Finance Office



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July 27, 2022

Board of County Commissioners Cass County Government 211 9th Street South Fargo ND 58103

Re: Polling Locations/Polling Hours/Early Voting Precincts

Dear Commissioners:

Following the recent redistricting by the North Dakota Legislature, precinct boundaries were presented and approved at the December 20, 2021st Commission meeting. Pursuant to N.D.C.C. §16.1-04-02, polling locations must be established by the board of county commissioners no later than the sixty-fourth day before an election. The 64th day falls on Labor Day making the next business day, September 6th, the sixty-fourth day before the November 8th general election.

Cass County is comprised of 11 legislative districts which are divided into 34 precincts. Consistent with the 2020 General Election, we plan to utilize vote centers for both early voting and election day. Vote centers contain every precinct within the county which allows a qualified elector the choice of casting a ballot at any polling place they choose so long as it is located within Cass County.

Our initial goal for the upcoming general election was to spread out among both rural and metro Cass County to help ensure that lineups are kept to a minimum; however, choosing the ideal polling locations have posed a challenge this summer. We have run into scheduling conflicts at some locations and a few locations were not comfortable with us utilizing their venue for the election. Historically, 60% of voters attend a polling location on election day, 31% of voters utilize early voting and 13% vote via absentee ballot. If historical averages hold true, we can expect to see approximately 45,000 voters walk through our vote centers on election day alone.

Early Voting

Taking into consideration availability and anticipated needs, we are recommending that 5 early voting locations be open from **10:00 am to 6:00 pm** each day of the week preceding election day. Four locations will service the Fargo/West Fargo metropolitan area and one location to service the rural areas:

Early Voting Locations (Oct 31 to Nov 4; 10:00 am to 6:00 pm):

- 1. Fargo Dome, 1800 N University Dr N, Fargo
- 2. West Acres Mall Community Corner, 3902 13th Ave S, Fargo
- 3. Northview Church, 3401 25th St S, Fargo

- 4. Hartl Ag Building RRVF, 1805 Main Ave W, West Fargo
- 5. Casselton Days Inn, 2050 Governor's Dr, Casselton

Election Day

Preparation for election day included budgeting for 10 vote center locations. After reviewing potential vote center locations, the coverage provided for Cass County electors, and historical turnout numbers, we are recommending opening 10 vote center locations on election day 2022. Election day operating hours will be from **7:00 am to 7:00 pm**, which maintains consistency with other counties in the state of North Dakota. Of the 10 vote centers we have secured, 7 will service the Fargo/West Fargo metropolitan area and 3 locations have been chosen to service rural electors. Please refer to the attached map for a location view of the election day vote centers.

Election Day Locations (November 8th, 2022; 7:00 am to 7:00 pm)

- 1. **Fargo Dome**, 1800 N University Dr N, Fargo
- 2. Fargo Civic Center, 207 4th St N, Fargo
- 3. West Acres Mall Center Court, 3902 13th Ave S, Fargo
- 4. Northview Church, 3401 25th St S, Fargo
- 5. Atonement Lutheran Church, 4601 S University Dr, Fargo
- 6. Hartl Ag Building RRVF, 1805 Main Ave W, West Fargo
- 7. Calvary United Methodist Church, 4575 45th St S, Fargo
- 8. Horace Fire & Rescue Event Center, 413 Main St
- 9. Casselton Days Inn, 2050 Governor's Dr, Casselton
- 10. Arthur Community Hall, 550 Main St., Arthur

The Finance Office intends to work closely with the Public Information Coordinator to develop a communication strategy that includes, but is not limited to, mail inserts, website announcements, social media posts, and press releases as we move closer to election day.

Sincerely,

Brandy Madrigga

Cass County Finance Director

SUGGESTED MOTION:

Move to approve the Early Voting and November General Election Polling locations, dates, and hours as presented by the Finance Office.

Enc: Polling Location Maps