# Capital Project Request Form

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L Nimi	Manitowoc Wisconsin
Request Type:	Capital Request Un Budgeted
Department:	Finance/Clerk Division Date: 06/27/2019
Title of Request:	Badger Books (E-Poll Books)
Department Priority	Desirable
Linked to another project?	<ul><li>Yes</li><li>No</li></ul>
Project Request is:	<ul><li>New Estimated Useful Life: 8</li><li>Replacement</li><li>Modification</li></ul>
This is a limited field, please attach documents for more detail.	
Description:	See attached Memo
Basis of Cost:	<ul><li>Quote Total Cost \$49,530.00</li><li>○ Bid</li><li>● Estimate</li></ul>
Revenue (if any)	Net Cost
Will there be additional costs in future years to complete this project?	
select one:	O Yes If yes, amount?  ● No
Finance: Account	
Send to Department	Date:

49.536 Approved for UnBobeted to Ld E-POM BOLKS

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# CITY OF MANITOWOC

WISCONSIN, USA www.manitowoc.org



DATE:

June 26, 2010

TO:

**CAWG** Committee

RE:

Badger Book (e-poll book)

The Wisconsin Elections Commission recently launched an electronic poll book system known as the "Badger Book." The program was developed internally at the Wisconsin Elections Commission, works directly with the WisVote voter database, and does not use an internet connection. The Badger Book is primarily used on Election Day for voter check-in, assigning voter numbers, processing absentee ballots, and registering voters.

Currently all of these tasks are done manually by the poll workers, and are subject to human error. All of the errors need to be rectified before the end of election night, and this process can take several hours. In some cases a Board of Canvassers convenes the day following the election and spends 2-1/2 to 3 hours reconciling one poll book. It is not uncommon for polling locations to find that they are off by a voter number, sometimes by more than one number, requiring hours of searching to find the reasoning. As a last resort if the issue cannot be reconciled, a ballot may need to be drawn out of the ballot box and this has happened in the past. A Clerk definitely does not want this to happen.

After a busy election, staff will spend several weeks, and possibly months for a busy election, reconciling election data and filing reports with the Wisconsin Election Commission – often finding additional discrepancies and having to spend days going through poll books manually and counting individual voters. The election reconciliation process requires staff to reconcile absentee data, voter registration data, total number of ballots and total numbers of voters. The numbers HAVE to match in order to complete filing with the State, and even being off by one number can take hours or days to rectify. The Badger Books would eliminate the possibility for human error and would not only ensure accurate data for the election, but would also save a significant amount of staff time.

A few of the Badger Book's main features are:

• Voter Registration – This user friendly feature would change the way pollworkers complete voter registrations. During the last Governor election we had a lot of issues with incomplete voter registrations. The voter's vote still counts but if we cannot resolve the issue of the missing information, voter's registration is inactive and they must register again at the next election. This would alleviate all those problems. And, staff back here at City Hall would not have to input registrations after the election. This process could take months after the Presidential election.

Deborah Neuser, CMC, City Clerk

CITY HALL | 900 Quay Street | Manitowoc, WI | 54220-4543

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- Recording Absentee Voter's Ballots The Badger Book would be a real time saver
  as far as recording absentee votes is concerned. Recording absentee ballots is one
  of the major hang ups especially during a busy election. E-Poll Book lists the
  absentee voters in alphabetical order. No more searching for them throughout the
  entire poll book. Pollworker can highlight multiple voters that returned their
  absentee ballots and they automatically receive a voter number. This would be a
  huge time saver.
- Pollworkers sometimes have an issue with the voter number pads. Whether they have more voters than votes or more votes than voters (which is not good), the pollworkers need to canvass the returns until they find out why this happened. If there are more votes than voters and the situation can't be reconciled, a ballot needs to be drawn out of the ballot box. The Badger Book automatically assigns voter numbers. No more assigning the same number to two people or writing the voter number in the poll book next to the wrong name.

There are a lot of other great features of the e-poll book but I've listed the main three that impressed me.

Per a May 31, 2019 Memo from the Wisconsin Elections Commission, pricing of the Badger Book is \$1,904 per Badger Book Station plus \$193 per Polling Place (router, thermal receipt paper, and USB Device). The recommendation is 1 book for each 1,000 voters plus 1. Districts 6, 8 and 10 would need 3 books and I think the remaining districts could get along with 2 books each. I have also included 2 extra Badger Books in case there is an issue with one of the units or in the case of a large election, an extra book will always come in handy. This is a total of \$49,530.00 for the model with the stand alone printer. Considering all the feedback received on the two different models, I am recommending the model with the stand alone printer which is only \$24 higher than the model with the integrated printer.

It would definitely be great to have all ten districts using the e-poll book for the 2020 Presidential Preference Election and Presidential Election.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

DEBORAH NEUSER City Clerk



# Wisconsin Elections Commission

212 East Washington Avenue | Third Floor | P.O. Box 7984 | Madison, WI 53707-7984 (608) 266-8005 | elections@wi.gov | elections.wi.gov

DATE:

May 31, 2019

TO:

Wisconsin Municipal Clerks Wisconsin County Clerks

City of Milwaukee Election Commission Milwaukee County Election Commission

FROM:

Michelle R. Hawley, WisVote Training Officer

Michael Sabaka, Elections Security Trainer

**SUBJECT:** Badger Book Purchasing and Borrowing Processes – 2020 Elections

The Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC) is making Badger Books available to purchase for the 2020 elections. The WEC will also continue the Badger Book Borrowing Program for the February 18 Spring Primary, as well as the August 11 Partisan Primary.

## Purchasing

The window to place a Badger Book order will be from October 1 – October 31. Municipalities that purchase, will do so directly to Paragon Development Service (PDS), the provider of the Badger Book hardware. We will provide additional information and instructions to place an order as the purchasing window draws near. For your information, listed below are the current expected costs associated with purchasing as provided by PDS. Direct quotes will be provided to each interested municipality by PDS. If your municipality is interested in purchasing Badger Books, please click on the link at the conclusion of this communication to complete a brief survey.

# Package 1 – Badger Book with Integrated Column Printer

- \$1880.00 per Badger Book Station
- \$228.00 per Polling Place (router, thermal receipt paper, and USB Device)

### Package 2 – Badger Book with Stand-Alone Printer

- \$1904.00 per Badger Book Station
- \$193.00 per Polling Place (router, thermal receipt paper, and USB Device)

#### **Borrowing**

Due to the anticipated turnout for the April and November elections, the WEC will not offer an opportunity to borrow Badger Books for those elections. However, WEC will offer the opportunity to borrow Badger Books for the February 18 Spring Primary and the August 11 Partisan Primary. There are a limited number of Badger Books to lend per election. If your municipality is interested in participating in the Badger Book Borrowing Program, please click on the link at the conclusion of this communication to complete a brief survey.

Wisconsin Elections Commissioners

Dean Knudson, chair | Julie M. Glancey | Ann S. Jacobs | Jodi Jensen | Mark L. Thomsen

### **Device Information**

Two Badger Book configurations are available for borrowing and purchasing, and both packages include HP's ElitePOS G1 8GB retail unit as the main piece of hardware. The data sheet for this device is attached. Each package also contains a 2-D barcode scanner, thermal receipt printing functionality, Windows 10 Pro, a wireless keyboard and mouse, and PDS configuration services. A per polling place package includes a wireless router, a secure USB, thermal receipt paper, and configuration services.

Badger Books with an integrated column printer are about two inches taller and will require more frequent printer paper replacement, however they do not need to be manually connected to the ElitePOS unit (Badger Book Tower) with a cord, unlike the Badger Book stand-alone unit.

The WEC will be exploring additional hardware options for Badger Book implementation AFTER the 2020 Elections. All current Badger Book models will continue to be supported into the future, regardless of whether or not the WEC decides on a new Badger Book model.

In an effort to gauge interest for purchasing and borrowing (February and August only) Badger Books, we request all interested municipalities click the link below and complete the survey. The purchasing and borrowing survey will close at 5:00 p.m. on June 21, 2019.

# https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3Y9XHDC

Should municipalities choose to purchase or borrow Badger Books for use in 2020 elections, WEC staff will be in contact regarding implementation, training, etc., to ensure they have the support necessary for a successful implementation.

If you have additional questions about the Badger Book Borrowing or Purchasing Programs, please contact the WEC Help Desk at (608) 261-2028 or <u>elections@wi.gov</u>. If you have technical hardware questions, please contact Dana Berner at (262) 569-5366 or teamgovedu@pdsit.net.