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Appendix A

Basic Information about Wisconsin's Statewide Voter Registration System

SVRS Overview

The Statewide Voter Registration System (SVRS) is a tool that is used to manage and administer voter records and election events statewide. It is used by local election official at the municipality, county and state levels. The SVRS includes many features including:

- Voter Registration Records
- Transferring Voter Records between jurisdictions
- Addresses
- Relationships between addresses and districts (address ranges)
- Districts
- Annexations and Mergers
- Statewide Duplicate Checking
- Statewide and Local election tracking and management
- Absentee ballots
- Provisional Ballots
- Public website for voters to check registration information
- Contests up for election
- Candidates running for office
- Office Holders
- Form letters and other standardized mailings and labels
- Standard reports
- Customization of standard reports
- Poll Books
- Tracking voters' participation in elections
- Polling locations
- Poll Workers
- Compare voter registration records to felony records
- Compare voter registrations to deceased records
- Validate voter names and other identifying information with Driver License records

Information Available in SVRS

SVRS contains data relating to each of these functions. While not an encompassing list, this section is intended to provide an overview of the data that is available in SVRS related to voter registration and election management.

Voter Information

In addition to the information provided on the standard Electors with Participation report, the SVRS contains several additional data elements such as:

- Date of Birth (confidential)
- Drive License # (confidential)

- Any assistance requested (confidential)
- Preferred language
- Phone number
- Flag for Poll Worker interest
- Flag for federal voter
- Protection Scheme, confidential ID #, confidentiality request date, protective order expiration date, change reason
- Batch name (if registrations were processed in a batch)
- Prior jurisdiction (if the voter was transferred)
- Voter Application Source (e.g., election day registration, clerks office, mail)
- Are you a US Citizen?
- Are you 18 years or older?
- Proof of residence provided when registering (if applicable)
- Is ID Required?
- HAVA Check date, method, and result
- Prior names
- Voter comments
- History of activity related to that voter record such as mailings that have been sent, changes made to the voter record, merges or un-merges performed
- Office holders for the districts in which the voter resides
- History of all elections the voter has participated in, and the vote method (e.g. absentee, at polls)
- A history of all the times the voter has registered or changed their status

Absentee Information

Municipalities have the option of using SVRS to track their absentee voters. For the municipalities that track their absentees in SVRS, the following information is available:

- Absentee application type (e.g. permanent, hospitalized, military)
- Date of absentee application
- Specific election(s) or date range for which absentee ballots are requested
- Mailing address for the absentee ballot (if different from the voter's normal address)
- Nursing home and special voting deputy (if applicable)
- Comments
- Absentee ballots issued to that voter, including the election, ballot status (e.g. returned, cancelled), date the ballot was sent, date ballot was returned, the ballot style (which is determined by the combination of contests that apply to the voter based on their districts)

Election Information

- Election date
- Election type (e.g., spring election, partisan primary)
- Government level for the election (state, county or municipality level)
- Election description (i.e., the name of the election)
- Polling places used for that election
- Registration close date for the election

- Election status (active versus closed)
- A listing of election milestones and whether those milestones are complete within each municipality participating in the election (e.g., ballot styles finalized, poll books printed)
- A listing of the districts that are impacted by the election
- Votes that have been recorded for the election
- Contests that are included in the election (see below for more information)
- Candidates that are running for the contests included in the election (see below for more information)
- The ballot styles that are used in the election (the combination of contests that will appear on any given ballot based on the election districts included in the election)
- Provisional ballots issued for the election, including the date the ballot was issued, the provisional ballot number, and whether the ballot has been counted

Candidates

- Candidate's name
- Political party
- Election and contest that the candidate is running for
- Ballot position (the order in which the candidate will appear on the ballot)
- The Government Accountability Board tracking number for the candidate (which relates to campaign finance filings)
- The name as it will appear on the ballot
- Running Mate (if applicable)
- Date the candidate filed
- Status of the candidate filing (e.g., approved, pending, denied) and the status reason
- Wisconsin Election Campaign Fund (WECF) grant status (e.g., approved, denied) and the grant amount. (WECF grants only apply to state candidates)

Contests

- The election that the contest is affiliated with
- The contest description (i.e., the name of the contest)
- The office position to be filled by the contest (e.g., mayor)
- The ballot position for the contest (the order in which the contest appears on the ballot)
- The number of seats
- The jurisdiction level for the contest (state, county or municipality level)
- Indicator if the contest is a for/against (such as a referendum)
- Listing of the candidates that have filed for that contest
- Listing of the districts impacted by the contest

Election Workers

Municipalities have the option of tracking election workers in SVRS. The State also tracks Special Registration Deputies and municipal clerks as election workers. The following information for election workers is tracked in SVRS:

- Name of the election worker

- Date of Birth (confidential)
- Social Security number (confidential)
- Political Party (if applicable)
- Phone number
- Address
- Jurisdiction where the election worker serves
- Voter registration number and voter status (if applicable)
- Normal position (e.g., chief inspector)
- Normal ward
- Status of the election worker (e.g., available, unavailable)
- Special Registration Deputy (SRD) ID number (for Special Registration Deputies appointed by the State)
- SRD expiration date
- Listing of the training courses completed by the election worker (e.g., chief inspector training, municipal clerk training)

Polling Places

- Polling place description
- Address
- Status code (e.g., available, unavailable)
- Phone number
- Contact for that polling place
- Type of building (e.g., school, church)
- Comments regarding the polling place
- Wards normally voting at this location
- Municipality that uses the polling place
- Listing of elections in which the polling place was assigned, and the districts that were assigned to that polling place

District Types and Details

- District type (e.g., ward, congressional)
- Jurisdiction level for the district (state, county or municipality)
- Owner jurisdiction (i.e., the jurisdiction that is responsible for the district)
- District Description (the name of the district)
- Normal polling place for the district (used only for Wards)

District Combos

- Description of the district combo
- District Combo Code
- Listing of all of the specific districts that are affiliated with that district combo
- Date the district combo was created
- Expired flag for district combos that are no longer in use

Office Types and Office Holders

Municipalities and counties are encouraged to enter their current office holders, and new office holders after each election. The State enters all office holders for state and federal offices. The following information for office types and office holders is tracked into SVRS:

- Description of the office type (e.g., Circuit Court Judge)
- Description of the office position (e.g., Adams County Circuit Court Judge)
- The district that the office position is affiliated with
- Office holder name
- Term start and end date
- Flag if the officeholder is elected or appointed

Address Ranges

In addition to the information provided in the Address Ranges report, the SVRS contains several additional data elements such as:

- Alternate street names
- Alternate city names
- An indicator if the address range requires that a unit number be entered
- An indicator if the address range requires that a mailing address be entered
- Address range type (e.g., residential, commercial)

Jurisdictions

- Jurisdiction Description (the name of the jurisdiction)
- Jurisdiction level (state, county or municipality)
- Jurisdiction address (i.e. the official address of the jurisdiction, such as the town hall)
- Jurisdiction E-mail address
- Jurisdiction website
- Jurisdiction phone number
- Chief election official name
- Election official title (e.g. clerk, chair of election commissioners)
- Election official phone number
- HINDI number (unique identification number for all counties and municipalities, assigned by the Wisconsin Department of Administration)
- Parent jurisdiction (such as the county for a municipality)

Information available in SVRS in the future

SVRS also includes functionality that is available, but is not used at this time. We anticipate using this functionality in 2010:

- Reporting Units
- Election results

- Petitions (i.e., nomination papers)
- Milestones related to candidates' filing status (e.g., declaration of candidacy filed, nomination papers filed)
- Election workers that are assigned to a given election, and the history of elections in which an election worker has worked (optional)
- Election supplies (optional)
- Payments made to election workers or polling places (optional)
- Census tract and census block for address ranges (may be used for redistricting purposes)

Standard Data Extracts

The SVRS has several standard data extracts that can be purchased statewide at the standard pricing. The data is provided in Excel if the report is less than 64,000 records. If the extract contains more than 64,000 records, it is provided as a tab-delimited file which can then be imported into any standard database program.

1. **Electors with Participation** - Standard file of voters with participation in statewide election.
2. **Electors with Participation Added Fields** - Standard file that also notes presence of absentee applications and its type.
3. **Electors with Participation SRD-IDREQ** - Standard file that lists voters with ID required marked on their voter record who were registered by a Special Registration Deputy.
4. **Participation by Election Date** – File that lists participants in a specific election.
5. **Participation by Election Absentees** - Voters with absentee applications for a particular (upcoming) election.
6. **Permanent Absentees** – Lists the permanent absentee voters.
7. **Default Polling Places** – Lists the normal polling place for each ward.
8. **Wisconsin Polling Places** - Lists polling places tied to an upcoming election.
9. **Participation by Election Candidates** – Lists candidates in an upcoming election.
10. **Address Ranges** – Lists the address ranges in SVRS and the districts that are affiliated with each address range.