



PRESS RELEASE HINDS COUNTY

316 South President Street, Jackson, MS 39205

Phone (601) 968-6501 • Fax (601) 968-6794

<http://www.co.hinds.ms.us>



Carmen Y. Davis
County Administrator

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hinds County to Upgrade Election Voting Machines Board Approves Bid for New System

Hinds County, MS – Monday, April 1, 2013: The Hinds County Board of Supervisors voted today in its regular meeting to purchase a new voting machine system from Electronic Systems and Software (ES&S). The winning bid proposed 160 DS-200 Digital Optical Scan Voting Machines and 119 Automark Digital Optical Scan ADA Compliant Voting Machines at the cost of \$1,218,776.95 for a 5-year contract for equipment and services.

Each vendor was evaluated on the following:

1. Proposed voting system design,
2. Pricing of implementation costs,
3. Pricing of system options, and
4. Pricing of recurring costs for a 3-year period.

ES&S has a local office on Hwy 80 in Jackson, MS. The proposal submitted by ES&S includes a state of the art digital optical voting system that is fully ADA compliant.

The new machines have what is called a triple back-up redundant system which helps to guard against potential miscalculations and/or manipulation of votes and provides the peace of mind that voting data will be stored securely. Also, the system records the ballot digitally, prints out a paper copy that is stored in the box of the machine and includes 165 electronic poll books equipped with signature pads and a printer that will speed up lines at the polls.

Other featured services provided by the winning bid include:

1. Storage, maintenance, delivery and pick-up to/from voting precincts;
2. Ballot Preparation;
3. Community Outreach Program to assist with the conversion;
4. On-site support for every election; and
5. Ballot on demand system.

WHAT THIS WILL MEAN FOR HINDS COUNTY VOTERS

1. Faster voting process;
2. On the spot printing of correct Voting Precinct information for individuals attempting to vote in the wrong Precinct;
3. Elimination of the need for manual ballot system;
4. More secure, dependable and accurate voting experience.

The targeted delivery date for the new system is July 1, 2013... just in time for the Special Election later this year.

For additional information about this press release, please contact the Hinds County Administrator, Carmen Davis, at 601-968-6501 or email: cdavis@co.hinds.ms.us.

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