflecting League of Women Voters (LWV) grass roots involvement and concern. At the 1977 state Convention, direction given to the state Board stated that a study guide for monitoring election day registration and training of election judges needed to be developed. This direction came from two sources: the caucus on registration at the polls (over 60 Leaguers in attendance) and from the St. Paul LWV Board of Directors.

Information was needed, and it became apparent that the League would have to gather its own. The state committee decided the best way to get information regarding election procedures was to go to the sources: the election officials in the various municipalities and the election judges. The questionnaires for each group were then developed, and now it is up to each local League to gather the information.

In order to develop a study guide for monitoring election procedures and judges training, as directed, we need feedback from the surveys. The survey results, as well as updates on election law changes, will provide the needed information.

The first step, once you have read through this information and the survey questions, is to call a committee meeting. Ideally, the VS/CI chair and the Government chair will join forces on this project. The election officials survey is to be done first. Based on past experiences, it is far better to set up an interview with your local election official than to mail the survey. Timing on this survey is tight; we need your responses no later than the 3rd of March, 1978, or earlier if possible. Plan to interview the person responsible for the elections in your community in January or February.

In order to obtain current information, the election judge survey is to be conducted after the November 7, 1978, general election. Not all the judges in your community need to be surveyed, unless you decide to do this. Do not survey just the chief election judge, and make sure that some of the judges are not League members.

There are two alternatives you can consider in conducting the judges survey. The surveys can be mailed to the judges, or interviews can be conducted. Whichever method you choose, be sure to notify the judges in advance so that they are aware that the survey is coming. If you choose to survey all the judges in your community, great! If not, be sure to survey at least 25% of the judges in your community. It will be easier for the judges to respond to the survey questions if they receive the survey as soon as possible after the general election in November of 1978, while that day's events are still fresh in their minds. Responses from the judges are due in the state office by December 15, 1978.

(more)



The information we receive from your surveys will be used to develop the study guide for monitoring election procedures and judges training. Depending on the results of the survey, the information also may be used in drafting or revising election laws. The Secretary of State's Office is interested in our survey results as well as in our planned study guide.

We are counting on each local League and will be eagerly awaiting the results of the two surveys.

LWV of \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislative District \_\_\_\_\_  
Precincts Covered \_\_\_\_\_

QUESTIONS FOR ELECTION OFFICIALS

About the municipality:

Population

Number of registered voters: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of votes cast in 1976 primary: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of votes cast in 1976 general election: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ballots used: [Check appropriate one(s)] \_\_\_\_\_  
Electronic \_\_\_\_\_  
Machine \_\_\_\_\_  
Paper \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of precincts: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of registered voters in largest precinct: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of registered voters in smallest precinct: \_\_\_\_\_

About the judges:

1. Total number of judges working at 1976 general election: \_\_\_\_\_  
Total number of judges working at 1976 primary election: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Number of judges working at last election at the  
largest precinct: \_\_\_\_\_  
smallest precinct: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Are judges assigned on the basis of the number of registered voters in a precinct? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
On anticipated voters? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
If yes, how many judges were used per 150 registered voters at the last election? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Are judges assigned on the basis of the number of voting machines used in a precinct? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
If yes, how many judges were used per machine? \_\_\_\_\_  
How many machines were used per 150 registered voters? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Were extra judges assigned on November 2, 1976, because of election day registration? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
If yes, how many extra were assigned to each precinct? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Salary: What is your compensation schedule for election judges?  
Hourly wage \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Flat wage per election \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Extra compensation for:  
transportation \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
training session attendance \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
being chairman of precinct \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
other \_\_\_\_\_
7. Do you have a mandatory retirement age of judges? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
If so, what? \_\_\_\_\_

(more)

8. Do election judges in your municipality:
  - a. work in designated shifts (define)?
  - b. remain at the polling place from opening through counting completion?

#### Absentee ballots

1. How many absentee ballots were received in your municipality for the 1976 election? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Who delivered the absentee ballots to the polling place? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What time of day were the absentee ballots delivered?
  - 7:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon \_\_\_\_\_
  - 12:00 noon - 8:00 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_
  - After 8:00 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

#### Election day registration and follow-up

##### Questions to ask city clerks (or county auditor)

1. How many voters registered on election day at the last Presidential election (November 2, 1976)? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What per cent of your total registration is that number? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Was there any evidence of fraud, cheating or double voting? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
If yes, please explain.
4. Do you agree with any of these statements:
  - a) Election judges are more used to election day registration now and accept it as part of their job. Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
  - b) Election judges resent election day registration. Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
  - c) Election day registration is so time-consuming that it seriously interferes with the real purpose of the day, which is voting. Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
5. What per cent of election day registrations is done incorrectly? \_\_\_\_\_  
Have you done an analysis of reasons? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
[Check if applicable]
  - Wrong precinct or ward \_\_\_\_\_
  - Incorrect information on card \_\_\_\_\_
  - Not filling in required information \_\_\_\_\_
6. What follow-up do you do on election day registrations?
  - a) Pull former registration card if registrant moved within the city?
  - b) Notify other city if voter moved from out of town?
  - c) If your city is notified that a voter registered in another location, do you check to be sure s/he didn't also vote in your location?
  - d) If you are notified that a voter has registered in another location, do you remove that voter's registration card from your files?

LWV of \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislative District \_\_\_\_\_  
Precincts covered \_\_\_\_\_

QUESTIONS FOR JUDGES

After the 1978 State Election

About the judges

1. Age: 18 - 30 \_\_\_\_\_ 30 - 50 \_\_\_\_\_ 50 - 65 \_\_\_\_\_ over 65 \_\_\_\_\_  
Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_
2. Were you the chairman (chief judge) at your precinct? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
3. How many hours did you work (number of hours between time of arrival and time of departure)? \_\_\_\_\_
4. How often have you served as an election judge?  
1st time \_\_\_\_\_ 2 - 5 times \_\_\_\_\_ 6 - 10 times \_\_\_\_\_ 10-20 times \_\_\_\_\_  
over 20 times \_\_\_\_\_
5. Were you an emergency appointee at this election? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
If yes, how many hours' notice were you given? \_\_\_\_\_
6. How did you first come to be an election judge (check one)?  
volunteer \_\_\_\_\_ appointed on an emergency basis \_\_\_\_\_  
asked to serve by your political party \_\_\_\_\_  
asked to serve by city or town council \_\_\_\_\_  
other \_\_\_\_\_

Absentee ballots

1. How many absentee ballots were received in your precinct? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Who delivered the absentee ballots to your polling place?  
city staff? \_\_\_\_\_ mailman? \_\_\_\_\_  
other? (who) \_\_\_\_\_
3. What time of day were absentee ballots delivered?  
7:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon \_\_\_\_\_ 12:00 noon - 8:00 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_  
after 8:00 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Did your precinct receive any absentee ballots that should have been sent elsewhere? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
What happened to them?  
Forwarded to the correct precinct? \_\_\_\_\_ Thrown out? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Did your precinct fail to receive ballots you should have? Explain.
6. Who counts the absentee ballots: chief judge? \_\_\_\_\_ any judge? \_\_\_\_\_  
judges at special location? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Did your precinct void any absentee ballots due to errors? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
Reasons: improper verification \_\_\_\_\_  
wrong ballot \_\_\_\_\_  
sent to wrong precinct \_\_\_\_\_  
other \_\_\_\_\_

(more)



## Training

1. Did you attend a training session? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
How long? 1 hour \_\_\_\_\_ 2 hours \_\_\_\_\_ over 2 hours \_\_\_\_\_  
Were you paid? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ If you were, how much? \_\_\_\_\_  
Were you paid mileage? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
2. Did you attend a training session before the primary and/or before the general election? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Please specify.

Who was in charge of the training session: city clerk? \_\_\_\_\_  
county auditor? \_\_\_\_\_  
chief election judge? \_\_\_\_\_  
other (who)? \_\_\_\_\_

3. During the training session, were you instructed in:  
Election day registration? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
How to use electronic machine? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
by demonstration? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
by lecture without demonstration? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
How to use the voting machine? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
by demonstration? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
by lecture without demonstration? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
How to "use" paper ballot? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
by demonstration? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
by lecture without demonstration? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
Were you taught what to look for in determining the legality of absentee ballots? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Were you given material to take home to study? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
5. If you did not attend a training session, did you have a personal conference with the appointing authority? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
How? Phone \_\_\_\_\_ In person \_\_\_\_\_
6. How close to the election was the training session held:  
within one week? \_\_\_\_\_ within two weeks? \_\_\_\_\_ over two weeks? \_\_\_\_\_

## Election day registration and follow-up

Do you agree with any of these statements:

- a) Election judges are more used to election day registration now and accept it as part of their job. Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
- b) Election judges resent election day registration. Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
- c) Election day registration is so time consuming that it seriously interferes with the real purpose of the day, which is voting. Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

## Suggestions for improvement

Do you have any suggestions for improvement in:

training of election judges?  
working conditions?  
enforcement of election laws?  
absentee ballot procedure?  
availability of city staff for help?  
other?



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA**

555 WABASHA • ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55102

PHONE: (612) 224-5445

**MEMO**

TO: All Election Survey Committee Members  
✓  
Helene, Pam, Karen, Mary Waldo

FROM: Erica

SUBJECT: Draft of Survey Results

DATE: April 4, 1978

Attached is the draft of the election survey results. This is a preliminary report.

The deadline for returning this draft, with any changes, comments, is April 12. If I'm to get this ready for Council, I have to have any comments by the 12th. Send your remarks to the state office.

Thanks.

D R A F T

PRELIMINARY SURVEY RESULTS  
ELECTION OFFICIALS SURVEY

As of April 5th, 36 local Leagues have responded to the election officials survey. These 36 Leagues represent 55 cities and townships as well as some county tabulations.

It is important that all Leagues keep in mind that the following results are preliminary and could change if and when more surveys come in. This information is for the local Leagues, and no conclusions should be drawn from this data. A final report will be written after the election judge survey has been completed and compiled.

Based on survey results:

156,014 Minnesotans registered to vote on November 2, 1976.

25 municipalities have shifts set up for judges. The times vary, and some municipalities have counters who come in after the polls close.

There are special absentee ballot precincts in 3 municipalities.

There was an extremely high voter turnout in the 1976 general election in all reporting municipalities.

Wages paid to judges vary throughout the state. Hourly rates range from \$2.00 to \$5.00. Flat rates range from \$15.00 to \$45.00.

The range of registered voters per precinct pointed out a possible need for redistricting in some areas.

In paper precincts the range is 33 to 2160 voters; machine precincts, the range is 251 to 4200 voters; and in electronic precincts, the range is 13 to 2718 voters.

No significant fraud was reported. The most common errors were: voters in the wrong ward or precinct; incorrect information given; and not filling in all the required information.

Does anybody have any good ideas on how to end this?



H B

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA



555 WABASHA • ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55102

PHONE: (612) 224-5445

MEMO

TO: Election Survey Committee

FROM: Erica Buffington

SUBJECT: Committee Meeting

DATE: December 15, 1978

Meeting of the Election Survey Committee - December 20, 1978

10:00 a.m.

State Office

Please call the state office (224-5445) if you CANNOT attend. Thanks.

H.B.



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA**

555 WABASHA • ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55102

PHONE: (612) 224-5445

**MEMO**

**TO:** Election Survey Committee

**FROM:** Erica Buffington, Government Co-Chair

**SUBJECT:** Committee Meeting

**DATE:** January 11, 1979

Meeting - January 17, 1979  
10:00 a.m.  
State Office

Please call if you can't attend. Thanks.

H.B.

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA**



555 WABASHA • ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55102

PHONE: (612) 224-5445

**MEMO**

**TO:** Members of Election Survey Committee

**FROM:** Erica Buffington, Chair

**SUBJECT:** Meeting

**DATE:** January 24, 1979

Meeting - Wednesday, January 31, 1979 - 10:00 a.m. - state office.

Please notify the state office (224-5445) if you CANNOT attend. Thanks.

W.B.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

555 WABASHA • ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55102

PHONE: (612) 224-5445

MEMO

TO: Election Survey Committee

FROM: Erica Buffington, Chair

SUBJECT: Next Meeting

DATE: March 20, 1979

Wednesday - March 28 - 10:00 a.m. - state office - to:  
Go over tabulations;  
Any conclusions?  
Draft possible election law changes.

Please call the state office if you CAN'T attend. Thank you.

H.B.



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA**

555 WABASHA • ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55102

PHONE: (612) 224-5445

**MEMO**

**TO:** Election Judge Survey Committee

**FROM:** Erica Buffington, Chair

**SUBJECT:** Next Meeting

**DATE:** March 29, 1979

Next Meeting - April 4, 1979 - 10:00 a.m. - state office

Combine 2 surveys  
Review eleftion law changes

Please call me (929-8168) or the state office if you can't attend. Thanks.



H.B.



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA**

555 WABASHA • ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55102

PHONE: (612) 224-5445

**MEMO**

**TO:** Election Survey Committee

**FROM:** Erica Buffington, Chair

**SUBJECT:** Next Meeting

**DATE:** April 17, 1979

Next meeting of the Election Survey Committee - Wednesday, April 25th  
10:00 a.m. - state office

We will put together survey results and any election law changes in  
draft form.

Please call me (929-8168) or the state office if you CAN'T be there.  
Thanks.



# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

PHONE (612) 224-5445  
555 WABASHA • ST PAUL, MINNESOTA 55102

## UPDATE: ELECTION SURVEY/MONITORING GUIDE

June, 1979

To: Local Leagues  
From: Erica Buffington, LWVMN Government Co-chair  
Date: May 15, 1979

The election survey committee would like to thank all of the local Leagues that participated in the election officials survey and the election judges survey. Without your help we could not have written the survey/monitoring guide.

### LWVs of:

Alexandria	Golden Valley	Robbinsdale
Anoka-Cook Rapids Area	Grand Rapids	Rochester
Austin	Granite Falls	Roseville
Battle Lake	Hibbing	St. Cloud Area
Bloomington	Marshall	St. Croix Valley
Brooklyn Center	Mid-Mesabi	St. Louis Park
Brooklyn Park	Minneapolis	St. Paul
Buffalo-Monticello Area	M-EP-H	St. Peter
Cass Lake	Moorhead	Shoreview
Chaska	Mounds View	Stevens County
Detroit Lakes	New Brighton	West Dakota County
Duluth	New Ulm	Westonka
Edina	Northfield	White Bear Lake
Falcon Heights	Owatonna	Woodbury
Freeborn County	Red Wing	Worthington
Fridley	Richfield	Wilkin County

Committee Members: Joan Newmark (LWV-St. Paul), Ann Wordelman (LWV-St. Louis Park), Carol Bergeson (LWV-White Bear Lake), Mary Schaeppi (LWV-Bloomington), Grace Harkness (LWV-Minneapolis), Betty Sailer (LWV-Edina), Bernie Metzner (LWV-Edina), and Erica Buffington (State Board and LWV-St. Louis Park).

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## INTRODUCTION: History

This election survey/monitoring guide publication began as a project reflecting League of Women Voters (LWV) grass roots involvement and concern. At the 1977 state Convention, members gave direction to the state Board that a study guide for monitoring election day registration and training of election judges needed to be developed. This direction came from two sources: the caucus on registration at the polls (over sixty Leagues in attendance) and from the St. Paul LWV Board of Directors.

Information was needed, and it became apparent that the League would have to gather its own. The state committee decided that the best way to get information regarding election procedures was to go to the sources: the election officials and the election judges. They gave officials a questionnaire to answer based on the 1976 general election tabulations. The election judges survey was based on tabulations and observations of the 1978 statewide election. Local Leagues throughout the state either interviewed the officials and the election judges or mailed the surveys to the appropriate people.

## SURVEY OF ELECTION OFFICIALS: November 2, 1976, Election

Thirty-six local Leagues responded to the first survey, the election officials survey. These thirty-six Leagues reported on data from fifty-five cities and townships as well as some counties. In these fifty-five cities and townships, 156,014 Minnesotans registered to vote on election day (November 2, 1976).

### Hours of Work

According to the survey, twenty-five municipalities have shifts set up for judges. The times vary, and some municipalities have counters who come in after the polls close. All twenty-five municipalities that have shifts use paper ballots. In thirty municipalities the judges have to remain at the polls from the time they arrive, approximately one hour prior to opening to the public, until all the ballots have been counted. There are special absentee ballot precincts in three municipalities. There was an extremely high voter turnout in the 1976 general election in all reporting municipalities.

### Wages

Wages paid to judges vary throughout the state. Hourly rates range from a low of \$2.00 to a high of \$5.00. Flat rates range from \$15.00 to \$45.00 for the day. Payment for attending a training session prior to either the primary or election day ranged from a low of \$1.00 to a high of \$6.00. The chairman of a precinct received from \$1.00 to \$5.00 extra.

### Numbers of Voters

The range of registered voters per precinct pointed out a possible need for redistricting in some areas. In paper precincts the range was thirty-three to two thousand, one hundred sixty voters; in machine precincts the range was eighty-two to three thousand, four hundred twenty-five voters; and in electronic precincts the range was thirteen to four thousand, two hundred voters.

No significant fraud was reported. The most common errors were: voters in the wrong ward or precinct; incorrect information given; and not filling in all the required information.

## SURVEY OF ELECTION JUDGES: November 7, 1978, Election

Thirty-four Leagues sent in responses from their local election judges. These thirty-four Leagues reported on data from fifty-two municipalities and townships as well as some counties. The responses were divided into metro and non-metro areas for tabulating most of the questions and separated by method of voting for tabulating the "Comments." In general, very few differences were seen.\*

---

\*Actual data are on file in the LWVMN office and are available to any League requesting . .

### About the Judges

Nine hundred and three judges participated in this survey. Of these, thirty-two percent were chief judges. The metro area accounted for fifty-one percent of the judges, with forty-nine percent from non-metro. The judges were mostly between thirty and sixty-five (eighty-five percent) and predominately female (eighty-one percent). They were also very experienced. Only four percent of judges returning our questionnaire were first-time judges, while twenty-five percent had worked in over twenty elections. Political parties are a minor source for election judges; nine percent were asked to serve by their party. Emergency appointees account for a very small number of judges. Only one percent were emergency appointees at this election, and four percent had their first experience as an election judge by emergency appointment. The biggest source for election judges came from volunteers in the metro area and recommendations from city or town council in the non-metro area.

Judges usually put in a very long day - from twelve to twenty-three hours, with sixteen to seventeen hours being the most common.

### Absentee Ballots

Absentee ballots are usually delivered to the polling places on election day, by mail or by municipal courier, and are verified and counted by regular election judges. Three Leagues reported the use of an absentee ballot precinct (see pages 4-5 of this report for a description). State law (Minnesota Statutes, Section 207.08) prohibits delivery of absentee ballots after the polls close; yet nine ballots were reported as having been received at the polls after 8:00 p.m. Sixty-five ballots were received at the wrong polling place, and sixty (ninety-two percent) were then forwarded to the correct polling place. The rest arrived so late that they could not be forwarded.

Voters seemed to have a lot of trouble filling out absentee ballots properly. Twenty-seven different reasons were given for absentee ballots being voided, and judges reported voiding one hundred eighty-seven ballots.

### Training

More non-metro judges (sixty-seven) than metro (eight) failed to attend a training session for this election. Minnesota Election Laws, 1978, require each county auditor to arrange for training of election judges; previously, this requirement applied only to cities using voting machines. Judges in five localities reported that they had not been paid for attending training sessions, most of these being non-metro. All other judges were paid for training sessions, which, in general, ran for one to two hours.

### Election Day Registration

Election judges apparently are getting used to election day registration but still don't like it. Eighty-six percent agreed that "election judges are more used to election day registration now and accept it as part of their job." However, forty-seven percent of metro judges and twenty-eight percent of non-metro judges agreed that "judges resent election day registration," and fifty-six percent of metro and thirty-three percent of non-metro judges agreed that "election day registration is so time consuming that it interferes with voting."

### Comments

Election judges were prolific in their comments. Many constructive suggestions were received. We list below only the comments that were repeated over and over, from all parts of the state, from paper, electronic and machine precincts:

#### Training:

- 1) New judges need better training, at a separate session.
- 2) Written material is essential; some places already have this.
- 3) Absentee ballot procedure and election day registration training needs to be stressed.

#### Working Conditions:

- 1) Hours are too long - why not go to shifts?
- 2) Pay is too low; judges should be paid at least the minimum hourly wage.



- 3) Polling places are usually too small.
- 4) Judges need breaks for meals. Polls are usually too understaffed for judges to take them.
- 5) Better precinct boundary maps are needed.

Absentee Ballot Procedure:

- 1) The procedure needs revision. It is too complicated.
- 2) Counting takes too long at the precincts.

Election Day Registration:

- 1) There are special problems in college precincts.
- 2) The public needs education on identification requirements.
- 3) Let's all push pre-registration!

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LOCAL LEAGUES

Many of the following suggestions can be implemented by the local Leagues with the co-operation of local election officials. Five different areas of possible League involvement were mentioned over and over. These areas are: pre-registration, education of the public regarding election day registration, absentee ballot procedures and precincts, judges' working conditions, and training of election judges.

Pre-registration

Leaguers have for years registered potential voters. This area of League activity could be greatly expanded and thus ease the work load on election day for the judges. Registration booths or teams could be located in shopping malls, colleges, high schools, nursing homes, anywhere where there are people who might otherwise wait until election day to register. Registration cards can also be distributed all during the year to those places where people go when they change addresses: libraries, post offices, banks, real estate offices, etc.

Election Day Registration

Inevitably there will be those people who will wait until election day to register. The most often mentioned problem in dealing with election day registration is lack of proper identification. Leagues may want to embark on a massive publicity campaign, informing the public of exactly what forms of identification will be accepted. Newspapers, radio and TV spots can be utilized in order to reach the greatest number of people.

Absentee Ballot Procedure

Absentee ballot procedures were also a major area of confusion and frustration. Most of the recommended changes involve changes in state law. These changes will be discussed in the section dealing with proposed election law changes. The one area that is already a part of the law is that of an absentee ballot precinct. This is Section 207.30 of the Minnesota Statutes. It reads:

"207.30. ABSENTEE BALLOT PRECINCT. Subdivision 1. Legislative purpose and policy. The Legislature determines that some municipalities in the state have the cumbersome burden of handling absentee ballots. It is the purpose of this section to provide a means through the local option of a municipality to determine whether or not it would be more convenient and more efficient to establish an absentee ballot precinct within the municipality which will handle all absentee ballots of the electorate of the municipality received during any election.

Subdivision 2. Establishing an absentee ballot precinct. Any city or town, charged with the responsibility of elections may by ordinance of the governing body of such municipality establish an absentee ballot precinct.

Subdivision 3. Board duties. An absentee ballot precinct shall be a board set up by the designated election official of a municipality whose duties shall be as follows:



- (a) Receive all absentee ballots of the electorate of the municipality for any election.
- (b) Check the registration of each absentee ballot.
- (c) Determine the precinct of each absentee ballot voter and report the results of such election to each precinct with such results to be tabulated with that precinct.
- (d) Prepare a list for submission to each precinct within the municipality prior to the close of the election day for the precinct officials to check against the voter registration file to ascertain if any absentee ballot voter voted by person.
- (e) Reject any absentee ballots of persons who had voted at a precinct, making a notation on the envelope of the absentee ballot as to the reason for rejection.
- (f) After the polls have closed in the municipality, the board shall count the absentee ballots by opening them and tabulating the vote of each absentee ballot voter and designate that the vote was received by absentee ballot.

Subdivision 4. Appointment of members.

The election official of each municipality shall be charged with the responsibility, after an ordinance has been adopted by the governing body of the municipality, to appoint the number of persons he deems necessary to carry out the duties of the absentee ballot precinct.

Subdivision 5. Compensation of members. The election official of each municipality shall pay a reasonable compensation to each member of the absentee ballot precinct for his services rendered during each election.

Subdivision 6. Applicable laws. Except as otherwise provided by this section, all of the laws applicable to absentee ballots and absentee voters as well as any other applicable provisions of law as contained within the election laws of this state and specifically chapter 207, shall apply to the ballots handled by the absentee ballot precinct. It is intended by this section that an absentee ballot precinct may be established and that the provisions of this section are to be supplementary to the election laws of this state."

The Voters Service chair of the Owatonna LWV sent in an excellent description of how the absentee ballot precinct works in her community:

"All absentee ballots were counted in a separate precinct. Ballots were delivered to precincts early in the day by the Postmaster. Each precinct then checked their ballots against registrations and applications. The accepted ballots were placed in a ballot box and picked up by the absentee ballot judges. (All ballots were accepted with either pre-registration or accompanying election day registrations.) The absentee judges were two from each major party - DFL and Independent-Republican. They spent 6½ hours picking up and counting the 400 (approximately) ballots. No entire ballots were disqualified, but in a very few cases, votes for a particular candidate were disqualified. These same judges had served by two (one from each party) to go to rest homes, hospitals and homes of individuals who could not come to the polls. These were done from about 10 days before the election through the day prior to the election."

Leagues may want to thoroughly explore this option with their local election officials. Setting up an absentee ballot precinct can reduce the number of hours spent by election judges after the polls close by eliminating this time-consuming job at each precinct.

Judges' Working Conditions

A good rapport with local election officials can be most helpful in obtaining better working conditions for election judges. Adequate lighting, space for tables for election day registration, more voting booths, more judges - all these were mentioned as necessary by at least one-half of all judges surveyed. Judges also reported less than one-half

hour for meals and, in some instances, no break time at all. Additional judges to handle election day registration in college towns and in larger precincts were also needed.

The need for better - in many cases, larger - precinct boundary maps was mentioned often. Local Leagues could take on a project to design a larger map of all the polling locations in the city.

### Training of Election Judges

The training of election judges was another area that received a lot of comment. These comments ranged from "great" to "a waste of time." The quality of training is where the problems arise. Leagues might want to consider becoming involved in this training area. Could the instructor be heard? Were there visual aids? Was there an actual demonstration of the balloting method (paper, machine, electronic)? Was the absentee ballot procedure completely covered? Were the judges taught how to properly register new voters? Judges from the larger cities requested smaller groups in the training sessions; experienced judges - those who had worked at over ten elections - requested a refresher course, rather than an extended session, starting with "this is a voting machine." A more detailed session would then be offered to new judges and those with less experience.

All election judges should be knowledgeable in all areas: election day registration, opening the machines, verifying and counting absentee ballots, and so on. This would make it easier to rotate jobs during the course of a long day. Judges should also be made aware of and given a copy of election law changes that directly affect them.

Good rapport with local election officials is necessary to achieve many if not all of these recommendations. Start now to get to know those who are in charge of elections in your community. Most likely they will be pleased to have the League's help in making election day run smoothly.

### PROPOSED ELECTION LAW CHANGES

Many of the comments made would require election law changes. The state committee will set up a meeting with the Secretary of State prior to the beginning of the 1980 legislative session to discuss possible changes. The areas that will be included in this discussion are: redistricting; allowing shifts of judges to work in precincts that use paper, machine and electronic systems; minimum wage for all judges, plus extra compensation for the chief judge; requiring printed name as well as signature on absentee ballot envelope; printing absentee ballots sooner; having a central location for election day registration; and having enough instruction books for all judges.

When election day registration first began in Minnesota, state funding to the municipalities was provided by the Legislature to help defray the cost. Since then, the state funding has been used up. However, more and more people are making use of election day registration, thus increasing the cost of elections for the municipalities. Additional and ongoing state funding for election day registration should be made available statewide.

At the end of each legislative session, the Secretary of State's Office issues a memorandum listing all the election law changes that passed during that session and were signed by the Governor. Included with this publication are some of the 1978 changes that may directly affect election judges. The 1979 changes will be sent out to each League when they become available.

A monitoring guide and checklist are included. (See pages 7-9.) You may want to develop a more detailed list to suit your needs. Another idea, borrowed from the LWV of Pennsylvania, could also be used. Using bulk mail, send one "poll watcher" postcard to each registered voter before election day. Each voter would then leave his/her checked card in a box at the polling place after voting. You would then end up with citizen participation in monitoring the 1980 election. A sample postcard is included (see page 9).

Included in this guide, to the extent possible, is a compilation of survey returns, both the election officials survey and the election judges survey. Each League will also be sent a copy of the tabulated results of both of these surveys from their area. You will want to use the results in talks with your local election officials to correct local problems. Some Leagues have already done this and have reported that their local election officials were receptive to discussing common concerns.

### MONITORING GUIDE

These are suggestions for local League action. First, go over your own League's tally sheets (to be sent to each participating League) to pinpoint problem areas; then use the applicable sections of this guide. After monitoring, go to your election officials with the results and work together for improvements.

#### Election Judge Training:

All county auditors are required to provide training for election judges or to delegate this responsibility to municipal elections officials. The Secretary of State will be proposing new rules for this training, including a requirement to provide training in every election year.

#### Observe a training session

Sessions vary from a meeting of 300 in a lecture hall to a private interview with the city clerk.

#### Things to Notice

- A. Physical arrangements: Can the judges see, hear? Is there space for all?
- B. Decorum: Are the judges listening? Do they arrive and leave on time?
- C. Attendance: Are judges required to attend? If so, how often? How do election officials check attendance? Are judges paid for attending?
- D. Presentation of material: Is written material available? If so, do judges get it beforehand or at the session? Is the oral presentation clear? What areas does it cover or leave out? Are visual aids used? Can judges see and/or handle the appropriate machines? Can judges conveniently ask questions? Is any discussion allowed or encouraged?
- E. New judges: Are any special arrangements made for training of new judges?

#### Action

Develop a list of suggestions for improvement. Then sit down with your election officials and work together for implementation. You know not to expect instant cooperation. Budget, time, space, and "we've always done it this way" attitudes have to be taken into account. Here is a spot for real Voters Service creativity. Some Leagues in other states contract for doing the actual training. Others have used Education Fund money to prepare training films and other visual aids. Properly trained judges lead to a more efficient, hassle-free election day for all voters.

#### Pre-Registration:

Every Minnesota county maintains a permanent registration file. Qualified persons may register by card up to twenty days before an election, except in the twelve counties that have only election day registration.

#### Location

How many places are used for registration? Is it accessible, centrally located? Are notices posted? Is there handicapped access, parking?

#### Hours

Are hours convenient for working people? Are they extended during the week before the twenty-day deadline?



Election Survey/Monitoring Guide - 8  
Registration Staff and Procedures

Are there enough staff people? Are they impartial and helpful?

Polling Place:

Either use the voters' checklist (see page 9.) or develop your own. Suggested items to observe:

Polling Place: Is it clearly marked? Are parking and access for the handicapped available? Are there enough voting machines?

Election Judges: Are there enough? Are they helpful, impartial?

Judges' Working Conditions: Are telephones and rest rooms convenient? Are there problems with heat, light, space and noise?

Casting the Ballot: Is instruction available? Is there help for illiterate and handicapped voters?

Electioneering: Are voters free from interference in the polling place? Is loitering discouraged?

Closing of the Polls: Is it done on time? Are machines sealed properly? Is there ballot security?

Counting: Where is it done? Who can watch? Are there any irregularities?

Election Day Registration:

Before Election Day: Is information on identification requirements for election day registration available in newspapers, on radio and TV?

At the polls: Observe both "problem" precincts such as those located near colleges as well as "normal" precincts. Are identification requirements posted? Is there a map of the precinct posted? Are there two lines, clearly marked, for election day registration and voting? Is a sample, filled-in, registration card available? Do judges have maps or information on nearby precincts so they can properly re-direct people who have come to the wrong polling place?

After Election Day:

After the excitement at City Hall has died down, ask questions on election day registration follow-up:

How many election day registrations were received? Which precincts had the most?

How many cards were sent within two days of the election to verify residence?

How many were returned as not being deliverable?

When were the rest of the verification cards sent? How many were returned?

What did the election officials do with the returned cards?

Action:

Based on your monitoring, develop a list of suggestions. Some will require changes in state law or regulation. Send these to the LWVMN Voters Service chair. The state League in turn will keep you up to date on any new laws or regulations. Many, however, can be dealt with on a local level to make election day registration proceed more smoothly and fairly.

VOTERS CHECK LIST

BE A CITIZEN POLL WATCHER WHEN YOU VOTE\*

Was there a sample ballot posted?	YES	NO
Were all campaigners and campaign literature at least 100 feet from the polling place?	YES	NO
If voting machines were used, was there a demonstration machine or model available so you could have instructions on how to use the machine?	YES	NO
If you had a demonstration, was it non-partisan?	YES	NO
Did you sign a Voters Certificate?	YES	NO
Was your signature compared with the one in the file?	YES	NO
**Was your name recorded in the registered list of voters?	YES	NO
Were there cards of instructions and penalties posted in the entry area, outside of the voting area?	YES	NO
**Was a list of people who had cast absentee ballots kept?	YES	NO
Were there only authorized people behind the officials' table?	YES	NO
Was a map of all precincts in your city or township posted?	YES	NO

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\*From "Making A Difference," LWVUS #330. Borrowed from LWV of Pennsylvania.

\*\*These questions apply only in certain areas.



QUESTIONS FOR ELECTION OFFICIALSAbout the municipality:

## Population

Number of registered voters: 1,087,101  
 Number of votes cast in 1976 primary: 243,148  
 Number of votes cast in 1976 general election: 955,680  
 Ballots used: [Check appropriate one(s)]  
                   Electronic 7  
                   Machine 20  
                   Paper 25  
 Number of precincts: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number of registered voters in largest precinct: Paper 2160 Machine 3425 Electronic 4200  
 Number of registered voters in smallest precinct: Paper 33 Machine 82 Electronic 13

About the judges:

- Total number of judges working at 1976 general election: 6,743  
 Total number of judges working at 1976 primary election: 5,632
- Number of judges working at last election at the  
   largest precinct: \_\_\_\_\_  
   smallest precinct: \_\_\_\_\_
- Are judges assigned on the basis of the number of registered voters in a precinct? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
 On anticipated voters? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
 If yes, how many judges were used per 150 registered voters at the last election? \_\_\_\_\_
- Are judges assigned on the basis of the number of voting machines used in a precinct? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
 If yes, how many judges were used per machine? \_\_\_\_\_  
 How many machines were used per 150 registered voters? \_\_\_\_\_
- Were extra judges assigned on November 2, 1976, because of election day registration? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
 If yes, how many extra were assigned to each precinct? \_\_\_\_\_
- Salary: What is your compensation schedule for election judges?  
           Hourly wage \$ 2.00-5.00 - range  
           Flat wage per election \$ 15.00-45.00 - range  
           Extra compensation for:  
               transportation \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
               training session attendance \$ 1.00-6.00 - range  
               being chairman of precinct \$ 1.00-5.00 - range  
               other \_\_\_\_\_
- Do you have a mandatory retirement age of judges? Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_  
 If so, what? \_\_\_\_\_ Only in 1st class cities (Minneapolis, St. Paul, Duluth)

(more)

8. Do election judges in your municipality:
  - a. work in designated shifts (define)? Only in paper ballot precincts (25)
  - b. remain at the polling place from opening through counting completion?

Absentee ballots

1. How many absentee ballots were received in your municipality for the 1976 election? 28,517
2. Who delivered the absentee ballots to the polling place? Mailman or local election official
3. What time of day were the absentee ballots delivered?  
7:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon ) During the course of the day  
12:00 noon - 8:00 p.m. )   
After 8:00 p.m.

Election day registration and follow-up

Questions to ask city clerks (or county auditor)

1. How many voters registered on election day at the last Presidential election (November 2, 1976)? 156,014
2. What per cent of your total registration is that number?
3. Was there any evidence of fraud, cheating or double voting? Yes  No X  
If yes, please explain. Three municipalities reported 3 instances, 1 in each municipality.
4. Do you agree with any of these statements:
  - a) Election judges are more used to election day registration now and accept it as part of their job. Yes  No
  - b) Election judges resent election day registration. Yes  No
  - c) Election day registration is so time-consuming that it seriously interferes with the real purpose of the day, which is voting. Yes  No
5. What per cent of election day registrations is done incorrectly? 1% to 45% range  
Have you done an analysis of reasons? Yes  No   
[Check if applicable]  
Wrong precinct or ward Most often mentioned  
Incorrect information on card   
Not filling in required information 2nd reason mentioned
6. What follow-up do you do on election day registrations?
  - a) Pull former registration card if registrant moved within the city?
  - b) Notify other city if voter moved from out of town?
  - c) If your city is notified that a voter registered in another location, do you check to be sure s/he didn't also vote in your location?
  - d) If you are notified that a voter has registered in another location, do you remove that voter's registration card from your files?

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 555 Wabasha, St. Paul, Minnesota 55102 - January 1978

LWV of \_\_\_\_\_

Legislative District \_\_\_\_\_

Precincts covered \_\_\_\_\_

QUESTIONS FOR JUDGES

After the 1978 State Election

About the judges

1. Age: 18 - 30 \_\_\_\_\_ 30 - 50 \_\_\_\_\_ 50 - 65 \_\_\_\_\_ over 65 \_\_\_\_\_  
Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_
2. Were you the chairman (chief judge) at your precinct? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
3. How many hours did you work (number of hours between time of arrival and time of departure)? \_\_\_\_\_
4. How often have you served as an election judge?  
1st time \_\_\_\_\_ 2 - 5 times \_\_\_\_\_ 6 - 10 times \_\_\_\_\_ 10-20 times \_\_\_\_\_  
over 20 times \_\_\_\_\_
5. Were you an emergency appointee at this election? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
If yes, how many hours' notice were you given? \_\_\_\_\_
6. How did you first come to be an election judge (check one)?  
volunteer \_\_\_\_\_ appointed on an emergency basis \_\_\_\_\_  
asked to serve by your political party \_\_\_\_\_  
asked to serve by city or town council \_\_\_\_\_  
other \_\_\_\_\_

Absentee ballots

1. How many absentee ballots were received in your precinct? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Who delivered the absentee ballots to your polling place?  
city staff? \_\_\_\_\_ mailman? \_\_\_\_\_  
other? (who) \_\_\_\_\_
3. What time of day were absentee ballots delivered?  
7:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon \_\_\_\_\_ 12:00 noon - 8:00 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_  
after 8:00 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Did your precinct receive any absentee ballots that should have been sent elsewhere? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
What happened to them?  
Forwarded to the correct precinct? \_\_\_\_\_ Thrown out? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Did your precinct fail to receive ballots you should have? Explain. \_\_\_\_\_
6. Who counts the absentee ballots: chief judge? \_\_\_\_\_ any judge? \_\_\_\_\_  
judges at special location? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Did your precinct void any absentee ballots due to errors? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
Reasons: improper verification \_\_\_\_\_  
wrong ballot \_\_\_\_\_  
sent to wrong precinct \_\_\_\_\_  
other \_\_\_\_\_

### Training

1. Did you attend a training session? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
 How long? 1 hour \_\_\_\_\_ 2 hours \_\_\_\_\_ over 2 hours \_\_\_\_\_  
 Were you paid? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ If you were, how much? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Were you paid mileage? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
2. Did you attend a training session before the primary and/or before the general election? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Please specify.  
 Who was in charge of the training session: city clerk? \_\_\_\_\_  
 county auditor? \_\_\_\_\_  
 chief election judge? \_\_\_\_\_  
 other (who)? \_\_\_\_\_
3. During the training session, were you instructed in:  
 Election day registration? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
 How to use electronic machine? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
     by demonstration? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
     by lecture without demonstration? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
 How to use the voting machine? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
     by demonstration? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
     by lecture without demonstration? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
 How to "use" paper ballot? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
     by demonstration? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
     by lecture without demonstration? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
 Were you taught what to look for in determining the legality of absentee ballots? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Were you given material to take home to study? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
5. If you did not attend a training session, did you have a personal conference with the appointing authority? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
 How? Phone \_\_\_\_\_ In person \_\_\_\_\_
6. How close to the election was the training session held:  
 within one week? \_\_\_\_\_ within two weeks? \_\_\_\_\_ over two weeks? \_\_\_\_\_

### Election day registration and follow-up

Do you agree with any of these statements:

- a) Election judges are more used to election day registration now and accept it as part of their job. Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
- b) Election judges resent election day registration. Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
- c) Election day registration is so time consuming that it seriously interferes with the real purpose of the day, which is voting. Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

### Suggestions for improvement

Do you have any suggestions for improvement in:

training of election judges?  
 working conditions?  
 enforcement of election laws?  
 absentee ballot procedure?  
 availability of city staff for help?  
 other?

ELECTION JUDGES SURVEY RESULTS  
(Final Tabulation)

Returns:			
<u>About the Judges</u>	<u>Metro</u>	<u>Non-Metro</u>	<u>Both</u>
# Leagues	17	17	34
# Judges who were interviewed (or filled out surveys)	459 (51%)	444 (49%)	903
# Chief judges	199 (44%)	93 (21%)	292
Age - 18-30	11	9	20
30-50	172	196	368
50-65	162	178	340
over 65	47	62	109
Male	25 (6%)	126 (30%)	151
Female	360	294	654 (81%)
Frequency - 1st time	18	19	
2-5 times	114	142	
6-10 times	78	104	
10-20 times	115	69	
over 20	122 (27%)	103 (24%)	
Emergency appointee at this election? Yes	3	9	
How came to be judge?			
Emergency	13 (3%)	17 (4%)	
Political party	50 (11%)	28 (7%)	
City or town council	121 (27%)	263 (64%)	
Volunteer or "other"	258 (58%)	102 (25%)	
<u>Absentee ballots</u>		<u>Metro</u>	<u>Non-Metro</u>
Absentee ballots per precinct - highest reported		280 (Edina)	110 (Austin)
Absentee ballots delivered after 8:00 p.m.		6	3
Precincts which received absentee ballots that should have been sent elsewhere			
Forwarded		39	21
Thrown out or other		5	0
Precincts which failed to receive ballots (i.e., had appli- cations but no ballots; ballots but no applications; empty ballot envelopes)		52	16
		(can't tell if this means 52 precincts or 52 ballots; truth is probably somewhere between.)	
Who counts absentee ballots?			
Judges at polling place (# of Leagues)		14	16
Absentee ballot judges at polls		1	0
Absentee ballot judges at absentee ballot precinct		2	1
# precincts where absentee ballots are voided		114	53
Reasons given for voiding of absentee ballots (# of ballots)			
Improper verification		67	27
Wrong ballot		10	1
Wrong precinct		7	5
Voted for several candidates for same office		2	2
Not witnessed		3	3



	<u>Metro</u>	<u>Non-Metro</u>
Not signed	3	4
Not registered	4	11
No application	5	4
Deceased before election day	-	3
Other	19	6
(27 different reasons given)		
Total	121	66

Training

# Judges who did <u>not</u> attend training	8	67
# Areas where judges were <u>not</u> paid for training	1	4

Election Day Registration-Opinion Poll

Agree with following statements:

a) Election judges are more used to election day registration now and accept it as part of their job	YES	312	271
	NO	41 (12%)	50 (16%)
b) Election judges resent election day registration	YES	158	83
	NO	176 (53%)	217 (72%)
c) Election day registration is so time-consuming that it seriously interferes with voting	YES	195	100
	NO	155 (44%)	206 (67%)

ELECTION LAW CHANGES: 1978 Legislative Session

Listed below are some of the election law changes that occurred in the 1978 session. These changes do affect judges in some areas.

Relates to city and town elections. Clarifies township election procedures including hours for voting. Establishes procedures in city and township elections for filing for office, printing election supplies, and publication and posting of sample ballots. Effective March 24, 1978.

Provides safeguards against improper voter registration and casting of absentee ballots. Provides rule-making authority to the secretary of state to: design absentee ballot forms (including a temporary rule to establish a proof of residence in the absentee voter's certificate form) and establishes a program for training of election judges by county auditors. Eliminates appointments of election judges in cities of the first class from civil service lists.

Requires emergency training of election judges who are appointed after the polls are open and no regularly trained judges are available. Requires that all election judges receive training, except that in precincts in which fewer than 100 persons voted in the last general election only two election judges of different political parties need to receive training.

Provides that the secretary of state shall determine the distribution of the election law book.

Provides that persons who register to vote by having their residence proven by another registered voter in the precinct may not attest to the residency of voters on that election day. Requires election judges in charge of voter regis-



tration to attempt to keep a record of the number of persons who attempt to register on election day but who cannot provide the proper proof of residence. Provides that registrations deficient because an individual who provided proof of residence was ineligible to do so shall not be considered deficient, and the name of the voter shall be added to the registration system.

Provides for the return delivery of absentee ballots by one of the following methods:

- (a) by mail to the county auditor or municipal clerk who sent the ballots to the voter and delivery by the auditor or clerk to the judges;
- (b) by mail to the clerk of the town or city in which the absent voter is eligible to vote and delivery by that clerk to the judges;
- (c) by mail directly to the judges of election; or
- (d) any other method approved by the rules of the secretary of state.

Requires that the auditor or municipal clerk affix sufficient postage to return envelopes to assure their delivery on election day. When ballots are to be delivered to the municipal clerk from residents of health care facilities and hospitals, the clerk shall provide for the delivery of the ballots to the precincts. Requires the secretary of state to provide rules establishing the procedures for delivery of absentee ballots and for timely delivery of ballots by the United States postal service and may authorize additional methods and procedures of return.

Provides that a voter who has marked absentee ballots in person of the auditor or municipal clerk may leave the ballots with that officer who shall cause them to be delivered to the polling place.

Alters administration of absentee ballot precincts by requiring the absentee ballot precinct to receive from each precinct the ballot envelopes marked "Received" and to report the vote totals of the absentee ballots to each respective precinct. The absentee ballot precinct shall still open and count the absentee ballots. Effective March 29, 1978.

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