

San Joaquin County

Project Documentation Package Staff Report

Summary

San Joaquin County	Amounts
Staff Recommended Funding Award Amount	\$3,279,406.93
VMB Approved Allocation Amount	\$3,279,406.93
3:1 Matching Fund Amount	\$1,093,135.64
Total System Cost	\$6,461,158.00

Voting System:

Diebold Accu-Vote – TS (Touch Screen System) – 1,625 Units

Absentee Voting System:

Diebold Accu-Vote – OS (Optical Scan) Ballot Tabulator – 6 Units

Vendor:

Diebold Election Systems, Inc.

Acquisition Schedule:

San Joaquin County plans to receive their new voting equipment in February 2003. The acquisition will be fully completed by May 2003.

Project Completion Date:

San Joaquin County has projected that their project completion date will be upon certification of the November 2004 General Election.

Staff Recommendation:

San Joaquin County's "Project Documentation Package" meets all of the requirements for completeness. San Joaquin County currently uses the DFM Mark-A-Vote system. The cost of conducting elections with their current system was significantly impacted in 2001 due to reapportionment and election related legislation enacted during the 2001-2002 legislative session. Their printing costs increased 96% when compared against the last two Primary Elections.

In 2001, San Joaquin County hired a consultant to evaluate their current system along with new voting technology. Based upon the assessment and evaluation of the alternatives available to the county, the study concluded that an electronic voting system was warranted. The Diebold voting system was selected because it offered several benefits compared to the Mark-A-Vote system. This new system is capable of handling multiple languages without extraordinary printing costs, complies with ADA requirements, handles all ballot types, allows more than one precinct at a polling location, and allows early satellite voting at any location.

San Joaquin County plans to begin installation of the new voting system in February 2003. Their project plan includes detailed equipment acquisition plans, staff training components, and a voter education outreach program designed to allow voters the opportunity to use touch screen voting prior to Election Day. The timeframe set out in their plan allows for three complete Elections to occur before final acceptance of this new system.

It is our recommendation to approve San Joaquin County's "Project Documentation Package" and issue a "Funding Award" letter in the amount of \$3,279,406.93.
