

Board of Election Commissioners

Mission Statement

It is the mission of the Board of Election Commissioners to conduct elections and voter registration in the most efficient and accessible manner possible to the public.

Primary Functions → The primary function of the Board of Election Commissioners is to conduct all elections held within the City of Rockford, to provide registration opportunities for City residents, and to maintain a system of permanent registration of voters.

**CITY ELECTIONS, 1995-2006
NUMBER OF REGISTERED VOTERS, ACTUAL VOTERS,
AND PERCENTAGE OF VOTERS TO REGISTERED VOTERS**

	FEBRUARY/ MARCH PRIMARIES	APRIL CONSOLI- DATED	GENERAL/ NON- PARTISAN		FEBRUARY/ MARCH PRIMARIES	APRIL CONSOLI- DATED	GENERAL/ NON- PARTISAN
1995	3,111	68,510	70,314	2001	83,463		86,899
	303	8,486	7,186		6,038		39,080
	9.7	12.4	10.2		7.2		45.0
1996	67,825		75,975	2002	83,563		79,624
	22,722		53,091		27,639		39,077
	33.5		69.9		33.1		49.1
1997	75,025	78,262	75,500	2003		81,366	
	6,909	39,304	19,000			19,900	
	9.2	50.2	25.2			24.5	
1998	77,614		81,027	2004	80,330		87,937
	15,177		36,752		19,228		57,905
	19.3		45.4		23.9		65.8
1999		76,333		2005	84,374		88,781
		18,567			7,092		33,716
		24.3			8.4		38.0
2000	80,753		85,630	2006	80,359		82,058
	17,467.0		55,698		21,122		38,224
	21.6		65.4		26.3		46.6

2006 Accomplishments →

- Successfully completed the March 21st Consolidated Primary Election, in which there was a total of 21,122 ballots cast of the 80,359 registered voters, resulting in a 26% participation rate.
- Successfully completed the November 7th General Election, in which there was a total of 38,224 ballots cast of the 82,058 registered voters, resulting in a 47% participation rate.
- Purchased and implemented 85 AutoMARK Voter Assist Terminals according to the requirements of the Help America Vote Act.
- Implemented provisions of new state election law, including early voting, grace period registration and voting, redistricting for judicial sub-districts, processing registrations throughout the State from deputy registrars.

Board of Election Commissioners

2007 Goals and Objectives →

- Conduct an April 5 Consolidated Election. Offices to be elected/nominated are: Park District Commissioners, Regional Board of School Trustees, School District Board Members, and Community College Trustees.
- Continued appointment and training of deputy registrars.
- Mass mailing of Voter Identification Cards within Rockford City limits.
- Conduct a specialized mock election training for all election judges.

Budget Summary

BOARD OF ELECTION BUDGET SUMMARY					
APPROPRIATION	2005 ACTUAL	2006 BUDGET	2006 ACTUAL	2007 BUDGET	INCREASE (DECREASE)
PERSONNEL	\$229,759	\$443,807	\$303,745	\$407,975	(\$35,832)
CONTRACTUAL	413,071	275,927	397,869	262,610	(13,317)
SUPPLIES	0	38,900	242,570	37,400	(1,500)
CAPITAL	0	27,000	1,097,418	77,000	50,000
TOTAL	\$642,830	\$785,634	\$2,041,602	\$784,985	(\$649)

FUNDING SOURCE	2006 AMOUNT	2006 PERCENTAGE	2007 AMOUNT	2007 PERCENTAGE
PROPERTY TAXES				
FRINGE BENEFIT REIMBURSEMENTS	\$36,570	1.7	\$0	0.0
COUNTY PROPERTY TAX TRANSFER	335,000	15.4	784,985	100.0
GENERAL REVENUES	1,797,084	82.9	0	0.0
TOTAL	2,168,654	100.0	784,985	100.0

Budget Analysis

The 2007 budget is \$784,985, which is a \$650 (1.0%) decrease from the 2006 budget. There is only one scheduled election to be conducted in 2007, one less than in 2006, explaining much of the general decrease in the budget. Personnel expenditures decrease \$35,800, with the largest decrease in temporary salaries (\$60,700). IMRF charges also decreased \$2,400 and health insurance went up \$24,100.

Contractual services decreased \$13,300, mainly due to decreased ballot printing and election advertising requirements for the single election. Printing and publication decreased \$56,300 and advertising decreased \$18,300. Supply accounts decreased \$1,500, mainly in general office supplies (\$8,000), while small tools and equipment increased \$2,500 and computer non-capital increased by \$4,000 in order to accommodate the voter registration system.

For 2007, the Winnebago County election tax levy will provide approximately \$785,000 to fund the Board of Election Commissioners operation. Since 1985, the City has contributed significant dollar amounts to the election expenses. In 2006, since the County had only contributed approximately half of the Election Commission's operational funding, 52% of election expenses were paid for

Board of Election Commissioners

from city coffers. In 2007, the County provides the Election Commission with a contribution large enough to fund all of its operating expenses. The County also directly pays \$114,100 for costs for the director, assistant director, and three commissioners. The State of Illinois will contribute an estimated \$14,625 (\$25 per election judge per election). The latter two sources are not shown in the City's Election Board budget. Total 2007 program cost is projected at \$913,700 with the total County contribution estimated at \$899,100 (98.4%).

In 2006, the Board of Election Commissioners spent \$2,041,602, or 260% of its budgeted allocation. Spending in 2006 exceeded the budget due to the reception of approximately \$1.1 million in federal grants for purchases affiliated with the 2002 Help America Vote Act. These monies were used to purchase equipment such as handicapped voter assistance terminals, laptops to be used at polling sites to check voter registration information, carts for equipment transfer, ballot tabulators, and a projection screen for training purposes. In the past several years, with the exception of 2006, 99% to 102% of the budget has been spent.

Capital Equipment

For 2007, the Board of Election Commissioners has budgeted \$77,000 for the fourth of five payments on voter registration software.

CAPITAL EQUIPMENT BOARD OF ELECTIONS 2007 BUDGET	
<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
VOTER REGISTRATION SYSTEM	<u>\$77,000</u>
TOTAL CAPITAL	<u>\$77,000</u>