

Del Norte County

Project Documentation Plan Staff Report

Summary

Del Norte County	Amounts
Staff Recommended Funding Award Amount	\$164,420.41
VMB Approved Allocation Amount	\$164,420.41
3:1 Matching Fund Amount	\$54,806.80
Total System Cost	\$474,145.86

Voting System:

Hardware:

Precinct System: AVC Edge II DRE (Touch Screen) – 64 Units
VeriVote (DRE Printers) – 74 Units

Absentee System: Optech Insight Precinct Ballot Counters (Optical Scan) – 3 Units

Software: AVC Edge Firmware version 4.3.320
Optech Insight EMS/AERO Software version 3.54.1

Vendor:

Sequoia Voting Systems, Inc.

Acquisition Schedule:

Del Norte County anticipates receiving their new voting equipment in December of 2005. The county plans to begin using this equipment in the June 6, 2006 Primary Election.

Project Completion Date:

Del Norte County projects that their project completion date will be upon certification of the June 6, 2006 Primary Election.

Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT):

The AVC Edge DRE units being purchased by Del Norte County include the VeriVote printers, which are a VVPAT component.

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Staff Report:

Del Norte County's Project Documentation Plan meets all of the requirements for completeness. The Sequoia AVC Edge DRE units, the VeriVote printers, and the Optech Insight units are certified for use in California. Please note that the software used to run the AVC Edge units currently has a "condition" on the certification for its use, as the software cannot be used in a California primary election. This condition is expected to be resolved before the end of the year.

Del Norte County currently uses the Datavote punch card voting system. Del Norte County considered only Direct Recording Equipment (DRE) units for polling places and optical scan for absentee and vote by mail ballots, as the county believes that it was preferable to have all voters casting their ballots on the same equipment in the polling place.

The county believes that the new DRE technology will provide a simplified voting experience and increase accessibility and independence for voters with special needs. In addition, the new DRE system will reduce the burdens on poll workers and will assist in removing the potential for voter error and ambiguity that is possible with punch card ballots.

Del Norte County will not implement the new voting equipment until the June 6, 2006 Primary Election, as this will allow the county ample time for testing the new equipment and for training staff and poll workers on the new voting system.

Del Norte County will only receive VMB payments once they have submitted invoices for purchase of their voting equipment.

On August 3, 2005, the Secretary issued a directive to the counties requiring that certain language be included in any contract between a county and a voting system vendor. The language requires the vendor to be responsible for the cost of any upgrade, retrofit, or replacement of any voting system or its component parts that is necessary to bring the system into compliance with federal and state law. The contract that was executed between Del Norte County and Sequoia on August 11, 2005 (shortly after the directive was issued) does not conform to this directive. However, nothing in Proposition 41 or the Funding Application and Procedural Guide would prohibit the Board from approving Del Norte County's Project Documentation Plan based upon non-compliance with the Secretary of State's directive.

Staff Recommendation:

It is our recommendation that Del Norte County's Project Documentation Plan be approved and a Funding Award letter be issued in the amount of \$164,420.41.

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Update to September 23, 2005 Staff Report

Summary

Del Norte County	Amounts
Staff Recommended Funding Award Amount	\$164,420.41
VMB Approved Allocation Amount	\$164,420.41
3:1 Matching Fund Amount	\$54,806.80
Total System Cost	\$474,145.86

Vendor:

Sequoia Voting Systems, Inc.

Voting System:

Precinct System: AVC Edge II DRE (Touch Screen) – 64 Units
 VeriVote (DRE Printers) – 74 Units

Absentee System: Optech Insight Precinct Ballot Counters (Optical Scan) – 3 Units

Staff Recommendation:

It is our recommendation that Del Norte County's Funding Award letter be issued in the amount of \$164,420.41.
