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## Voters Approve Electronic Records

Patrons of Syringa Hospital and Clinics voted overwhelmingly in favor of an electronic health records (EHR) system at the facility in Tuesday's election. Meanwhile, voters chose both a mix of new and old faces to fill open city council positions in Cottonwood and Kooskia, and also approved salaries for the White Bird mayor and councilors. Results in Tuesday's elections are unofficial until canvassed by the respective governing bodies.

### **EHR issue**

A two-thirds approval was needed to pass and the hospital district voted in favor with 1,041 yes votes, or 87 percent, to 150 no votes. A total of 1,191 votes were cast in this election. The vote was to allow SHC to go into debt to purchase the federally mandated EHR computer software and equipment. The main portion of the cost will be paid for by federal reimbursements; however, the hospital had to act now to qualify for those payments. "I know the board will be happily overwhelmed with this vote. We really know we're headed in the right direction," said SHC board secretary Twila Hornbeck. "I want to thank those who worked on this election and voted for this."

"This is a fantastic outcome -- we are thankful and humbled by the support, confidence and trust residents of Idaho County have shown SHC today," added SHC CEO Joe Cladouhos. "We'll report back as we install the new EHR system and repay the debt in a timely manner." How we voted:

Elk City: 26 yes, 11 no; Grangeville: 797 yes, 60 no; Kooskia: 107 yes, 41 no; White Bird: 51 yes, 9 no; and Riggins: 60 yes, 29 no

### **City Council Elections**

A mix of newcomers and incumbents were chosen by the voters in Tuesday's elections to fill open four-year-terms in both Cottonwood and Kooskia.

#### **Cottonwood: Riener, Grant elected**

In Cottonwood, newcomer Shaun Riener and incumbent Ron L. Grant received 74 and 69 votes, respectively, to be elected to the two open seats on the city council. Incumbent Jay James Hinterlong received 26. Overall, 96 votes were cast out of a total 527 registered for an 18 percent voter turnout.

#### **Kooskia: Squires, Bashaw elected**

For Kooskia's two open council seats, incumbent Leslie W. Squires returned to office with 61 votes, and newcomer Brenda L. Bashaw was elected with 56 votes. Incumbent Donald R. Raymond and William (Bill) Amos received 51 and 18 votes, respectively.