Item 14 3/29/2022

Scott County Auditor's Office Auditor Kerri Tompkins 600 W. 4<sup>TH</sup> Street Davenport, Iowa 52801 Ph: (563) 326-8631 Fax: (563) 326-8601 www.scottcountyiowa.gov



To: Scott County Board of SupervisorsFrom: Kerri Tompkins, Scott County AuditorRe: Pay Rates for Precinct Election Officials

Date: March 29, 2022

My office is requesting to increase the pay rate for precinct election officials (PEOs) beginning with the June 7, 2022 Primary Election cycle. The request is to increase chairperson pay to \$15.00 per hour; regular PEO pay to \$12.50 per hour; and on-call pay to \$10.00 per hour.

All PEOs work 15 hours or more on election days and attend four hours of training before each election. Precinct chair persons also transport election documents and equipment, and occasionally attend additional extra training, adding one to four hours of additional time. Our PEOs need to know how to operate the Precinct Atlas electronic poll book, operate our election equipment, and understand increasingly complex laws and procedures regarding the conduct of elections. They deal with a variety of voter issues and do so with respect and professionalism.

For this expertise we currently pay our precinct chairs \$12.00 per hour and other PEOs \$10.00 per hour, plus mileage. The last time they had a regular pay raise was in 2018, although wages for all workers were temporarily increased to \$15 per hour during the 2020 election cycle to encourage their work during the pandemic. This wage level is not adequate to attract and retain sufficient numbers of precinct officials, especially quality workers who can fulfill all of the increasing complex tasks expected of them.

There is adequate funding within the current year budget to accommodate the pay increase. The Local Elections category of the budget has a remaining balance of \$47,397 for PEO wages as the City of Davenport primary election was only for the 7th Ward. This amount could be shifted to the Election Administration category which covers primary elections. I have consulted with the Budget Director and he said this change in categories can be made during the May budget amendment process.

I plan to attend the March 29th Committee of the Whole meeting and would be happy to answer your questions.

THE COUNTY AUDITOR'S SIGNATURE CERTIFIES THAT THIS RESOLUTION HAS BEEN FORMALLY APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ON \_\_\_\_\_\_.

DATE

SCOTT COUNTY AUDITOR

## RESOLUTION

## SCOTT COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

March 31, 2022

## RESOLUTION TO INCREASE THE RATES OF PAY FOR PRECINCT ELECTION OFFICIALS

WHEREAS, Scott County's precinct election officials conduct our elections with the utmost integrity, and thereby protect and promote the public trust and confidence in the democratic process, and,

WHEREAS, Scott County's precinct election officials ensure safe, accurate and efficient voting processes, and,

WHEREAS, the efforts of Scott County's precinct election officials allow all Scott County voters to cast their ballots privately and independently, and,

WHEREAS, the pay rates for precinct election officials has not increased since 2018,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Scott County Board of Supervisors as follows:

Section 1. The rate of pay for precinct chair persons shall increase to \$15.00 per hour.

Section 2. The rate of pay for precinct election officials shall increase to \$12.50 per hour.

Section 3. The rate of pay for on-call precinct election officials shall increase to \$10.00 per hour.

Section 4. This resolution shall take effect for the June 7, 2022 Primary Election.