



Responding to a demand from Texas jurisdictions and TEAM users, Hart InterCivic piloted their electronic pollbook during the just-completed Constitutional Amendment Election. Three counties of varying sizes participated in the program. The goal of the pilot was to gauge poll worker and voter reaction to the new product as well as to:

- » Reduce voter check-in time
- » Provide error-free voter posting
- » Prompt poll workers with on-line instructions for special voters
- » Demonstrate an easy to use interface that was intuitive to all ages and skill levels
- » Synchronize data between Early Voting sites
- » Meld data from the TEAM voter registration system with election precinct data for accurate ballot styles
- » Facilitate timely upload of voter data into the TEAM system

Read about how Hunt, Randall, and Hays Counties each implemented Hart's ePollBook.



Hunt County, Texas

Election Administrator: Mina Cook

Registered Voters: 47,322 | **# Early Voters:** 898 | **Poll Worker Avg. Age:** 73



Hunt County piloted Hart's ePollBook during Early Voting. Like the majority of Texas counties, Hunt uses TEAM, the State provided voter registration system, to manage and update voter history. For both poll workers and TEAM administrators, the pilot succeeded on many levels.

Mina Cook, the Election Administrator of Hunt County, said, "My Early Voting workers love it and they have already told me 'Please don't make us go back.'" Mina has a loyal group of election judges who are the cornerstone of her highly successful election process. With an average age of

73, some of her election workers had never before touched a computer. Maybe it's the unimposing size of the Netbook, or the touch screen, or the large type and easy to follow interface, but Hart's ePollBook was easily mastered by the most novice of computer users. They all agreed that they never want to juggle the cumbersome paper poll books again.

Voter's in this rural community greeted the new check-in process with curiosity and praise. The overwhelming sentiment was expressed by one voter, "You have computers now. That's awesome." »»



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Randall County, Texas

County Clerk: Renee Calhoun | **Elections Deputy:** Shannon Lackey

Registered Voters: 75,929 | **# Early Voters:** 3,365 | **Poll Worker Avg. Age:** 75



Randall County piloted Hart's ePollBook at their two Early Voting sites which were about 20 miles apart. Using the County's existing Intranet they were able to securely connect the two locations, ensuring that no voter could check-in twice. Shannon Lackey, Randall's Election Deputy, also had the ePollBook software installed in her office. She especially liked having real-time posted voter counts right at her fingertips.

Renee Calhoun, the County Clerk, looks forward to seeing the finishing touches that are being added to the ePollBook. These features include printing posted voter reports directly from the ePollBook, as well

as the ability to mark voters when absentee ballots have been received during Early Voting. This will relieve some of the pre-Election Day stress common during the transition from Early Voting to Election Day.

Poll workers in Randall County face the same challenges as poll workers throughout the country, cumbersome paper voter rolls and writer's cramp at the end of a long Election Day. One poll worker commented, "The ePollBook allows me to process voters without aggravating my arthritis by writing with a pen all day."



Hays County, Texas

Election Administrator: Joyce Cowan

Registered Voters: 92,584 | **# Early Voters:** 949 | **# Election Day Voters:** 217 | **Poll Worker Avg. Age:** 55+



Hays County was the largest pilot site with a voter roll of 92,584. Two of the County's six Early Voting sites were networked over the public Internet, so each site maintained real-time information on voting activity at the two polls. The ePollBook data is securely encrypted so that a simple Internet connection is all that is required for synchronization.

Hays County poll workers, equipped with voter registration card scanners and driver's license magnetic strip readers, found the ePollBook easy to use and a great alternative to the legacy paper-based system. Even when scanners could not read some of the

older well-worn voter registration cards or recently issued driver's licenses with new magnetic strip data, there was always an alternate look-up method that was much faster than thumbing through reams of printed poll book paper. (All drivers' licenses will be readable in the December release.)

Hays also used an ePollBook for one Election Day site with equally good results. As was the case with Early Voting, at the end of voter posting, an export "voter history update" file was successfully created. Once fully implemented, the County need only upload the export file directly into TEAM for error-free and timely recording of voter credit.