Electronic Voting for Dioceses: What worked for us

In April of 2016, I put out a request for help to the Episcopal Communicators Facebook group on best practices and recommendations for electronic voting at our bishop election convention in Central New York. As a way to say 'thank you' to this group, here's what worked for us. The photos below will help you visualize our voting set up and process.
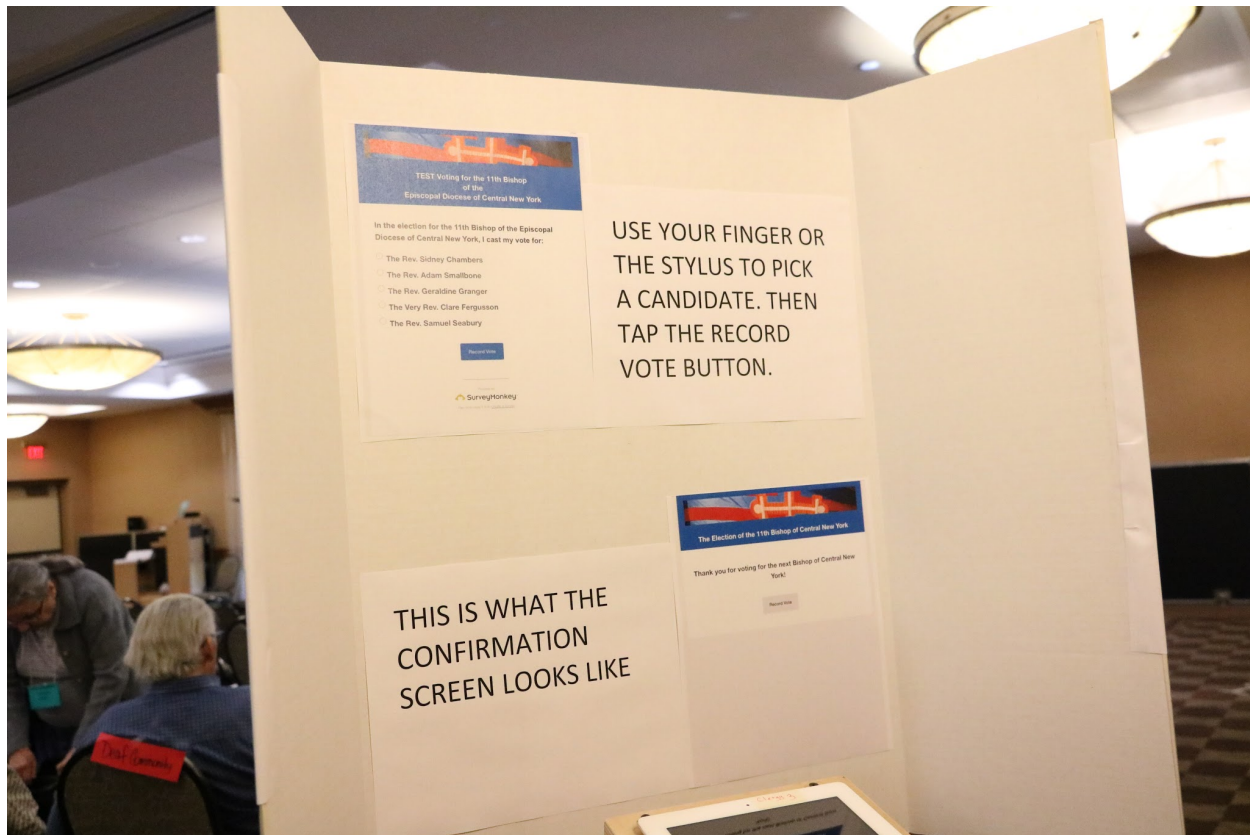

Co-chairs of the Election Art Durando and Charles Moore use the demo station for learning the voting process.

Volunteer Cindy Adamowsky demonstrates the voting process before the Election Convention begins.

Andy Pierce cleans the screen of the iPad at a voting station before the first ballot.
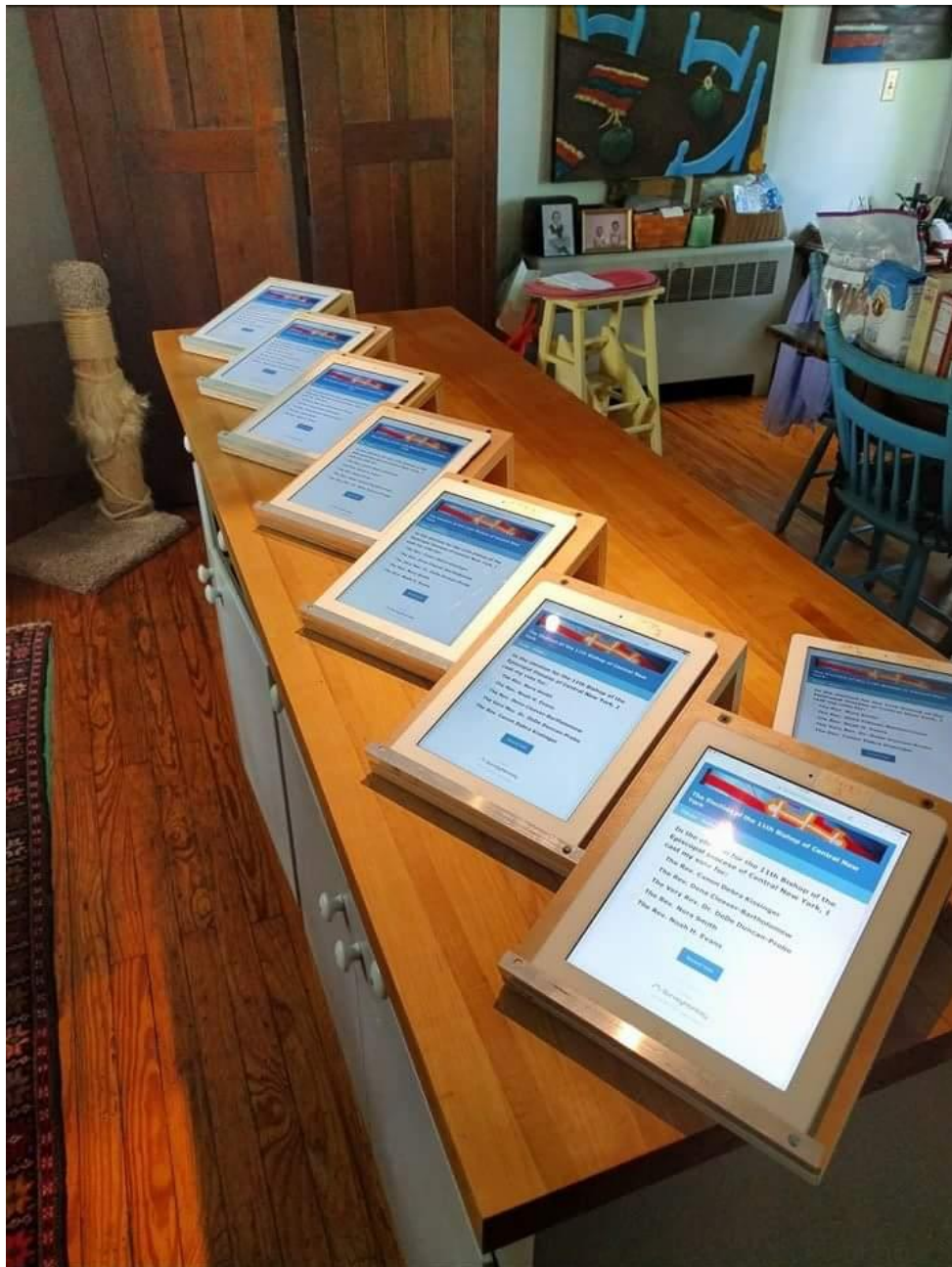
The inside of the tri-fold screen gives information about the voting process.
The Lay Voting Stations are set for the first ballot voting process.
Paul Curtin, Esq., Chancellor of the Diocese of Central New York, and 10th Bishop of the Diocese of Central New York, the Rt. Reverend Gladstone B. Adams III, at the Special Convention for the Election of the 11th Bishop.
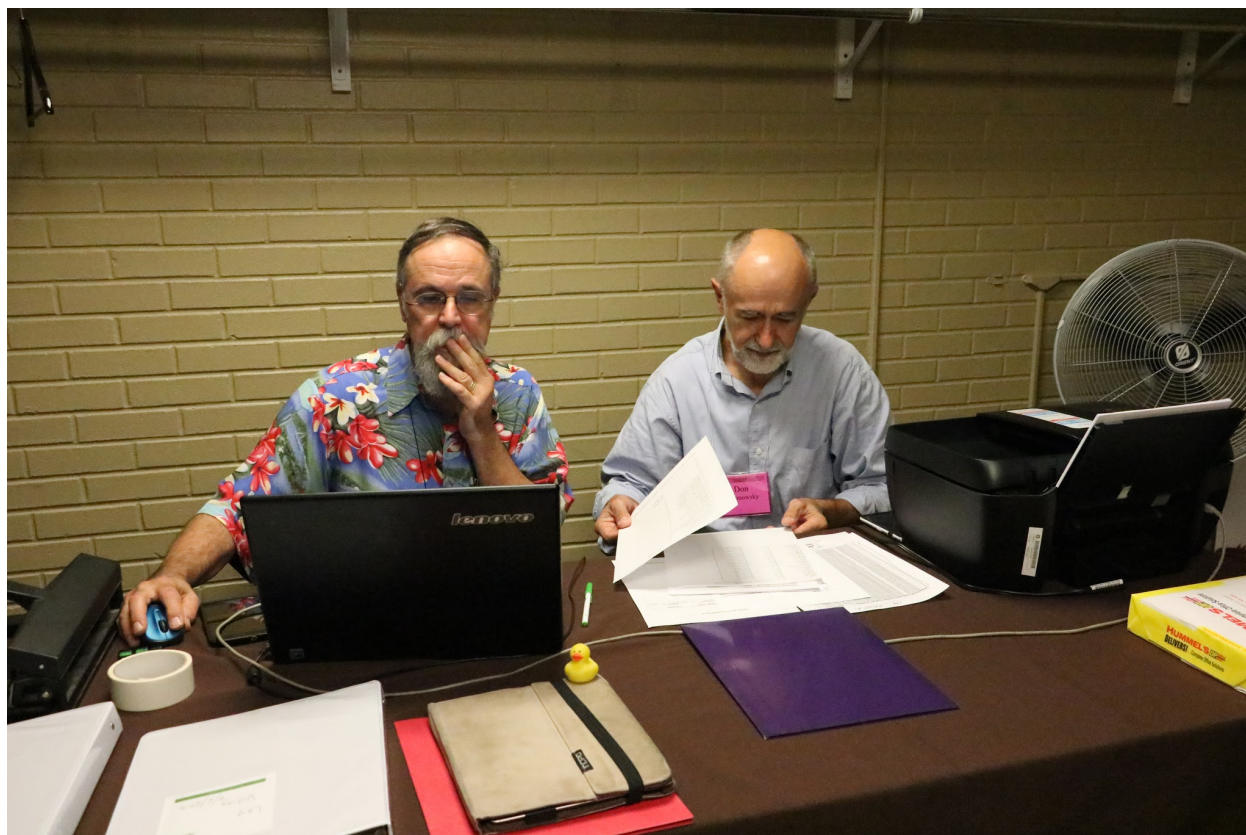
The Reverend Geoff Doolittle casts his vote for the 11th Bishop at Clergy Voting Station 1 while other voters are validated and checked in.

The iPad election platforms are set up, and tested in a secure location prior to the election convention

Charles Moore, Election Co-Chair, addresses the convention and provides details of the voting process.

Volunteers Andy Pierce and Don Adamowsky provide the technical oversight of the voting in a private and secure location near the Election Convention.

The Reverend Deacon Kay Drebert casts her vote while the voting station monitors insure the lists are accurate.Charles Moore, Election Co-chair, presents the voting results to The Reverend Christine Day, President of the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Central New York.

The voting booths

SThe messages to us were:

- Episcopal Communicators on Facebook is a GREAT place to get help!
- What we were doing was relatively simple, don't overthink it
- The main benefit with electronic voting is in the counting and time to provide feedback
- Ballot creation with random positions for candidates is built in and important
- Almost instant updating of the ballot as needed for candidates who withdrew
- It works for a valid and fair election!
- It is scalable to larger or smaller audiences

For more information or if you have questions, don't hesitate to contact me at
j.andrew.pierce@gmail.com