

For the Record  
2021 Election Information

October 2021

By Corinne M. Lengel, Lincoln County Clerk

Once again, it's been a while since I've written a column. Here are some election points you might be interested in:

- Colorado elections are mail ballot elections. Legislation that passed in 2013 made Colorado an “all-mail ballot state.”
- If you are an eligible voter, you should have received your ballot for the 2021 Coordinated Election by now. Don't worry; you're not too late if you've moved or haven't registered. Register or update your mailing address at [www.govotecolorado.gov](http://www.govotecolorado.gov) or contact our office for a paper registration/change form. The last day we can mail a ballot is October 25; otherwise, you will need to pick it up or vote in person. Please call if you're not sure if you're eligible.
- Voting in person is *always* an option; however, **voting your mail ballot is highly encouraged**. Why? We are still only allowing one or two people into the office at a time to help combat the recent rise in COVID-19 cases. Voting your mail ballot helps you avoid long lines, entering the office, and potential exposure to coronavirus. Masks are no longer required to enter the courthouse unless you are visiting the courts. If you are more comfortable wearing a mask to vote please feel free to do so.
- Drop-off locations are available for your convenience. If you prefer not to mail your ballot, deposit it in one of the three county drop boxes listed below. The first two are 24-hour drop-boxes. The third is available from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.
  - ✓ Limon Town Hall – 100 Civic Center Drive (by sidewalk east of police department—drive or walk-up)
  - ✓ Lincoln County Courthouse – 103 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue (outside of front doors), Hugo
  - ✓ Lincoln County Courthouse – 103 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue (inside county clerk's office), Hugo (also open from 8:00 a.m. to noon on Saturday, October 30)
- Ballots *must be received* either in a drop-box or at the County Clerk's office by 7:00 p.m. on Election Day (November 2, 2021). Postmarks do not count.
- **You must sign your ballot envelope!** Unsigned envelopes result in cure letters, meaning if you don't sign your envelope, you'll get a letter from the Clerk asking if you turned in a ballot. If you don't respond your vote will not count. Make sure to sign the back of the envelope before returning your ballot!

- **We verify signatures!** Yes, all county clerks verify the signatures on the ballot envelopes, so make sure you sign ***your*** envelope! Counties have trained judges and/or staff members to complete this task. Every envelope is checked for a signature and verified with other signatures in the voter's record. If there is a discrepancy the voter gets a letter from the Clerk.
- Please remember that the clerk's office will be open ***for election business only*** on November 2. **The driver's license office will be closed.**

My apologies for basically a repeat of last October's article and not doing a better job of keeping you more informed throughout the year. My goal for 2022 is to be more diligent with my article writing! Be safe and have a happy Halloween!

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