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## **Recount confirms results of state House race**

The results of the House District 24 Republican Primary Election have been reaffirmed.

On Monday, Park County elections staff recounted the votes cast in the primary race between Sandy Newsome and Nina Webber. Monday's tally exactly matched the initial results from Aug. 16.

The results are:

- 1,810 votes for Newsome
- 1,727 votes for Webber
- 19 write-in votes
- 5 over votes (in which the voter marked more than one oval)
- 186 under votes (in which the voter left the race blank)

Candidates for state offices had until Friday – two days after the State Canvassing Board certified the results – to request a recount. Webber made her request on Friday, alleging there may have been errors in the counting of the ballots.

Elections staffers worked Friday and Saturday to manually separate out the 3,747 ballots cast in the House District 24 race in preparation for the recount. On Monday, those ballots were run through the county's DS450 scanner and tabulator. The machine is a speedier version of the DS200s used at the polls and was previously used to tabulate all of Park County absentee ballots in the primary election. The DS450 encountered no problems in processing the ballots. The recount was completed in two hours, running from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

The county spent \$751.35 of employee time on the recount. Because the winner of the House District 24 race remained the same, Webber is responsible for paying the first \$500 worth of costs, drawn from a deposit she posted with the Wyoming Secretary of State's Office last week. The county will be responsible for the other \$250.

"We're very pleased that the recount confirmed the initial results," said Park County Clerk Colleen Renner. "We hope it gives the public additional confidence in our elections here in Wyoming."

It was the first recount conducted in Park County since the 2016 General Election, when two races were recounted and reaffirmed.