



## NEWS RELEASE

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### ***Teton County Vote Centers: Well-received & open for business on Nov. 8***

**Jackson, Wyo., Oct. 28, 2016** – Reminder: Citizens can choose their location to vote on Tuesday, Nov. 8, as part of Teton County’s new Vote Center system. The community Vote Centers had a successful trial run during the August Primary and will be in place again on Election Day.

Voters’ reactions have been positive, and the Vote Center system has already resulted in increased efficiency for election staff, according to Teton County Clerk Sherry L. Daigle and Chief Deputy Clerk Melissa Shinkle.

“We have really changed a lot of things on Election Day, and therefore it made things really peaceful during the Primary – there was a lot less chaos,” Shinkle said. “Everything went smoothly, and because of this more efficient system, we were able to let employees go home earlier in the night than in previous years.”

Under the new polling system, regardless of where citizens live in Teton County, they can choose from any of six locations to cast their ballots on Election Day.

The Vote Centers are located at the Teton County Library, Teton County/Jackson Recreation Center, Old Wilson Schoolhouse Community Center, Teton County Weed & Pest Building, Alta Elementary School and Moran Elementary School. A computerized check-in system ensures that an individual can’t cheat the system and vote at more than one location.

“Most people seem to really appreciate the flexibility of voting where they would like,” Daigle said. “For example, there’s a man who in the past had to leave his job at the airport, drive home to Hoback Junction to vote, and then return to work at the airport. He was thrilled to hear he can now vote where it is convenient for him.”

Vote Centers have gained popularity across the country as an alternative to traditional, neighborhood-based precincts. In Wyoming, Teton County is one of the first to take advantage of the concept since the Wyoming Legislature authorized Vote Centers in 2015.

Despite having fewer polling locations, Daigle said that lines should still be minimal to non-existent due to the increased number of check-in stations and voting booths that will be set up at each location.

In addition, Daigle and Shinkle expect as many as 50 to 60 percent of the electorate to take advantage of the county’s highly accommodative absentee voting option. Beginning 45 days prior to Election Day, citizens can vote by absentee ballot for any reason. Residents can request a ballot, pick one up in person, fill it out in the privacy of their own homes, mail it in, or simply fill it out on the spot at the

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absentee polling site in the basement of the County Administration Building. Absentee ballots must be returned by 7 p.m. on Election Day to be counted.

“Our goal is to make it as easy as possible for people to vote,” Daigle said. “At some point between 45 days prior to the election and 7 p.m. on Election Day, everyone in the whole county is coming through Jackson. With our absentee polling site and being able to vote at any one of those polling centers, it’s pretty convenient. There’s no reason not to vote.”

### **Absentee Polling Location:**

Sept. 23 through Monday, Nov. 7  
County Administration Building (downstairs), 200 S. Willow St.  
Open between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.  
(307) 733-4430

### **Vote Center Locations:**

On Nov. 8, 2016, Teton County residents may vote at ANY one of the following Vote Centers.  
Open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

**TETON COUNTY LIBRARY**

125 Virginian Ln, Jackson, WY

**TETON COUNTY WEED & PEST BUILDING**

7575 US-89, Jackson, WY

**TETON COUNTY/JACKSON RECREATION  
CENTER**

155 E. Gill Ave., Jackson, WY

**ALTA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

15 Alta School Rd., Alta, WY

**OLD WILSON SCHOOLHOUSE COMMUNITY  
CENTER**

5655 Main St., Wilson, WY

**MORAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

501 Moran Ct., Moran, WY