Notice of Spring Election and Presidential Preference Vote and Sample Ballots

April 5, 2016

OFFICE OF THE COLUMBIA COUNTY CLERK

TO THE VOTERS OF COLUMBIA COUNTY:

Notice is hereby given of a spring election and a Presidential Preference Vote to be held in Columbia County on April 5, 2016, at which the officers named below shall be chosen. The names of the candidates for each office to be voted for, whose nominations have been certified to or filed in this office, are given under the title of the office, each in its proper column, together with the questions submitted to a vote, for a referendum, if any, in the sample ballot below.

INFORMATION TO VOTERS

Upon entering the polling place, a voter shall state his or her name and address, show an acceptable form of photo identification and sign the poll book before being permitted to vote. If a voter is not registered to vote, a voter may register to vote at the polling place serving his or her residence, if the voter presents proof of residence in a form specified by law. Where ballots are distributed to voters, the initials of two inspectors must appear on the ballot. Upon being permitted to vote, the voter shall retire alone to a voting booth and cast his or her ballot, except that a voter who is a parent or guardian may be accompanied by the voter's minor child or minor ward. An election official may inform the voter of the proper manner for casting a vote, but the official may not in any manner advise or indicate a particular voting choice.

AT THE SPRING ELECTION

Where Optical Scan Voting is Used

The voter shall fill in the oval next to the name of the candidate of his or her choice for each office for which he or she intends to vote. To vote for a person whose name does not appear on the ballot, the voter shall write in the name of the person of his or her choice in the space provided, and fill in the oval next to the write-in line. On referendum questions, the voter shall fill in the oval next to "yes" if in favor of the question, or fill in the oval next to "no" if opposed to the question.

When using an *electronic ballot marking device ("Automark")* to mark an **optical scan** ballot, the voter shall touch the screen at the name of the candidate of his or her choice for each office for which he or she intends to vote. To vote for a person whose name does not appear on the ballot, the voter shall type in the name of the person of his or her choice in the space provided for a write-in vote. On referendum questions, the voter shall touch the screen at "yes" if in favor of the question, or the voter shall touch the screen at "no" if opposed to the question.

AT THE PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE VOTE

Where Optical Scan Voting is Used

Within the party of his or her choice, the voter shall fill in the oval next to the name of the candidate of his or her choice or shall, in the alternative, fill in the oval next to the words "Uninstructed Delegation," or write in the name of a person of his or her choice for a candidate in the space provided for a write-in vote and fill in the oval next to the write-in line.

When using an *electronic ballot marking device ("Automark")* to mark an **optical scan** ballot, the voter shall touch the screen at the party of his or her choice. Within the party of his or her choice, the voter shall then touch the screen at the name of the candidate of his or her choice or shall, in the alternative, touch the screen at the words "Uninstructed Delegation," or type in the name of a person of his or her choice in the space provided for a write-in vote.

A voter may cast only one vote in the presidential preference primary.

The vote shall not be cast in any other manner. Not more than five minutes' time shall be allowed inside a voting booth. Sample ballots or other materials to assist the voter in marking his or her ballot may be taken into the booth and copied. The sample ballot shall not be shown to anyone so as to reveal how the ballot is marked.

If a voter spoils an **optical scan** ballot, he or she shall return it to an election official who shall issue another ballot in its place, but not more than three ballots shall be issued to any one voter. If the ballot has not been initialed by two inspectors or is defective in any other way, the voter shall return it to the election official who shall issue a proper ballot in its place.

After Voting the Ballot

After an official **optical scan** ballot is marked, it shall be inserted in the security sleeve so the marks do not show. After casting his or her vote, the voter shall insert the ballot in the voting device and return the sleeve to the designated location, or deposit the ballot in the ballot box, or deliver the ballot to an inspector for deposit. The voter shall leave the polling place promptly.

A voter may select an individual to assist in casting his or her vote if the voter declares to the presiding official that he or she is unable to read, has difficulty reading, writing, or understanding English, or that due to disability is unable to cast his or her ballot. The selected individual rendering assistance may not be the voter's employer or an agent of that employer or an officer or agent of a labor organization which represents the voter.

The following is a sample of the official ballot:

(Insert official Spring Election Ballot and Presidential Preference Ballot)

Susan M. Moll, Columbia County Clerk
Town of Arlington Municipal Clerk
Town of Dekorra Municipal Clerk
Town of Leeds Municipal Clerk
Town of Lodi Municipal Clerk
Town of Lowville Municipal Clerk
Town of West Point Municipal Clerk
Village of Arlington Municipal Clerk
Village of Poynette Municipal Clerk
City of Lodi Municipal Clerk
De Forest Area School District Clerk
Lodi School District Clerk
Poynette School District Clerk