
REBECCA SPENCER
Registrar of Voters



ART TINOCO
Assistant Registrar of Voters

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee (VAAC)
Meeting Minutes
April 26, 2018 | 10:00 a.m.

Committee Members:

Julie Caban, Chair
Larry Smith, Co-Chair
Mario Janesin, Committee Member
Gabe Taylor, Committee Member
Ruthee Goldkorn, Committee Member - Intercom
Feliciano Godoy, Committee Member
John Kopp, Committee Member

Guests:

Ronak Patel

Registrar of Voters Staff:

Rebecca Spencer, Registrar of Voters
Art Tinoco, Assistant Registrar of Voters
Chris Neubauer, Chief Deputy Registrar of EO & Polls Division

Meeting Commenced at 10:02 a.m.

I. Welcome/Introductions

Introductions were made of the following staff: Registrar of Voters Rebecca Spencer, Assistant Registrar of Voters Art Tinoco, Chief Deputy of the EO & Polls Division Chris Neubauer, Committee Chair Julie Caban and Committee Co-Chair Larry Smith. Following staff introductions, attendees of the meeting made introductions.

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II. Approval of January 25, 2018 Minutes

Julie Caban asked the committee members to accept the January 25, 2018 meeting minutes. John Kopp made a motion to accept the minutes; Ruthee Goldkorn seconded. Minutes were accepted.

III. Information on the June 5, 2018 Consolidated Primary Election

Julie Caban stated that there will be 546 polling places for the June Election. There will be approximately 3,200 poll workers. She asked the VAAC members for their support in recruiting poll workers. Anyone that is interested in becoming a poll worker can contact the Registrar of Voters Office for more information. The California state pamphlets have been sent out and the County Voter Information Guide will be going in the mail today. The Vote-by-Mail ballots will be sent out starting May 7th. The close of registration is May 21st. Ms. Caban passed around a sample of the ballot which is two cards and 18 inches.

Rebecca Spencer stated that due to the number of qualified candidates in the contests for Governor and U.S. Senate the candidates had to be wrapped into two columns. There are 27 qualified candidates for Governor and 32 qualified candidates for U.S. Senate. The Registrar's Office is working on voter education to ensure voters understand that the Governor and U.S. Senate are "vote for one" contests. If a voter marks more than one candidate on each contest their vote will be void. A statement has been added to the County Voter Information Guide and an insert has been added to the Vote-by-Mail ballots to highlight those contests.

Ruthee Goldkorn asked if there were any propositions on the ballot. Ms. Caban stated that there are five statewide propositions and four local ballot measures on the ballot.

IV. Discussion on "Train the Trainer" session on April 18, 2018

Ms. Caban stated that ROV held a "Train the Trainer" session on April 18th

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and she attended with her trainers and training assistants. She shared that the session was very informative. The new trainers appreciated the information and it will help them focus on accessibility in their training classes. Ms. Goldkorn stated that she appreciated the opportunity to share her perspective. Gabe Taylor stated that having different disability perspectives are important to have as part of the discussion.

v. Early Voting at Blindness Support Services

The Registrar of Voters will be conducting early voting at Blindness Support Services in Riverside on May 26th from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The Registrar has met with Pete Benavidez to come up with a plan for set-up and connectivity has been tested. Ms. Caban encouraged the VAAC members to spread the word. This early voting site is open to all voters.

Early voting will also be available May 25th through May 27th from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Galleria at Tyler in Riverside, at the Westfield Palm Desert, and at the Promenade in Temecula.

vi. Discussion of the 2018 Future of California Elections (FoCE) Conference on March 8, 2018

Mr. Taylor stated that he attended the FoCE Conference on March 8th and he was able to organize two panels at the conference. He stated there was a helpful discussion regarding the Remote Accessible Vote-by-Mail System. The panel discussed the process and how the system will work. It also helped clear up misconceptions that this system is used to vote electronically. The afternoon session focused on the importance of providing online information for voters with disabilities. One of the items discussed was having counties design a page on their website that is dedicated to voters with disabilities.

John Kopp asked how long it is going to take to cycle through the DMV process of getting people defaulted as registered voters. Chris Neubauer stated that the DMV program is not retroactive and it only changes for

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voters when they update or renew their license. Mr. Neubauer stated that it will take approximately five years for voters to be switched to the new process.

Mr. Kopp asked if the revised registration form will keep the previous box format or if the form will only have lines moving forward. He also asked if the form will cause problems with penmanship and impact getting people registered. Mr. Neubauer stated that the new registration form will only have lines moving forward. Mr. Neubauer doesn't think the new format will have a huge impact on registration. Ms. Goldkorn stated that she has already filed a complaint because the new format does not comply with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards. She stated that it is very hard to read and write on and it is a very serious issue for voters with a disability.

VII. Discussion of USC Town Hall event with LA County on April 10, 2018

Mr. Taylor stated that Los Angeles (LA) County held a town hall meeting on April 10th to focus on students at the University of Southern California (USC) and the current landscape of voting. The purpose of the town hall meeting was to address barriers and discuss creating programs and opportunities for voters with disabilities. They also discussed underserved populations and what type of obstacles they might face. He stated that the turnout was lower than they hoped but there were some last minute scheduling issues with the school. Mr. Taylor stated that he is hoping to do another event in August or September at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). Once he has a date confirmed he will share the information with the VAAC members.

Ms. Goldkorn suggested having a town hall meeting for Riverside County at the University of California, Riverside (UCR) in October when the students are back in school. Ms. Goldkorn also suggested adding the information to the UCR website and inviting the nearby City colleges to participate. She stated that it is important to start planning early to ensure a larger turnout at

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the event. Mr. Taylor agreed and stated that starting the planning early is vital and is one of the biggest obstacles for making an event successful. Ms. Goldkorn stated that she would like to see the Registrar's Office co-host the event with UCR Disabled Student Services Office. Ms. Spencer asked Mr. Taylor how the agenda was structured for the town hall event at USC. Mr. Taylor stated that it covered a variety of issues such as increasing voter participation among underserved communities which includes college aged students with disabilities and minority students with disabilities. They also discussed how to eliminate barriers from the language perspective and the disability perspective. Mr. Taylor suggested contacting UCR and having someone attend the next VAAC meeting. Ms. Spencer stated that they have contacts at UCR and she would be happy to invite UCR to attend the July VAAC meeting. This item will be added to the July meeting agenda and someone from the Registrar's Office will reach out to UCR.

VIII. Discussion on Site Selection for the November Consolidated General Election

Ms. Caban stated that it is still early for the Registrar's Office to begin selecting polling places for the November 2018 General Election. Mr. Taylor asked if there is a map for different concentration of polling places. Mr. Neubauer explained that once the items on the ballot are finalized the process of consolidations starts to combine regular precincts (based on population) into voting precincts. Once the voting precincts are finalized then the process of selecting polling places to serve those voting precincts begins. The June Elections are generally harder to find polling places for because you are competing with graduations, weddings and vacations. That issue will be resolved when the Primary Election moves to March in 2020. Mr. Neubauer stated that it is hard to get ahead of the polling place selection process because you don't know what consolidations are going to be until you know what contests are on the ballot. Mr. Taylor asked if heat maps would be helpful in selecting specific areas to place polling places. Mr. Neubauer stated that heat maps are not particularly useful because of the mass differences in Riverside County so it is less helpful.

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Ms. Goldkorn asked if the library store front in the Moreno Valley mall will be used as a polling place for the June Election. Mr. Neubauer stated that we will not be using the library store front as a polling place.

IX. Presentation from DMV Representative on new ADA mandate

Ms. Caban stated that the Registrar's Office has reached out to the DMV regarding doing a presentation but we have not received a response yet. This item will be tabled.

Mr. Kopp stated that even when you go to the DMV with a reservation you are still asked to wait in line. There are chairs available for individuals that need to sit in order to comply with their disability. A gentleman sitting in one of the chairs was yelled at when his reservation time was called for not being in line. Mr. Kopp feels that the person in charge of the ADA compliance at the DMV needs training because no one at the DMV defended this gentleman. Ms. Goldkorn stated that the DMV will be changing their disability services in the near future. Ms. Goldkorn also stated that she has a contact at the DMV that she can give to the Registrar's Office. Ms. Spencer stated that this item will be added to the July VAAC meeting and if Ms. Goldkorn could send the contact to Ms. Caban that would be helpful.

X. Questions/Comments

Mr. Kopp asked if the pilot counties going to the vote center model are mandated to report back cost savings or cost increase for running the vote centers. Ms. Spencer stated that there are five pilot counties and there is a requirement in the bill that they report back to the Secretary of State's Office with cost analysis for implementation. Ms. Spencer stated that this is an opt-in bill so it does require approval by the Board of Supervisors. The earliest that Riverside County could switch over to the vote centers would be 2020. She stated that Supervisor Perez is very interested in the vote center model and he would like to take the lead on this. The discussion with the Board members will most likely begin in 2019. She stated that as

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information becomes available it will be shared with the VAAC members.

Mr. Taylor wanted to say thank you to Ms. Caban and her team for coming out to the training. All four trainings were held in one day and they stayed until the end. They shared great information and helped everyone that attended.

Ms. Spencer announced that she is pregnant and wanted to let the VAAC members know. She stated that she is due in July so she may not be able to attend the VAAC meeting in July.

Ms. Caban shared that Feliciano Godoy will be receiving an award tonight from Molina Health Care Group for his work in his community.

Feliciano Godoy stated that he has feedback on the remote accessible website and he asked who to send it to. Mr. Neubauer asked what type of feedback he has. Mr. Godoy stated that it's technical feedback to help make the website more accessible to screen readers. Ms. Spencer asked Mr. Godoy to send his feedback to Ms. Caban and she will forward it to Democracy Live.

The committee agreed that the next VAAC meeting will be held on July 26th at 10:00 am.

Meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.