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**REBECCA SPENCER**  
Registrar of Voters



**ART TINOCO**  
Assistant Registrar of Voters

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**REGISTRAR OF VOTERS**  
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

**Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee (VAAC)**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**April 28, 2022 | 10:00 a.m.**

***Members:***

Julie Caban, Chair  
Larry Smith, Vice Chair  
John Kopp, Committee Member  
Gabriel Taylor, Committee Member  
Deborah Cole, Committee Member

***Guests:***

Glyn Wild  
Pavel Ilie

***Registrar of Voters Staff:***

Rebecca Spencer, Registrar of Voters  
Art Tinoco, Assistant Registrar of Voters  
Candice Gordon, Executive Assistant, Registrar of Voters  
Alma Del Carmen, Elections Technician II, Registrar of Voters

***Meeting Commenced at 10:00 a.m.***

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***I. Welcome/Introductions***

Introductions were made of the following staff: Registrar of Voters Rebecca Spencer, Assistant Registrar Art Tinoco, and Committee Chair Julie Caban. Following staff introductions, attendees of the meeting made introductions.

***II. Approval of January 28, 2022 Minutes***

Gabe Taylor made a motion to accept the minutes; John Kopp seconded. Minutes were accepted.

***III. Update on Voter's Choice Act Implementation***

Rebecca Spencer shared that the draft Election Administration Plan had been amended. A public hearing was held in the beginning of April. Public comments and feedback that were received were implemented into the amended draft plan, posted on April 27<sup>th</sup> to the Registrar of Voters website. This starts another 14-day public comment period, which ends on May 11<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Spencer explained that once that public comment period ends, any feedback received will be considered to place into the Election Administration Plan, and then the final Election Administration Plan will be submitted to the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State will accept it as is or accept it with modifications. A copy of the Election Administration Plan is posted to the website and has been mailed to our VAAC email list. Comments can be submitted by email at [rovweb@rivco.org](mailto:rovweb@rivco.org) or mailed to the office.

Ms. Spencer shared that tentative dates for outreach and education workshops are in the draft Election Administration Plan. These are tentative dates as the Secretary of State has asked that they not be scheduled until final approval is received. As such, those dates have been pushed to the middle and end of May. Once final approval is received from the Secretary of State, ten-day public notices will be prepared for all voter education workshops. All voter education workshops will be done via Zoom platform. The schedule for these workshops will be sent to the VAAC email list when

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approved by the Secretary of State.

Ms. Spencer shared that the list of the 145 vote centers and 87 ballot drop-off locations that will be used for the June election are finalized and posted on the Registrar's website.

Gabe Taylor shared that during his review of the amended draft of the Election Administration Plan, he noticed that a lot of the feedback provided at the consultation meeting and at the public hearings was included in the amended version. Gabe shared his thanks and appreciation towards the Registrars receptiveness in incorporating feedback into the plan.

#### ***IV. Upcoming Elections***

##### **June 7, 2022 Statewide Direct Primary Election**

Julie Caban shared that for the June 7, 2022 election all active registered voters will receive a vote-by-mail ballot. Ballots will be sent out on May 9<sup>th</sup>. The Registrar of Voters office is currently sending out County Voter Information Guides to voters, while the State has already mailed theirs. All voting areas will have two ballot cards. Voters should check on both sides of the cards for selections. With the Vote Center model, Riverside County will have 26 sites open for 11 days and 145 sites open for 4 days. The 26 sites will be staffed by Leads, currently undergoing training in the Lead Academy. All Leads will have 7 days of experience on working at a Vote Center, before managing their own for the last 4 days. For the last 4 days, from June 3<sup>rd</sup> through June 7<sup>th</sup>, the 145 sites will each be staffed by 2 Leads and 8 election officers. About 1,400 election officers are currently being hired to work with the Leads. Ms. Caban shared that they have a great turnout for the Leads and the recruiting department is close to hiring the 1,400 election officers needed to staff the 4-day Vote Centers. Vote Centers will be open all days from May 28<sup>th</sup> to June 6<sup>th</sup>, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., including Saturdays and Sundays. On Election Day, June 7<sup>th</sup>, Vote Centers will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

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John Kopp asked about the ballots for the June election, regarding the Secretary of State Random Alphabetical Draw on April 17<sup>th</sup>, and the Riverside County's Special Random Alphabetical Draw on March 17<sup>th</sup>. In particular, when the county's Random Alphabetical Draw supersedes the Secretary of States, and where the break occurs between the Secretary of States random draw and the county's random draw.

Ms. Spencer shared that Riverside County's random draw only applies to State Senate and State Assembly Districts that are shared with multiple counties. Districts that are only in Riverside County will use the States random draw. For any State Senate or State Assembly Districts that cross county lines, each county has to do their own random draw for those contests. All other contests use the Secretary of State's random draw. Ms. Spencer also explained that certain offices rotate by assembly districts. The governor's office, all statewide and congressional offices, and local countywide offices rotate by assembly district. The names rotate through the random alphabet depending on which assembly district the voter lives in. A different arrangement of the candidates, rotated upon the Secretary of States random drawing, will be seen on ballots of different assembly districts.

**November 8, 2022 Consolidated General Election**

Ms. Caban shared that the top two vote-getters from the June primary election, regardless of party, will go into the November election. The Vote Center model will continue to be used for the November election, with ballots mailed out to voters. Voters will be able to drop off their ballots at Vote Centers or at ballot drop-off locations. The November Vote Center locations will be relatively the same as the June locations.

Mr. Kopp asked if the dates for nomination paper pickup and return deadlines that apply to cities also apply to local offices such as school boards and college districts. Ms. Caban confirmed that all the nominating offices have the same time pickup dates and return deadlines for nomination papers.

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Mr. Taylor asked for a quick overview of the Election Administration Plan renewal process for the November election.

Ms. Spencer shared that two public consultation meetings, one geared towards the disability community and one geared towards language access, were done in March with a ten-day public notice for each. A general public hearing was held in early April, followed by a 14-day public comment period for that public hearing. The draft Election Administration Plan was posted on the Registrar's website. Based on comments received, the Registrar of Voters produced the amended draft of the Election Administration Plan. The next steps are to finalize the document and send it to the Secretary of State. After the Secretary of State approves the document, the Registrar's office will hold outreach and education workshops.

Ms. Spencer shared that going forward, to her understanding, the Election Administration Plan is amended every 2 years. Mr. Taylor confirmed that the Election Administration Plan process currently being completed for this June election is not a process that happens for every single election, only when the plan is up for renewal.

Ms. Spencer shared that the Registrar's office is currently getting materials ready to post to the website for the June election, including a link for voters to look up their Voter Information Guide.

***V. Update on the SOS VAAC***

Larry Smith shared that the Secretary of State meeting held on April 20<sup>th</sup> focused on the swearing in of the new State VAAC members for the upcoming year. The new elected Co-Chairs for the State VAAC are Fred Nisen and Veronica Elsia. Mr. Smith shared that one of the goals for next year is trying to get people that have disabilities accessible options for signing petitions with specific language in the Elections Code to help them sign petitions.

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***VI. Public Comments***

Deborah Cole asked how many candidates we have so far for Governor. Ms. Spencer shared that the contests for Governor and United States Senator are above 20 candidates each.

Ms. Cole asked if voters will be able to select two candidates for each race. Ms. Caban shared that voters will only be able to make one selection for each race. However, the top two vote-getters for the contest of Governor in the June election will proceed to the November election. Ms. Spencer added that there are instructions on the ballot informing the voter of how many candidates they can vote for. All the contests for the June election are vote for one. The top two vote-getters for all the state offices will move on to the November election.

Mr. Kopp asked if the new redistricting data from cities and school boards would be added gradually to the Registrar of Voters system, or if it would be one single drop of all the new districts, precincts, and mapping. Ms. Spencer shared that it will not be a gradual change because changes cannot be made to precincts while the June election is ongoing. Essentially, a copy will be taken of the current database as it is and all changes will be made on a different server, and that server will be made active in July. Any of the new redistricting data will not be seen until July.

Ms. Caban shared that Riverside County VAAC has a new VAAC member named Alessandra Lozano. Bob Warburton stepped away from Riverside County's VAAC committee as he moved to another county.

***VII. Adjournment/Next Meeting***

Meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 28, 2022.