MICHIGAN BUREAU OF ELECTIONS

MAMC 2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE PROP 2022-2 IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE

JUNE 15, 2023

PROPOSAL 2022-2: CHANGES TO ELECTION PROCESS
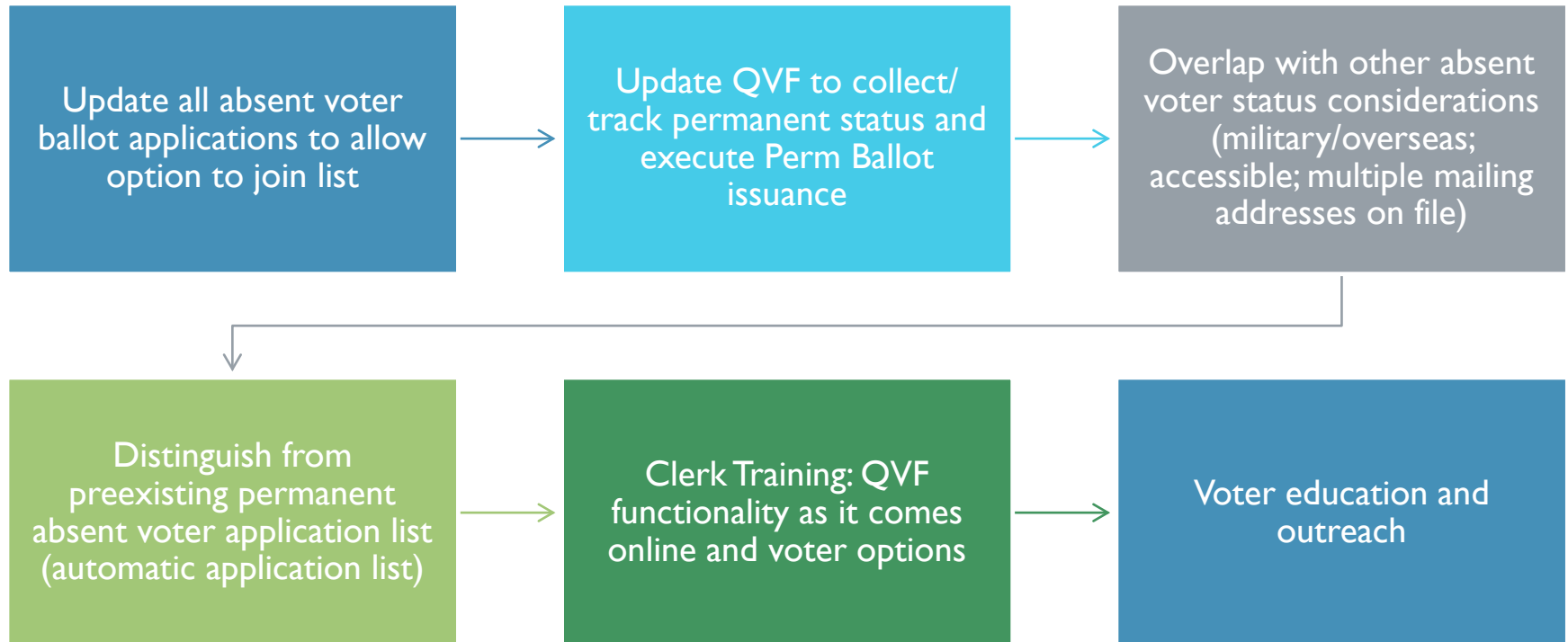
- Permanent absent voter (mail ballot) list
- Prepaid return postage for absent voter applications and ballots
- Absent voter ballot drop boxes
- Early in-person voting

PROPOSAL 2022-2: PERMANENT BALLOT LISTS KEY IMPLEMENTATION STEPS

Update all absent voter ballot applications to allow option to join list

Update QVF to collect/track permanent status and execute Perm Ballot issuance

Overlap with other absent voter status considerations (military/overseas; accessible; multiple mailing addresses on file)

Distinguish from preexisting permanent absent voter application list (automatic application list)

Clerk Training: QVF functionality as it comes online and voter options

Voter education and outreach

Prepaid postage requires design changes to applications and ballot envelopes for optimal implementation

Jurisdiction mailing practices vary widely (manual mail delivery vs. mail service providers and print vendors)

United States Postal Service and application/envelope print vendor approval and design process can take many months.

State mailing permits are in process, but prepaid postage still required. BOE will work with jurisdictions to reimburse return postage cost where permits unavailable.

PRE-PAID POSTAGE: KEY IMPLEMENTATION STEPS

PROPOSAL 2022-2: ABSENT VOTER BALLOT DROP BOXES

All voters have right to state-funded absent voter ballot drop boxes

Each municipality must have at least one drop box, and one for every 15,000 registered voters

Drop boxes must accept absent voter applications and ballots, be available 24/7, and be distributed equitably

Required for all elections

PROPOSAL 2022-2: ABSENT VOTER BALLOT DROP BOXES

State-funded drop boxes

ions > Election administrator information

Fully funded absentee ballot drop boxes are now available to all municipalities in Michigan

Per the passage of Proposal 2022-02, the State of Michigan will provide at least one fully funded drop box to each municipality in Michigan.

Election administrators may select any model from one of the three absentee voter (AV) drop box vendors. All orders must be made using the Michigan Bureau of Elections (BOE).

Absentee ballot drop box order form

Drop box decals and graphics

State-funded ballot boxes will use a standard graphics design for uniform appearance. Municipalities may customize the boxes with their jurisdiction's name but should avoid covering any words on the boxes.

Graphics will be pre-applied to Kingsley and American Security Cabinets models.

The following images show the general appearance of the graphics. The actual appearance may vary slightly on the

PROPOSAL 2022-2: ABSENT VOTER BALLOT DROP BOXES

ABSENT VOTER BALLOT DROP BOXES: IMPLEMENTATION KEY STEPS

- Statewide purchase of drop boxes represents a substantial procurement effort; vendor capability to produce at scale and timeline on going

- Previous drop box chain of custody procedures passed by legislature late 2022 still in effect.

- Drop box guidance and procedures up to date in eLearning Center as of October 2022.

PROPOSAL 2022-2: EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING

- All voters have right to 9+ days of early in-person voting (at minimum, second Saturday before election through Sunday before election)

- Only required for state/federal elections. Optional for local/special elections

- Early in-person voting is polling-place style voting (voters put ballots through tabulator), not in-person absentee voting

- Ballots are tabulated but tabulator reports are not run/results generated until election night

- Municipalities within a county may share early voting sites hosted by municipality or county

EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING: KEY IMPLEMENTATION STEPS

Programming of voting equipment

Clerk and poll worker training, including retention and management of voted ballots at combined precinct sites

Early voting electronic poll book/voter check-in tool

Logistics and resources to support and staff appropriate and accessible early voting sites for 9+ days

Public education and outreach

EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING: NEEDED FOR IMPLEMENTATION

- Lean Process Improvement Study (LPI) on going by Michigan Bureau of Elections :

  - Clerk Survey *Completed*

  - Implementing Legislation *In Progress

  - Clerk Focus Groups *Coming in July

  - Training Material Updates *In Progress

  - Qualified Voter File Tool Build Out *In Progress

  - Training Programs for Clerks *September 2023 and beyond

  - Public Outreach *Fall 2023/Winter 2024

EARLY VOTING: CLERK SURVEY RESULTS

BOE received 651 responses to Early Voting Survey representing jurisdictions in 81 counties!

Key Feedback Themes:

- Expedited Training and Funding

- Cost concerns

- Smaller jurisdictions worried about resources and EV demand

- Desire to process (tabulate) AV ballots prior to Election Day

- Barriers exist for accessible and reliable high-speed Internet

- Desire for support and guidance on security and IT

- 58% of respondents expect election administrator turnover

- Apprehension about the increased complexity of election administration

EARLY VOTING: LPI KEY GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- Early Voting Pollbook Tool to have live connectivity

- Allow clerks to tabulate AV ballots during constitutionally mandated period of Early Voting

- Allow clerks to tabulate AV ballots before Election Day

- Establish state standards regarding chain of custody, opening/closing procedures, secure storage, and documentation for EV sites.

- Establish dedicated resource to redesign/update election related materials and documents (e.g. poll books, chain of custody docs, Apps to Vote, Ballot Container certificates, Voter Information Poster, etc.)

- Create comprehensive communication campaign to be utilized by clerks and BOE to educate voters of options.

EARLY VOTING PLANS

- Outlines for Plans:

  - 9 days of early voting, including at least 3 election workers for 72 hours each, equipment and space

  - Locations, Hours, Participating Jurisdictions

  - Countywide vs. Multi or Single Jurisdiction

  - Staffing

  - Equipment, ballot, documentation security

  - Hosting jurisdiction/Lead jurisdiction

QUESTIONS??

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