

Santa Cruz County

Project Documentation Plan Staff Report

Summary

Santa Cruz County	Amounts
Staff Recommended Funding Award Amount	\$1,661,152.11
VMB Approved Allocation Amount	\$1,698,327.79
Staff Recommended 3:1 Matching Amount	\$553,717.37
Estimated Total System Cost	\$2,289,869.49
Remaining Allocation Amount	\$37,175.68
Remaining 3:1 Matching Amount	\$12,391.89

Voting System:

Hardware:

Precinct System: AVC Edge II (Touch Screen) with VeriVote Printer version 5.0.24 – 165 Units
Optech Insight Precinct Ballot Counters (Optical Scan) – 165 Units

Absentee System: Optech 400-C Ballot Counters (Optical Scan) version 1.12.4 –2 Units

Software: WinEDS version 3.1.012

Vendor:

Sequoia Voting Systems, Inc.

Acquisition Schedule:

Santa Cruz County anticipates receiving their new voting equipment in mid-July 2006. The county plans to begin using this equipment in the November 7, 2006 General Election.

Project Completion Date:

Santa Cruz County projects that their project completion date will be upon certification of the November 7, 2006 General Election.

Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT):

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

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Santa Cruz County's Project Documentation Plan meets all of the requirements for completeness. The Sequoia AVC Edge II with VeriVote touch screen units, the Optech Insight units, and the Optech 400-C units are certified for use in California.

Santa Cruz County will not be able to convert to their new voting system until the November 7, 2006 General Election due to their vendor's inability to deliver the new equipment before the June 6, 2006 Primary Election. For the June 6, 2006 Primary Election, Santa Cruz County will continue to use their existing Mark-A-Vote optical scan units in their polling places and will be borrowing 12 AVC Edge II touch screen units from Monterey County to be strategically placed around the county on Election Day. The county also plans to have one of the touch screen unit available at the County Clerk's Office for early voting and on Election Day. The deployment of the 12 touch screen units during the June 6, 2006 Primary Election is an attempt to comply with the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) and state law accessibility requirements.

During the November 7, 2006 General Election, Santa Cruz County will be fully converting from their existing Mark-A-Vote optical scan voting system. The county intends to deploy one AVC Edge II with VeriVote touch screen unit and one Optech Insight optical scan unit in all polling places to bring the county into full compliance with the requirements of HAVA and state accessibility requirements. The touch screen units will provide access to those voters with disabilities and will also satisfy the second-chance voting requirements by not allowing over votes and identifying under votes to each voter.

Santa Cruz County is developing an extensive voter outreach program to introduce the new voting system to its voters. The county plans to hold demonstrations of the new voting equipment at community events and also plans to involve the local media to promote the new voting system. The county is considering developing direct mail pieces to assist its voters with how to use the new equipment before voters get to the polls.

Santa Cruz County will only receive VMB payments once it has submitted detailed invoices for its certified 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 installation and training line items listed in the Santa Cruz County contract with Sequoia would not be covered as a reimbursable claim under Proposition 41.

Staff Recommendation:

It is our recommendation that Santa Cruz County's Project Documentation Plan be approved and a Funding Award letter be issued in the amount of \$1,661,152.11.