

County of Santa Clara

Registrar of Voters

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Language Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting

April 23, 2024 | 1:30-3:00 via Zoom

MINUTES

ROV Staff: Evelyn Mendez, Paulo Chang, Alfred Gonzales, Liz Oviedo, Claudia Gonzalez

LAAC Members: David Kim, Aashika Shrinivas, Young Ra Kwan

I. Introductions: No new members

II. Review and Approve Minutes

January 23, 2024, Minutes – David Kim, made motion to approve the minutes, Young Ra Kwan seconded the motion to approve.

III. Reports and Updates

i. March 5, 2024 Presidential Primary Election Vote Center Reports Updates – Paulo Chang, Precinct Operations Division Manager

There were 104 vote centers throughout Santa Clara County during the 11-day voting period, with a 2.4% voter turnout. 57% of voters preferred using touch screen voting while only 37% opted for paper ballots. Out of all the voters who voted at the vote centers, 1,346 requested bilingual ballots and 24,879 requested English ballots. 685 Leads and Election Aides who worked in the election were bilingual.

The voter language workshops have reported the highest attendance from Chinese and Tagalog speaking individuals. The draft plan for future Voter Language Workshops is currently underway. All workshops will be conducted online via Zoom, and the dates will be announced on our website soon. To attend these workshops, it is essential to pre-register, so you won't miss an email reminder.

The Registrar of Voters is working with the County's Language Access Unit for best options to support our ASL voters at vote centers. If anyone you know is interested in working at a vote center, please refer them to our web page.

ii. March 5, 2024 Presidential Primary Election Results/Ballot reports recap - Alfred Gonzales, Vote By Mail Division Manager

The Registrar of Voters (ROV) issued a total of 1,079,258 ballots for the recent election. Out of these, 33% were returned via mail and 2% were cast at a vote center. Unfortunately, 401 ballots were received without a voter signature; out of

these, 111 were unable to be verified and therefore not counted. Additionally, 1,162 ballots had signatures that did not match, leaving only 362 of them un-cured. Moreover, 3,688 ballots were not received on time and were deemed non-curable. Lastly, 16 envelopes were missing ballots. 262 voters were issued Remote Accessible Vote by Mail ballots, but only 36 of them were returned to the ROV.

The delivery of the sample facsimile ballots to the voting centers for the Presidential Primary Election was delayed due to production issues with our vendor. Understanding the production timeline will help us better prepare for this upcoming General Election and we do not anticipate any issues.

iii. **Social Media/Advertising – Evelyn Mendez, Public and Legislative Affairs Division Manager**

Ad Phases:

- Now Hiring
- Voter Language workshop graphics are created in 14 different languages.
- Slogan "One Vote Make It Count" for the year.
- VTA
- Eastridge Mall
- Billboards
- San Jose Sharks/SAP Center
- Hulu
- Movie Theaters
- You Tube
- Mobile Billboard
- Social Media

iv. **Official Ballot for November 5, 2024 Presidential Election – Liz Oviedo, Ballot Layout Division Manager**

The ROV has a total of 14 days to produce all official ballots in all the different languages. The County Voter Information Guides (CVIG) are produced in the 5 languages mandated by the federal government. Official ballots are created in various formats, including optical scan paper ballots, accessible touch screen, audio ballots, and RAVBM. The upcoming November election will have 3-5 ballot cards, each of which will be double-sided. We highly encourage voters to read the voting instructions that come with the paper ballots. We also encourage voters to read their CVIGs. They contain resourceful information including candidate statements, measures, a list of vote centers, and the ballot drop boxes.

v. **Candidate Services November Election Update – Claudia Gonzalez, Candidate Services Division Supervisor**

Run-off for candidates at the November Presidential General Election are:

- Voter-nominated Offices
- Board of Supervisor Offices
- City Offices

Nomination period begins/Ends: July 15, 2024 – August 9, 2024

Extension Period: August 10, 2024 – August 14, 2024

Offices included in the November Presidential Election are:

- State and Local Offices
- School Districts
- Special Districts
- City Candidates

IV. Next steps

i. Future meetings

- a. July 2024
- b. Future agenda items