### VOTER'S BILL of RIGHTS

**Each registered voter in this state has the right to:**

1. Vote and have his or her vote accurately counted.

2. Cast a vote if he or she is in line at the official closing of the polls in that county.

3. Ask for and receive assistance in voting.

4. Receive up to two replacement ballots if he or she makes a mistake prior to the ballot being issued.

5. An explanation if his or her registration or identity is in question.

6. If his or her registration or identity is in question, cast a provisional Ballot.

7. Written instructions to use when voting, and upon request, oral instructions in voting from elections officers.

8. Vote free from coercion or intimidation by elections officers or any other person.

9. Vote on a voting system that is in working condition and that will allow votes to be accurately cast.

### VOTER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

**Each registered voter in this state has the responsibility to:**

1. Familiarize himself or herself with the candidates and issues.

2. Maintain with the office of the supervisor of elections a current address.

3. Know the location of his or her polling place and its hours of operation.

4. Bring proper identification to the polling place.

5. Familiarize himself or herself with the operation of the voting equipment in his or her precinct.

6. Treat precinct workers with courtesy.

7. Respect the privacy of other voters.

8. Report any problems or violations of election laws to the supervisor of elections.

9. Ask questions, if needed.

10. Make sure that his or her completed ballot is correct before leaving the polling booth.

**NOTE TO VOTER: Failure to perform any of these responsibilities does not prohibit a voter from voting. *F.S. 101.031***

#### **How to Register to Vote**

Registering to vote is easy. There are five requirements to be eligible to register to vote in Hendry County. First you must be a US citizen, a resident of Hendry County, and be 18 years old (you may pre-register if you are 16 or receipt of a valid Florida driver's license). Have your Civil Rights restored if ever convicted of a Felony. You may not be adjudicated mentally incapacitated with respect to voting. Complete a Voter Registration Application at the Supervisor of Elections Office in LaBelle at the Courthouse Complex or at the Sub-office in Clewiston. You may also find these forms at the Driver’s license office, any Public Assistance Office, Public Libraries, or on-line at www.hendryelections.org.

###### ***Now that you have the Application, the next step***

Please print clearly when completing the form. If you want to vote in a Party Primary Election, be sure to specify a party affiliation, Florida is a “*Closed Primary State*”. In Florida, you cannot vote in a party primary unless you are registered with that Party. Your completed application can be submitted at any Elections Office, or you may place it in the mail addressed to the Supervisor of Elections, P O Box 174, LaBelle, FL 33975. If you choose to mail your application, please enclose a copy of picture identification. You can also submit your application on-line. Your voter registration application will be processed and you will be notified of your acceptance with a Voter Information card. If there is any problem with your application, you will be notified in writing.

###### ***Keep Your Existing Voter's Registration Current***

The same Florida Voter Registration Application can now be used to make any changes (name, residence or mailing address, party, Signature Update) on your current registration. All name and party changes shall be made by submitting a voter registration application. Changes may be made on-line at our website www.hendryelections.gov or by calling the Supervisor of Elections Office. Always keep us informed of your current residence and/or mailing address. It is very important to keep your signature current with the Supervisor of Elections. Your signature of record is used to verify signatures on Vote by Mail Ballots, Petitions and Provisional Ballots. Once the Elections Office receives your notice of change, a new Voter Information Card will be mailed to you with your updated information. If there is a change in your Polling Place or Precinct, the Supervisor of Elections will notify you by mail.

##### ***2024 Book Closing***

To be eligible to vote in the 2024 Elections, you must be registered before the Books Close.

***Book Closing Dates***

Presidential Preference Primary Election – February 20, 2024

Primary Election — July 22, 2024

General Election — October 7, 2024

***Hendry County's Voting System***

Hendry County uses the ES&S DS200 Optical Scan Voting System that is state certified. It is modern computer technology to protect your vote and yet makes it simple using a paper ballot. Hendry County also uses ExpressVote, an audio/touch screen unit to assist Voters.

***How you can cast your Vote***

##### ***Early Voting***

Early Voting is easy, remember to bring photo ID. Early Voting is just like voting at your precinct on Election Day, except you have the choice of thirteen days to cast your vote beginning fifteen days before Election Day you can early vote at:

***Early Voting Locations***

**Supervisor's Office, 25 E. Hickpochee Ave., LaBelle**

**Supervisor's Office, 1100 S. Olympia Street, Clewiston**

***Early Voting Dates:***

**Presidential Preference Primary Election Early Voting**

**March 4 – 16, 2024**

**Daily, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

**Primary Election Early Voting**

**August 5 - 17, 2024**

**Daily, 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

**General Election Early Voting**

**October 21 - November 2, 2024**

**Daily, 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

#### **How to Vote by Mail**

A Vote by Mail ballot may be requested for a specific election or for all elections through the next General Election. The request can be made in person, by mail, online, or by telephone. All qualified Voters are permitted to Vote by Mail. Only the voter or a designated member of his or her immediate family or legal guardian can request a Vote by Mail ballot for the voter. Immediate family means the voter's spouse or the parent, child, grandparent, grandchild, or sibling of the voter or of the voter's spouse. A qualified voter may designate in writing another person to pick up a Vote by Mail ballot for the voter. Pickup ballots are available to a designee 9 days prior to Election Day. A designee may only pick up two ballots per election other than his or her own, except for ballots picked up for members of his or her immediate family. The designee must provide the written authorization by the voter, a picture ID of the designee and complete an affidavit. You can track the status of your ballot request and the ballot through the online voter registration lookup link at: www.hendryelections.gov.

 Vote by Mail ballots cannot be forwarded by the Post Office.

 Vote by Mail ballots may not be dropped off at the polls.

 Vote by Mail ballots must reach the Supervisor of Elections office by 7:00 p.m. on Election Day.

 Be sure you read the directions carefully and completely fill in the ovals for your choices on your ballot.

 If voting for a write-in candidate, you are to write in the name of the candidate on the line provided and fill in the oval next to the name.

 If you make a mistake on your Vote by Mail ballot, do not erase or use white-out. Call the Supervisor of Elections office for help. DO NOT try to amend your ballot.

 Be sure you have SIGNED the return envelope that came with your Vote by Mail ballot.

 Be sure you have affixed the proper postage.

 Include a copy of your photo identification if you registered by mail.

 Photo and signature identification will be requested at the polls and for those vote by mail

voters voting in person at the Supervisor of Elections office.

##### ***Going to the Polls to Vote Election Day***

The Polling place will open 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Election Day. The Election Board worker will ask for a photo and signature ID. Your Driver's License is the perfect ID. These are the acceptable types of ID:

**Valid Florida Driver’s License**

**Florida Identification Card, US Passport**

#### **Debit/Credit Cards (w/photo)**

**Public Assistance Identification**

**Retirement Center ID, Neighborhood Association ID**

**Military ID, Student ID, Veteran ID Card, Concealed Weapons Permit**

**Employee ID issued by Government, State, County or City**

##### ***Receiving your Ballot and Voting***

The voter will receive a paper ballot and be directed to the voting booth to use the pen provided. Record your vote by completely filling in the oval next to the candidate or issue of choice. If you make a mistake on your ballot, you may ask the Election worker for a replacement.

After voting, the voter takes his ballot to the DS200 tabulator and inserts it into a slot on the top of the machine. The scanning device reads the votes cast. If the voter marks more than the allowed candidates in a race, (“over vote”) the ballot is returned and the voter will be issued a new ballot.

If a voter does not wish to vote in a race, you may leave it blank; the rest of your ballot will be counted. The DS200 will return the ballot to the voter if the ballot is completely blank.

In the General Election to cast a vote for a Write-in Candidate (*The person must have qualified as a Write-in Candidate in order for the Vote to Count).* Blacken the Oval to the left of the line provided and write the name of the Candidate on blank line provided.

In order to avoid delays at the polling place, you should update your address before you go to vote.

If you do not update your address by the time you vote, it may affect how you vote as follows:  If you moved within the same county or you are an active uniformed services personnel or a family member thereof moving within the same county or from another Florida county, you will have to execute a change of address at the polls before you can vote a regular ballot.

##### ***Provisional Ballot***

If your eligibility to vote cannot be determined for any reason, you are entitled to vote a provisional ballot. If you vote a provisional ballot, you will be given a written notice of rights that includes:

1. A statement that you have the right to bring further evidence (if you choose) of your eligibility to the Supervisor of Elections. You have until 5 p.m. of the second day after the election to do so.

2. A statement that if you voted a provisional ballot solely because you did not bring in identification, you do not have to bring in further evidence of eligibility. The local canvassing board will count your ballot if you voted in the right precinct and the signature on the provisional ballot certificate matches the signature on the voter registration record.

3. A statement that if you voted a provisional ballot because your personal identifying number could not be verified, you can provide in person or by copy through fax, e-mail, or mail a copy of the card with the identifying number to the Supervisor of Elections and that the deadline is 5 p.m. of the second day after the election to do so.

4. Instructions on how you can find out after the election if your provisional ballot was counted, and if not, the reason(s) why.

5. A statement that if this is a primary election, you should contact the Supervisor of Elections’ office immediately to confirm that you are registered and will be able to vote in the general election. If you do not bring Identification or your voter registration is not in order, you will be issued a Provisional ballot.

##### ***Helpful Tips***

 **Make sure all the information on your Voter Information Card is accurate.**

 **Your Voter Information Card has important information specific to your physical address, your Precinct Number and Polling Location.**

 **Your Voter Information Card also has your Districts numbers for Congress, Senate, County Commission and School Board.**

 **If you do not know the location of your polling place, call the Elections office for directions before Election Day.**

 **Hendry County is a single member district county; you will only vote for the County Commissioner and School Board District in which you reside.**

**Hendry County**

 **Precinct Polling Place Address**

1. **Janet B. Taylor Auditorium, 1100 S Olympia St., Clewiston**

2. **Carlson Memorial United Church, 310 Campbell St., LaBelle**

3. **LaBelle Civic Center, 481 W. Hickpochee Ave., LaBelle**

4. **Big Cypress Gymnasium, 31201 Josie Billie Hwy., Clewiston**

5. **Felda Community Center, 1100 CR 830, Felda**

6. **John Boy Auditorium, 1200 S WC Owen Ave., Clewiston**

7. **Youth Center, 110 W. Osceola Ave., Clewiston**

8. **Pioneer Fire Station, 2499 Hendry Isles Blvd., Clewiston**

9. **Church of the Good Shepherd, 1098 Collingswood Pkwy, Pt. LaBelle**

10. **Montura Clubhouse, 225 N Hacienda St., Clewiston**

**Offices to be filled in the 2024 Elections**

President & Vice President

United States Senator

US Representatives

State House Representative

Clerk of Court

Sheriff

Property Appraiser

Tax Collector

Supervisor of Elections

Superintendent of Schools

20th Judicial Circuit Judges

Groups 1, 2, 5, 8, 9, 14, 17, 18, 23, 26, 27, 28, 30, and 31

County Offices

Board of County Commissioners, Districts #1, 3 & 5

School Board Members (Nonpartisan) Districts #1 & 2

Other District Offices

Hendry County Hospital Board Authority Districts #1, 3 & 5

Hendry Soil and Water Conservation District Seats #2 & 4

Multi-county Districts

LeHigh Acres Municipal Services Improvement District Seats #1, 3 & 5

Port LaBelle Community Development District, Seats #2 & 4

City of LaBelle

2 Seats

City of Clewiston

3 Seats

**DID YOU KNOW?**

 **Sample Ballot**

Prior to each election you will be sent an Official Sample Ballot. To lessen your time in the voting booth, you can pre-mark your sample ballot and use it as a guide when you mark your official ballot.

**Voting Assistance**

If you need assistance in reading or marking your ballot, you may bring someone with you, or poll workers are available. Spanish language assistance and ADA compliant voting equipment are available at all Early Voting locations and at the polls on Election Day.

**Voter Information Card**

Voter Information cards are mailed confirming new registrations, voter updates or changes in polling sites. While this mailer provides valuable information, it is not required that you produce it on Election Day to vote.

**Updating a Signature**

It is very important that a voter’s registration record contains a current signature. If the voter’s signature has changed, he or she may update it by submitting a new voter registration application. To obtain a Florida Voter Registration Application, a person may visit www.hendryelections.gov, call the Hendry County Supervisor of Elections Office at (863) 675-5230, or visit the Hendry County Supervisor of Elections Office.

**Registration is Public Record**

In Florida, voter registration records are open to the public and may be examined or copied by any person. However, the following registration information is confidential: location of voter’s place of registration, location of place of registration update, Social Security number, driver license number, and Florida identification number. A voter’s signature may be viewed but not copied.

**Myth v. Fact**

**MYTH:** **If you don’t receive your ballot by 7 p.m. on Election Day, you won’t be allowed to vote.**

**FACT:** All Voters in line at their proper polling place at 7 p.m. on Election Day will be allowed to vote, regardless of the length of the line.

**MYTH:** **You must have your voter information card in order to vote.**

**FACT:** The voter information card is not necessary to vote. It is a helpful tool for the voter to know their districts & polling location.

**MYTH:** **You will not be allowed to vote if the address on your driver’s license does not match the address on your voter registration record.**

**FACT:** The address on the driver's license does not need to match the address in the voter registration record. If you have moved and haven’t changed your driver’s license to reflect your new address, that’s okay. What is important is that you vote in the precinct where you currently live, no matter what your driver’s license says.

**MYTH:** **If you wear any clothing that to you supporters to you polling place, you will not able to vote.**

**FACT:** Voters can wear t-shirts, buttons, hats, etc., express their political preferences, as long as they are not actively campaigning at the polling, place or within the 150-foot zone.

**MYTH:** **If you owe back child support or have outstanding warrants, you will be arrested if you attempt to vote.**

**FACT:** The voter rolls in each polling place have no indicator of whether an individual has any outstanding warrants. In addition, state law prohibits law enforcement from entering a polling place without being summoned by the poll workers.

**MYTH:** **If you are a Florida college student, you must change your permanent**

 **residence to your college address.**

**FACT:** Students can maintain their voter registration at their hometown address, or they may register to vote in the jurisdiction where they attend school. Those who choose to maintain a Hendry County registration will want to remember to contact our office for vote by mail ballots at election time.