



Timeline:

- **May 20, 2014** – Early voting primary election difficulties experienced by Senator Sample specifically and Garland County generally result in conversations between Senator Sample and SOS.
- **June 26, 2014** – Joint Performance Review, chaired then by Senator English and Representative Rice, hold a hearing in Room 171. Those testifying include Chief Deputy Doug Matayo, Garland County Election Commission Chair Ginna Watson, Saline County Election Coordinator Darlene Westbrook, Saline County Election Programmer Paul Nolte, Sebastian County Election Commissioner Rita Watkins, and State Board of Election Commissioners Director Justin Clay.
- **FALL, 2014** – SOS conducts internal discussions regarding various options related to improving the voting process in Arkansas
- **January, 2015** – SOS begins the process of developing a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a State-wide Integrated Election System
- **January, 2015** – Secretary Martin determines qualified testing entity for equipment purchased for Arkansas-conducted elections will be the EAC
- **April 29, 2015** – Arkansas State Board of Election Commissioners completes certification of various vendor equipment for possible purchase and use in Arkansas elections



Timeline (cont.):

- **April 15, 2015** – RFP issued to prospective vendors and black-out period commences between RFP recipients and SOS Elections Staff.
- **April 30, 2015** – RFP deadline extended to allow for all vendors to have a fair evaluation and submission period after changes are made to the RFP.
- **May 14, 2015** – SOS selects and convenes RFP Review Committee:
 - Boone County Clerk Crystal Graddy (Already has vote centers in place)
 - Columbia County Clerk Sherry Bell (One of three counties using Hart equipment)
 - Garland County Clerk Sarah Smith (At request of Senator Sample)
 - Sebastian County Clerk Sharon Brooks (Combination of both paper and iVotronic)
 - Director of Elections Rob Hammons
 - Director of Business Operations Sid Rosenbaum
 - Chief Deputy Secretary of State Kelly Boyd
- **May 30, 2015** – RFP Committee completes review and scoring process and submits a review of all submitted RFPs to Secretary Martin
- **June 15, 2015** – Press release issued by SOS naming Election Systems & Services as the vendor selected to provide election equipment for the state of Arkansas



Timeline (cont.):

June 25, 2015 – Contracts signed with ESS for equipment delivery to 4 pilot counties. (Sebastian County Quorum Court votes to become an “all-digital” county and no longer offer the option of paper ballots. This results in extra equipment being purchased by Sebastian County in addition to the equipment offered by SOS.

March 1, 2016 - General Primary Elections held in Arkansas. Three of the four pilot counties are among the first six counties in the state to complete their process and go home for the night. Sebastian County is later due to issues not related to the equipment.

2016 – SOS elects to fund an additional counties: Arkansas, Chicot, Cleveland, Jackson, Randolph, Washington, Yell. White County Quorum Court votes to purchase their entire system on their own.

May, 2017 – SOS funds on a 50/50 basis additional counties: Faulkner, Miller, Sevier, Pike, Polk

August, 2017 – SOS funds on a 50/50 basis additional counties: Carroll, Cross

Summer, 2017 – SOS notified by Benton, Cleburne, Craighead, Crittenden, Howard, and Saline Counties their Quorum Courts had voted and approved purchase of election equipment contingent upon SOS paying for the other 50%.

Currently – SOS is working with Pope, Grant, Union, Monroe, St. Francis, and Phillips Counties



Current Status:

2015/2016: SOS fully funded 11 counties covering 342,648 registered voters.
(Washington and Sebastian bought extra equipment)

2016: White County purchased their own system covering 42,003 registered voters.

June, 2017: SOS assisted five counties in with a 50/50 agreement covering 119,869 registered voters.

August, 2017: SOS assisted two counties with a 50/50 agreement covering 24,055 registered voters.

As of today, 548,575 (31.89%) registered voters in Arkansas are capable of voting on the new equipment.



PENDING:

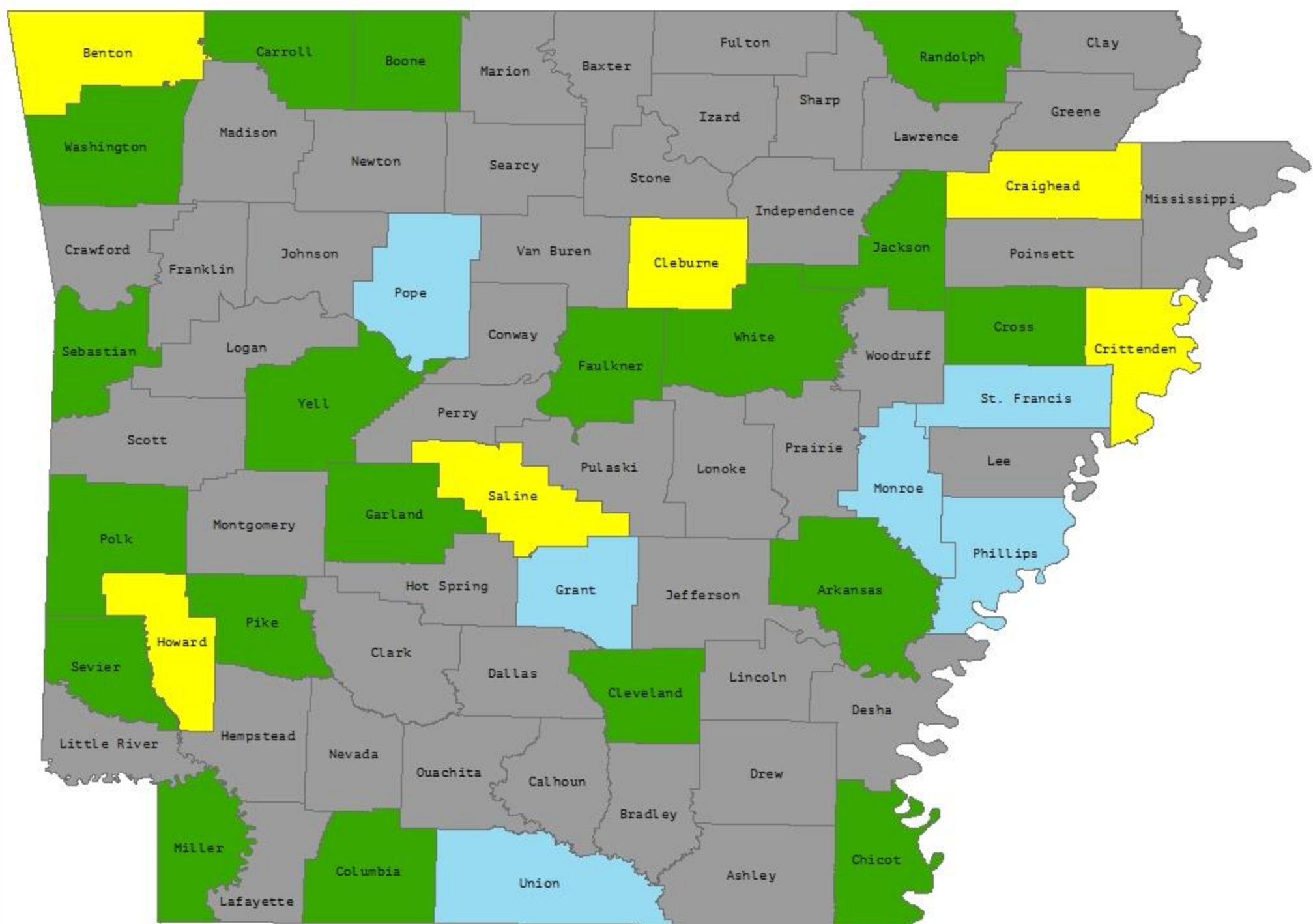
Currently, six counties have documented with the Secretary of State their authorization to purchase equipment under the 50/50 agreement when and if the SOS finds sufficient funding on behalf of the state.

(Benton, Cleburne, Craighead, Crittenden, Howard, Saline)

Registered voters in these counties total 326,711 (18.99%)

Including taxes, SOS must find **\$2,709,780.79** in funding to execute these purchases.

If funding is located and the equipment is purchased, 855,386 (49.71%) registered voters in Arkansas would become capable of voting on the new equipment.





Dollars and Cents:

- SOS has expended a total \$6,115,663.38 on equipment (excluding taxes)
- Counties have expended a total of \$2,803,173.35 on equipment (excluding taxes)
- Overall, taxes total \$820,821.92

Total expended upon election equipment, including taxes, to date: \$9,739,658.65

Regardless of which entity purchased what equipment, SOS has committed to provide ongoing maintenance for the life of the equipment upon expiration of the one year warranty period.

SOS has agreed to contract with ESS to provide payment for all poll book upload charges during all early voting periods.

Counties are responsible for purchasing consumables such as ballots. (Avg. \$0.09 ea.)



Miller County Election Coordinator Linda Crawford:

“Miller County used our new equipment for the 2017 school elections. The benefits were numerous. Our poll workers were elated with the simple “open and close” process; the voters found the system easy to use with little direction and they also liked the security of the system as well as the fact they could hold their voted ballot and watch it scanned for counting. The election night reporting was simple and fast. The value of Central Point allowed us to direct voters to move to other open locations where there were shorter lines. Our ultimate goal was to have the voters comfortable with the system and the knowledge their vote was counted and secured. All totaled we had happy voters, poll workers, election officials and the Elected County Officials are pleased with their investment in new equipment.”

Randolph County Clerk Rhonda Blevins:

“Poll workers pick up on training easier, do a better job of explaining to voters, and voters understand better. It gets voters in and out quicker.”

Boone County Clerk Crystal Graddy:

“The equipment has made a huge impact for voters in Boone County in allowing ease of voting and the ability to visually confirm their voting choices before physically casting their ballot. The new technology has been much easier to train the poll workers on how to use with far fewer issues than the old equipment. “

Sebastian County Clerk Sharon Brooks:

“As Sebastian county clerk my experience with the new voting equipment has brought my early voting site to a greater flow of efficiency for my staff and voters and has been very cost efficient for our county. “