

OCTOBER 2020 County Clerk

SUMMARY OF CURRENT ACTIVITIES – QUARTER 3

Election-Related: There was a Partisan Primary election on August 11, 2020. Most of July was spent preparing for that then afterwards there was postelection work to do. We again worked with the municipal clerks to assist and enter all absentee information and voter registrations into the Statewide Voter Registration System (WisVote) in a timely manner as is mandated by the state. There was approximately a 21% turnout of eligible voters. However, many more voters requested absentee ballots than in the past so there was a significant amount of work tracking and reconciling those. Our office again worked with the state to provide supplies to the polling places for protecting against COVID-19. Things seemed to go a bit smoother than in April because there was more time to prepare.

Marriage Licenses: As usual, marriage license activity increased greatly in the summer months. Our system in place is to do all marriage licenses by appointment and keep the public on the first floor rather than our office to minimize exposure risk. It seems to be working well and plan to continue doing licenses by appointment rather than strictly walk-ins as we can then manage our staff time much better. We issued 235 licenses in 3rd quarter of 2020 vs. 259 in 2019 so the numbers were not down much at all.

Budget: A balanced 2021 budget was submitted and approved

Official Directory: The 2020 official directory was completed and distributed

Staffing: We had interviews and selected a replacement for our half-time employee who left in March. The new person will be starting at the end of October. It will be a welcome addition to have the help for the November election.

GOALS FOR NEXT QUARTER

- Have a successful and problem-free November election. Make sure that all pre and post election work is done in a timely and orderly manner. All materials and supplies will be distributed to municipal clerks and we are prepared to help wherever we can to make this easier on everyone.
- We will be prepared to have equipment audits done and compile information for post-election open-records requests which are anticipated to be more likely given the current political atmosphere. The election makes up the majority of all of our work done in October, November and early December.
- Plan for Janet's departure at the end of the year and the transition of all office staff to new positions and duties. (Depending on the results of the Presidential election) hopefully there will be some time left in December to do some teaching and training of all staff.