Press Release

For Immediate Release

December 30, 2021

From: Dan Rogers, Chairman

 Potter County GOP

On Monday, December 27, 2021 the Potter County Commissioners’ Court failed to pass the Potter County GOP’s resolution to withdraw from the Texas Secretary of State’s Voting Center Program, which would have made it possible for the Potter County GOP to perform a primary election with hand-marked ballots. Because the Potter County Commissioners’ Court has chosen to remain in the Voting Center Program, early voting must be electronic by law. The reasoning given by the leadership of the Commissioner’s Court and a very few other candidates for preferring electronic voting over hand-marked ballots was fear the election workers would either not count or would fraudulently rip up or discard any hand-marked ballot that contained a vote for them.

Had Potter County instead elected to withdraw from the Secretary of State’s Voting Center Program, our party could have used the Election Administrators optical scanner to count the votes and hand verify the hand-marked original ballots as had been done in years past. Clearly, some of our elected officials and candidates distrust the members of the community who would work the election and distrust original authenticated hand-marked ballots, instead placing their trust in coders over voters. Therefore, the only option left to us to use hand-marked ballots would require Republican voters to use two different voting methods, electronic for early voting and hand-marked ballots for election day, each with different polling locations. Given the aforementioned concerns, we no longer seek to hold a separate primary due to the inability to fulfill our purpose.

Our commitment to hand-marked ballots will continue. Our position stands that an electronic vote is merely evidence of a vote, whereas; an actual hand-marked, tangible, original paper ballot submitted by the voter at the polling place is self-authenticated. We will continue to further advocate for ideas and solutions voters can be confident in that require hand-marked ballots and are cost-effective, reliable, secure, and superior in preventing fraud.

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