Questions received:

1. Is there a paper ballot that can be recounted?

**The e-Pollpad is completely unrelated to the ballots.** The e-Pollpad is simply an electronic roster instead of a paper roster. The e-pollpad is not simply an electronic roster. This statement is like saying your cell phone is simply a calculator, while it can function as a calculator, there is a lot more capability. The e-pollpad has a number of things it can do that paper cannot do, but paper is not connected to the cellular network/internet. The KNOWiNK website proves this point.

A voter will state their name to the roster judge and verify the address shown on the screen (if registered). Once verified, a paper receipt containing the oath with a signature line will print for the voter to sign. In other counties, this changed during the 2024 elections, the voter signs the e-pollpad directly, no voter oath is printed. You should verify that Isanti County will have physical voter oath paper printed and signed.

The election judge will retain that receipt and give the voter a voter receipt to exchange for a paper ballot from the ballot judge. This is the same process as it is currently except the voter will only see their name on the iPad screen and sign a receipt instead of a paper roster in a binder. There is no connection to ballots, the DS200 Count machine, or the Omniballot. This is ONLY an electronic roster. Voters will still receive a paper ballot.

* 1. Could there be voter fraud?

Preventing fraud in the polling place is 100% the responsibility of election judges, preventing voter fraud is the responsibility of the Sectratery of State, the County (Auditor) and election judges.

however, the e-Pollpad helps assist to prevent voter fraud by protecting privacy. The e-Pollpads are password protected. Access to the password is limited to the election judges assigned to the Roster/Registration judge function. The password for the e-pollpads should only be available to the City Clerk and possibly the Head Election Judge. No election judge at the precinct should know or have access to the e-pollpad password.

Searching for a Voter

Paper Roster: Paper rosters for the precinct are contained within multiple binders. When an election judge is searching for a voter’s name, they can see everyone who has/hasn’t voted. An election judge can also look up on the e-pollpads and see who and who hasn’t voted.

Once the voter’s name is located in the roster, that voter can see everyone on that page that has/hasn’t voted. This violates the privacy of every voter. Why is this all of a sudden an issue when the paper process has been going on for years?

* Voter Example: My husband hasn’t voted yet! I need to call him!
* Election Judge Example: I see Betty Crocker hasn’t voted yet. Or Paul Bunyan. Can you all believe that?
* e-Pollpad: The only name displayed on the screen is the name the election judge selected from the name search. Voters cannot see any other names. When the iPad is turned around to face the voter, anyone standing in line can see all of the voter’s information (name, address, date of birth, etc.) This violates the privacy of the voter.

Presidential Nomination Primary

* + Paper Roster: For the Presidential Nomination Primary that occurs every 4 years in Minnesota, a voter must select the party of which they would like the ballot for. Although it should be covered with a removable label, it does not prevent someone from removing the label to see the party that was selected. The election judge should be monitoring the paper roster and not allowing anyone from removing the label.
  + e-Pollpad: The only name displayed on the screen is the name the election judge selected from the name search. Voters cannot see any other names; therefore, they cannot see the party selected by others. When the iPad is turned around to face the voter, anyone standing in line can see the party of the voter.

Voter Registration

* Paper Roster: The registration election judge has the voter complete a Voter Registration paper form. The election judge should verify their name, address, and birthdate with the required identification AND record the information on the bottom of the form. Common errors that occur:
  1. The election judges forget to record the identification information they viewed.
  2. The voter has not completed all required information on the form to register to vote.
  3. The voter’s writing is illegible for the person entering the registration information into SVRS (Statewide Voter Registration System).
  4. Voters become double registered because their name wasn’t searched on the paper roster multiple ways (hyphenated names, AKA names like Jim/James, etc.). The e-pollpad does not do this either. Names and other information have to be accurately entered to do a search, otherwise the e-pollpad will not find it. We have had multiple issues with having to register someone as a new voter because of issues with the e-pollpad.
* E-Pollpad: Registration is done on the iPad. The system will not allow an election judge to skip any required documentation for registration. The voter oath will not print. If the voters MN DL or ID has their current information, it can be scanned into the e-Pollpad. This allows for less entry of information by the election judge and is more accurate.

1. *Is there potential to be hacked by a bad actor?*

This system is never connected to Wi-Fi in the polling place. The e-Pollpads assigned to your precinct would sync together by Bluetooth so that voters can check in on any iPad and voters cannot vote twice. The new e-pollpads have cellular capability. The e-pollpads connect to the internet through the cellular network. Pollpads within a precinct connect via Bluetooth. The e-pollpads are expected to prevent a voter from voting twice in the same precinct, but the paper rosters also prevent a voter from voting twice in the same precinct. However, paper rosters are not connected to the cellular network and internet.

MN Statutes do not allow precincts to be connected.

The response provided did not address the question as to whether there is a potential to be hacked by a bad actor. Anytime you are connected to the cellular network and internet, you run the risk of being hacked. No one can provide a guarantee that the system cannot be hacked.

1. *Is this equipment being “pushed” onto counties by the Minnesota Secretary of State?*

Although the MN Secretary of State office has certified the e-Pollpad equipment for use in Minnesota, they do not have a preference if the paper rosters or the electronic rosters are used. Based on what has happened in other counties, we completely disagree with this response as the MN SOS has been pushing for the continued use of e-pollpads and has been helping to prevent cities from not using them. Would the MN SOS issue a formal letter stating that they have no preference and that that he and is office will stay impartial on the issue?

With either method, the voter history is being recorded into the Statewide Voter Registration System (SVRS) within the required time per statute. If the e-Pollpads are used, this process is completed much quicker. There are scanning systems that could be used to eliminate the need to hand enter the data.

1. *Is this equipment connected to the DS200 machines?*

The e-Pollpad is not connected in any way to the DS200 count machines. Neither machine is connected to Wi-Fi. Both the DS200 and the e-pollpads are connected to the internet through the cellular network. Both are capable of being hacked.