

March 15, 2021

The Honorable Judge James Oakley,
Commissioner Jim Luther Jr.,
Commissioner Damon Beierle,
Commissioner Billy Wall,
Commissioner Joe Don Dockery:

Dear Court Members.

I am the former Burnet County Democratic Chair and a member of interested citizens in protecting the integrity of our elections. I feel that could start with the purchase of new voting machines that have a paper trail. We could then have a way to double check the election results.

Burnet County's voting equipment and technology is at least 20 years old and is no longer supported by the manufacturer. They are reaching the end of life and we are using salvaged parts from old machines that Lampasas gave us when they purchased new ones. This does not promote voter confidence in election results and that every vote is counted.

Along with Lampasas, most other surrounding counties have purchased new equipment.

Having a paper ballot that shows a summary of all choices the voter made would ease the stress by double checking them before being counted.

Therefore, I feel we, as responsible citizens and you as trustees of the people should be proactive to give our voters the best possible way to voice their choices. We do not want them to fail and have someone say that we knew the machines and memory chips could fail catastrophically and we did nothing to prevent it.

I definitely support the purchase of new equipment as soon as possible by including this cost in the upcoming budget for 2021-22.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Marti Pogue". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Marti" and last name "Pogue" clearly distinguishable.

Marti Pogue

Burnet County Citizens and

Member of the Democratic Party

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