WASHINGTON COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION

2516 E Oakland Ave Johnson City, TN 37601

Phone: 423-753-1688 / Fax: 423-913-8430 Website: wcecoffice.com

Washington County Election Administrator Report – September 28, 2026 County Commission

The office has been very busy preparing for the November General election, which for our office preparation began soon after the August election was certified. We start by building the November ballot and once approved by the state can begin printing the Absentee ballots as early as **September 3rd**. We paused completing the November ballot because of the possible runoff election or tiebreaker vote but after that was finalized we submitted our ballot for approval and inspected it for errors on return. **Our forecast for the November election conservatively projects over 40,000 voters, with 20,000 early voters.** Realistically we could see 45,000 voters, considering in 2018 we also had an open Governorship and voted 45,557, with 25,000 voting early. Four years ago, with Gov Bill Lee up for reelection we voted 35,311.

We did have a candidate contest the County Mayor election and our hearing to dismiss the complaint is **September 29**. If not dismissed, the case will be heard October 5 & 6. Our Early Voting period begins **October 14**. We would normally be programming and testing all 158 machines in **mid-September** but since the 143 August voting systems are not available due to the lawsuit, we could only test early voting machines. Fortunately, we did not use 15 machines in August, so we developed a early voting plan using our 15 machines and fortunately borrowed 9 machines from other counties. Without these loaned 9 machines we would've been forced to close the Gray EV site and use less machines in JBO & FH due to the lawsuit. We have confidence in our Washington County election processes and the judicial system, so we look forward to getting this resolved without additional disruptions to the upcoming election.

We are scheduled to vote residents in our nursing home facilities on **October 7, 8 and 9th**, early voting from **October 14 to October 29th**. We will begin early voting site connection testing with City of Johnson City, JC Schools and WC department of Education personnel on **October 5th,** preparing for EV setup on **October 12 and 13**. Maxwell and Meredith attended the National Registration Day event at ETSU on **September 15th**, fulfilling an invitation from Joy Fulkerson. We are preparing for our WC Insider program on October 13 as well.

We have had steady foot traffic in the office registering to vote and we processed hundreds of registrations. We can register new voters until **October 5th** and then shut that down until after the November 3rd election. I'm anticipating September to be a good month for new registrations.

Feel free to call with any questions

Chuck Vest

Washington County Tn Administrator of Elections

423-753-1688 Chuck@wcecoffice.com

Election Commissioners

Lori Rosenoff - Chair, Margaret Davis - Secretary, Mike Hubbard, Mike Elder, Turney Williams - Members

Staff

Chuck Vest, Administrator of Elections, Sheila Hayes, Chief Deputy, Veronica Nuckols, IT Deputy, Steve Yantachka, Absentee Deputy, Maxwell Hawkins, Logistics Deputy, Meredith Zebracki, Office Deputy

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Call of the Washington County Election Commission Pursuant to TCA §2-1-113 Notice is hereby given that the commission will meet **Wednesday, October 13, 2026 @ 9:30 am**.

1. **Opening Prayer and Pledge**
2. **Communication from Chairperson**
3. **Review and approval of Minutes**
4. **Administrator Report & Communications**
   - **Commissioner precincts visit schedule**
   - **Washington County Insider PowerPoint**
   - **Staff invited to present to 3 government classes at Providence Academy**
5. **Public Comments**
6. **Election Commissioner communications**
7. **Old business**
   a. **none**
8. **New business**
   a. **Voting machines which will be used during the November 3rd election period, will be examined and certified by the election commissioners or designees.** TCA § 2-9-105(b) Handout
   b. **Complete Q4 Inspection Report** TCA §2-2-120 Handout
   c. **Conduct any election business before the commission pursuant to duties listed in TCA § 2-12-116, and any other business that may come before the commission**
9. **Schedule the next meeting –** (suggested Nov 17, 2026. Certify election due Nov 23)
10. **Adjourn**

The meeting will be held at 2516 East Oakland Ave, Johnson City, TN. Public comment sign-up sheets will be placed at the entrance of the meeting space fifteen (15) minutes until two (2) minutes before the meeting starts. Speakers must be Washington County residents and are given three (3) minutes to speak about items on the agenda or pertinent to the duties of the Washington County Election Commission

Election Commissioners
Lori Rosenoff - Chair, Margaret Davis - Secretary, Mike Hubbard, Mike Elder, Turney Williams - Members

Staff
Chuck Vest, Administrator of Elections, Sheila Hayes, Chief Deputy, Veronica Nuckols, IT Deputy, Steve Yantachka, Absentee Deputy, Maxwell Hawkins, Logistics Deputy, Meredith Zebracki, Office Deputy

Washington County Election Commission
Date: September 30, 2026
Time: 9:30 AM
Location: Election Office, 2516 East Oakland Ave, Johnson City, TN 37601
Chairperson: Lori Rosenoff
Minute Taker: Veronica Nuckols

Attendance:

- Commissioners: Margaret Davis, Mike Elder, Mike Hubbard, and Turney Williams
- Commissioner Absent: Lori Rosenoff
- Administrator of Elections (AOE): Chuck Vest
- Staff: Veronica Nuckols
- Machine Technicians: Jeff Clyburn and Aaron Bible
- Guests and members of the public: Johnson City Press, Daniel Goodrich, James Reeves, and other members of the community.

Call to Order:

- Commissioner Davis called the meeting to order.
- Commissioner Hubbard opened with prayer.

Communication from the Chairperson:

- N/A

Approval of Minutes:

- **Motion to approve:** Commissioner Hubbard
- **Seconded by:** Commissioner Williams
- **Approved unanimously.**

Administrator's Report:

- Reported the lawsuit was dismissed on September 29, 2026.
- The dismissal allows the election staff to proceed with programming Election Day machines.
- Without access to the voting machines, the county could have faced approximately $65,000 in leasing cost or the use of paper ballots.
- Thanked MicroVote for providing nine additional machines, allowing all early voting locations to open.

Public Comments:

- **James Reeves** - spoke about election results, voting machines, and the dismissed lawsuit.

Commissioner Discussion:

- Vest addressed questions regarding the lawsuit and paper audit trail.
- Commissioners discussed the importance of voters reviewing their ballots before casting their votes.
- Commissioner Williams commended Vest and staff for their work during recent challenges.
- Commissioner Elder discussed the durability and reliability of the MicroVote voting machines. He explained that the Commission chose these machines because they use push-button controls rather than touch screens, which can be more prone to breaking or cracking.
- The machines have been used by the county for many years and have proven to be reliable.

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

Examine and Certify Early Voting Machines:

- AOE Vest introduced the Machine Technicians – Jeff Clyburn (R) and Aaron Bible (D).
- The Commissioners and party representatives examined and certified the early voting machines.

Schedule Next Meeting:

- **Date:** October 13, 2026
- **Time:** 9:30 AM

Adjournment:

- **Motion to approve:** Commissioner Edler
- **Seconded by:** Commissioner Turney
- **Approved Unanimously**

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Chair – Lori Rosenoff, Secretary – Margaret Davis, Members – Mike Hubbard, Mike Elders, Turney Williams

DATE: October 9, 2026

TO: Washington County Democratic Party Chairperson

Washington County Republican Party Chairperson

Independent candidates

Johnson City Press, WJHL, WCYB

RE: November 3, 2026 Election, Voting Machines Examination notice

As required by T. C. A. § 2-9-105 (b), the Washington County Election Commission will randomly inspect voting machines prior to Early Voting and Election Day.

During a scheduled Washington County Election Commission meeting on October 13, 2026, at 9:30am, the voting machines which will be used during the November 3rd election period, will be examined by the election commissioners or designee.

The examinations will take place at the Washington County Election Office at the address noted above.

Any questions can be directed to our office at 423-753-1688

Best Regards

Chuck Vest

Certified Administrator of Elections

Washington County Tennessee

2516 E. Oakland Ave

Johnson City, TN 37601

423-753-1688 (O) 423-202-1563 (C)



Washington County Insider

October 13, 2026

Washington County Election Commissioners

L-R *Dr. Turney Williams (R), Mike Elder (D), Margaret Davis (D), Lori Rosenoff (R), Mike Hubbard (R)*

Center – Administrator of Elections Chuck Vest



Voters by Precinct

Washington County Election

Precinct	Registered Voters As of 9/9/2026
Fall Branch	3709
Grandview	3212
West View	5890
Town of Jonesborough	5137
Jonesborough County	2451
Lamar	6060
Gray Elementary-West	3389
Gray Elementary-East	4194
Lakeridge City	3272
Lakeridge County	3364
Towne Acres	3464
Freedom Hall	4069
Indian Trail-North	4113
Indian Trail-South	2198
Carver	5417
Keystone	5129
Southside	3241
Cherokee	5325
Henry Johnson	5568
Woodland	4064
Asbury	2449
Boones Creek School	2863
Sulphur Springs	5282
Total	93959

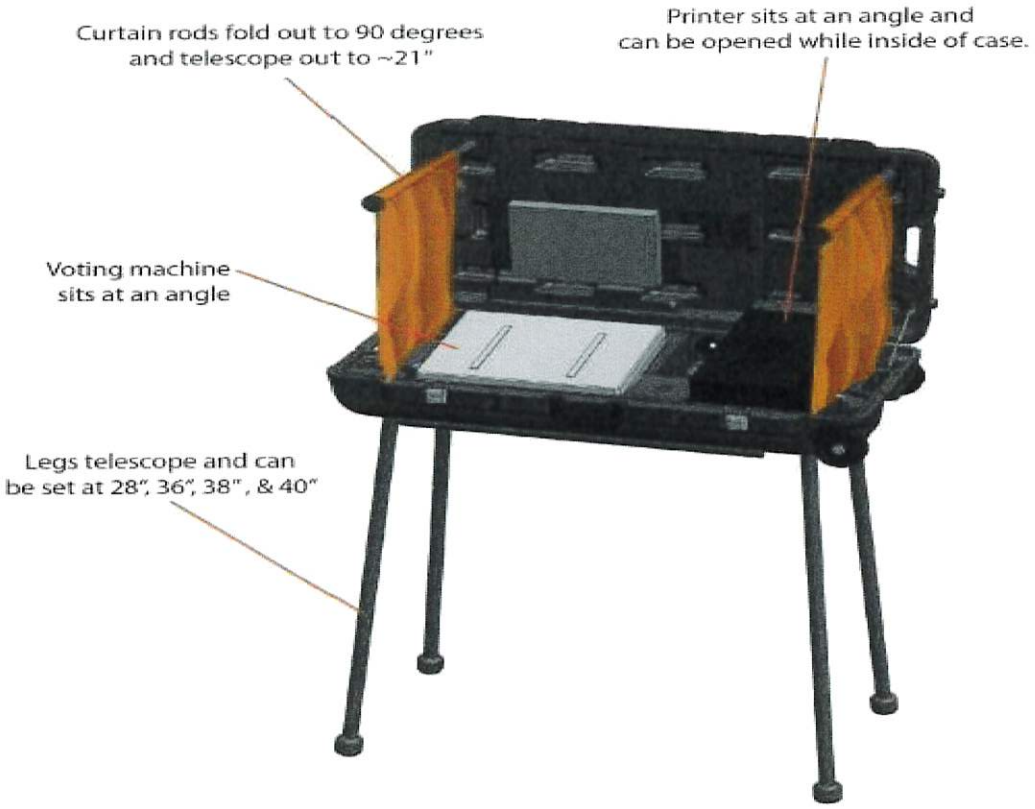
HISTORICAL FACTS & Informa

- The 1st Congressional district was created in 1801.
- The 1st district's seat in the U.S. House of Representatives has been held by Republicans since 1881.
- Washington County is the 12th largest county in the state with a population over 141,000
- Johnson City is the 8th Largest City.
- Interesting facts-1961 May Ross McDowell was the first woman elected mayor of Johnson City; followed in 1976 by Grace Haws, the first woman mayor of Jonesborough, and in 1988 Kevin McKinney the first African American mayor of Jonesborough.
- Voters are not registered by party in Tennessee.
- With almost 94,000 registered voters in Washington County, we consider 83,696 as active voters.
- In Tennessee, inactive voters are subject to purging if they fail to vote in 2 consecutive statewide November elections

What is a voter's ballot?

MicroVote
All in One Voting Station





MICROVOTE

America's Longest Running Voting Systems Provider





- MicroVote, a family-owned and operated business headquartered in Indiana since the early 1980s, and the country's oldest voting system manufacturer.
- MicroVote achieved the first federal certification of a voting system in United States history on February 2, 2009. MicroVote has continued to update their voting system and have earned an additional six federal and multiple state certifications.
- Committed to providing reliable election equipment that will assure the integrity of elections. As a manufacturer of nationally certified voting systems, they maintain a sharp focus on high-quality elections and support.
- MicroVote Infinity Voting Panel is a Direct Recording Electronic (DRE) voting device for use in governmental and private elections. It incorporates a bright, colorful display, individual tactile buttons for operator control and voter selection, memory card technology for activation control and data collection/transport, and reliable embedded computer technology.
- The MicroVote Infinity Voting Panel (VP-1) is designed for portable standalone voting operation with no need for additional devices at the polling site and can be combined with the new Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) printer.
- The Federal Government has designated the election industry as critical infrastructure, and MicroVote is a founding member and active participant in the newly formed Election Infrastructure Sector Coordinating Council (EI-SCC).

Every election we conduct machine testing and hold poll worker training

- All participants will take an oath Before entering upon the performance of his/her duties, each person charged with the administration of any part of the election laws of the State of Tennessee shall take the following oath: "*I DO SOLEMNLY AFFIRM (SWEAR) THAT I WILL SUPPORT THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE AND THAT I WILL FAITHFULLY AND IMPARTIALLY DISCHARGE THE DUTIES OF MY OFFICE*." TCA 2-1-111
- The public, political parties and candidates are invited to attend machine examination and testing.
- After voting machines are programmed, they are secured in our locked "vault", on 24/7 video surveillance, then are tested by a bipartisan group of election workers from our community.
- After testing the machines are sealed, one numbered seal on the VVPAT, one numbered seal on the voting machine case and documented by at least 2 bipartisan team workers.
- Voting machines are again secured in our vault, inside their cases and not connected to a power source.
- The seals are not removed until voting begins, resealed at end of each day by 2 bipartisan election workers





Keeping Voter Rolls Accurate

- A voter who has had inactivity over two (2) consecutive regular November elections (Inactivity = Voter's failure to vote, or otherwise update the voter's registration) will be sent confirmation notice and immediately placed in inactive status
- NCOA and Death Reports - The State Office sends up bi-monthly deceased reports. Those voters are pulled from Active files and moved to the purge file for 2 years. After two years, they are shredded.
- Information received from the Coordinator of Elections as a result of a comparison of voter registration addresses with the residential addresses of record with another Tennessee state agency, including, state welfare and public assistance agencies.
- Information received from the Coordinator of Elections as a result of a comparison of voter registrations with another State.
- We receive NCOA (National Change of Address) Reports from the Secretary of State's office. Those voters are mailed Confirmation Cards. They are given a chance to tell us this information is incorrect. If they return the card and inform the office they have relocated outside of Washington County, we will pull their registration card and place it in the Purge file for 2 years.
- We receive new felon reports as individual status changes and make required update.
- An inactive voter can still vote Failsafe, which will update his status and registration

Absentee Voting

There are 14 reasons you may request an absentee ballot

- Member of military or spouse, Overseas citizen, 60 yrs old plus, Physical disability, Hospital confinement, Felon, Out of State, Attending school out of area, Safe at Home, Nursing home resident out of area, Caretaker of hospitalized person, Candidate for office in the election, observing a religious holiday, CDL driver or spouse, jury duty, Activated member of National Guard, Serving as an election official or member of election commission.
- A registered voter may request an application for a by-mail ballot no earlier than ninety (90) days before the election and no later than ten (10) days before the election.
- Washington County had **491** paper absentee ballots returned for the August election



November Municipal Elections

City of Johnson City

City Commissioner (2 seats)

- Dave Adams
- Jenny Brock
- Sylvain Bruni
- Whitney Calhoun Goetz
- William (Bud) Hill Jr
- Gary Kalogeros
- Tricia Korade
- Aaron T. Murphy
- Pete Paduch
- J.D. Westmoreland

School Board (4 seats)

Tom Hagar (R)

Kathy Hall (R)

Jonathan Kinnick (R)

Paula Treece (R)

Ryan Berkley (D)

Town of Jonesborough

Mayor

- Michael Hartman
- Brian Ponder

Alderman (2 seats)

- Virginia Causey
- Jason Greenlee
- Dana C. Helvey
- Zac Jenkins

Questions & answers

