

Town of Copake Resolution

Read by Bob Sacks into the Copake Town Hall Minutes and Passed on Saturday March 14th, 2009

The Columbia County Board of Supervisors' passed a resolution at its Feb. 11 meeting asking the State Legislature and state Board of Elections to "enact laws, rules and regulations that specifically authorize the continued use of lever-style voting machines."

The resolution stated that "For many decades, the county has successfully used mechanical lever-style voting machines, with very few problems, and is desirous of continuing to do so," the resolution goes on to say that it "is in the best interest of the public and should be permitted to be used in future elections."

This was passed because of potential problems with the Sequoia optical scan ballot marking machines purchased by the county for \$600,000. It is very important to note that most of those costs were paid by New York State, and out of the \$600,000, the county paid \$28,000.

Professionally I am a publishing futurist, and because of that I feel strongly that computerized optical voting scanners of some sort are eventually the correct future for fair and honest voting.

But in my research and personal experience we are not quite yet at a time where we can be totally assured and have the complete confidence in the results of the Sequoia optical scan ballot marking machines. They are flawed on many levels.

Therefore I am asking this board to a pass this Resolution.

The Copake Town board passes this resolution in support of The Columbia County Board of Supervisors resolution passed on Feb. 11, 2009, and agrees until such time as optical scanners or other computer-operated voting machines have been certified by the state Board of Elections and are proved well beyond a reasonable doubt to be viable, reliable and tamper proof we should stay with and continue to use the lever-style voting machines."