

Yuba County

Project Documentation Plan Staff Report

Summary

| Yuba County | Amounts |
|--|----------------|
| Staff Recommended Funding Award Amount | \$339,538.00 |
| VMB Approved Allocation Amount | \$339,538.00 |
| 3:1 Matching Fund Amount | \$113,179.33 |
| Total System Cost | \$1,056,316.51 |

Voting System:

Hardware:

Precinct System: AVC Edge II DRE (Touch Screen) version 4.3.320 – 140 Units
VeriVote (DRE Printers) – 157 Units

Absentee System: Optech Insight Precinct Ballot Counters (Optical Scan) version HPX 1.40,
APX 2.06 CPX 1.12 – 2 Units

Software: WinEDS version 3.0134

Vendor:

Sequoia Voting Systems, Inc.

Acquisition Schedule:

The actual delivery terms of their vendor contract are ambiguous. The contract language estimates delivery date “at or about 4 months” from the date of the contract. The county plans to begin using this equipment in the June 6, 2006 Primary Election.

Project Completion Date:

Yuba County expects 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 Yuba County include the VeriVote printers, which are a VVPAT component.

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Staff Report:

Yuba County's Project Documentation Plan meets the requirements for completeness. The staff recommends requesting that an additional acquisition schedule and project timeline be provided once the county and the vendor have established actual delivery dates.

The Sequoia AVC Edge II DRE units, the VeriVote printers, the Optech Insight units, and the Optech 400-C units are certified for use in California. 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 primary election. This condition is expected to be resolved prior to the June 6, 2006 Primary Election; however, no application for this upgrade has yet been received by the Secretary of State's Office, and unless the application is brought forward by the vendor before the end of January, it appears to be unlikely that the Sequoia AVC Edge II DRE units with the VeriVote printers would be able to be certified for use during the June 6, 2006 Primary Election.

Yuba County will be converting from a Datavote punch card voting system. Yuba County will use the Optech 400-C optical scan as their absentee system and will be implementing the AVC Edge II DRE units as their precinct-based system in all of their polling locations during the June 6, 2006 Primary Election. Yuba County believes that the deployment of DRE units in all polling places will bring the county into full compliance with the requirements of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) as well as provide greater accessibility to voters who need special accommodations and voters who desire to vote in Spanish.

The county formed a Voting Systems Task Force consisting of the Chairman of the County Board of Supervisors, Registrar of Voters, Election Supervisors, county Purchasing Agent, and the Information Technology Director. The county conducted a hands-on demonstration of the proposed voting equipment for the task force members and the public, and the Sequoia Voting System was determined to be the best system to serve the voters of Yuba County.

Yuba County plans to contract with an outside consultant to assist in the development and implementation of a project plan to fully implement the new voting system. The county is currently developing a voter outreach and education program for the new voting equipment. Yuba County plans to require all staff and poll workers to complete "hands-on" training to become familiar with the voting units. The county also plans to develop separate classes for the elections division staff to implement the new election management system associated with the new voting system.

Yuba 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 installation, training, poll worker training, and voter outreach costs listed in the Yuba County plan would not be covered as a reimbursable claim under Proposition 41.

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Staff Recommendation:

The staff recommends requesting that an additional acquisition schedule and project timeline be provided once the county and the vendor have established actual delivery dates.

It is our recommendation that Yuba County's Project Documentation Plan be approved and a Funding Award letter be issued in the amount of \$339,538.00.