

Monterey County

Project Documentation Plan Staff Report

Summary

Monterey County	Amounts
Staff Recommended Funding Award Amount	\$1,991,025.00
VMB Approved Allocation Amount	\$1,991,025.00
3:1 Matching Fund Amount	\$663,675.00
Total System Cost	\$3,076,085.91

Voting System:

Hardware:

Precinct System: AVC Edge DRE (Touch Screen) – 430 Units
VeriVote (DRE Printers) – 550 Units

Absentee System: Optech 400-C Ballot Counters (Optical Scan) – 3 Units

Software: AVC Edge Firmware version 4.3.320
Optech 400-C EMS/AERO Software version 3.54.1

Vendor:

Sequoia Voting Systems, Inc.

Acquisition Schedule:

Monterey County began using the optical scan voting equipment as a precinct based system during the November 2, 2004 Presidential General Election. Monterey County anticipates receiving the new DRE voting equipment by October 2005. The county plans to begin using the DRE voting equipment as the precinct system at the November 8, 2005 Special Statewide Election.

Project Completion Date:

Monterey County projects that their project completion date will be upon certification of the November 8, 2005 Special Statewide Election.

Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT):

The AVC Edge DRE units being purchased by Monterey County include the VeriVote printers, which is a VVPAT component.

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Monterey County's Project Documentation Plan meets all of the requirements for completeness. The Sequoia AVC Edge DRE units, the VeriVote printers, and the Optech 400-C 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.

Monterey County began upgrading their old Datavote punch card voting system with optical scan technology and the new optical scan equipment was used for the first time during the November 2, 2004 General Election.

Monterey County is continuing their voting system modernization by purchasing Direct Recording Equipment (DRE) units for their polling places. The county will continue to use the optical scan equipment for absentee and vote by mail ballots. The county's overall modernization plan is to have a new voting system that will be more accessible to voters with specific needs as well as to better serve their voters who desire to vote in Spanish.

Monterey County has contracted with an outside consultant to assist with the development and implementation of a project plan to fully implement the DRE units for the November 8, 2005 Special Statewide Election. Monterey County believes that the deployment of the DRE units in all polling places will bring the county into full compliance with the requirements of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), as the DRE system provides access to those voters with disabilities, and it also will satisfy the second-chance voting requirements by not allowing over votes and identifying under votes to each voter.

Monterey County will only receive VMB payments once they have submitted invoices for the purchase of the voting equipment.

Please note that the staff-proposed funding award is based upon allowable reimbursement under Proposition 41 for voting equipment hardware and software only. The training and other support services costs listed in the Monterey County plan would not be covered as a reimbursable claim under Proposition 41.

Staff Recommendation:

It is our recommendation that Monterey County's Project Documentation Plan be approved and a Funding Award letter be issued in the amount of \$1,991,025.00.