APPEARANCES

BOARD MEMBERS
Mr. Stephen Kaufman, Chair
Ms. June Awano Lagmay
Ms. Teri Holoman
Mr. Gabriel Sandoval

STAFF
Executive Officer: Jana Lean
Staff Consultant: Katherine Montgomery
Staff Counsel: Rachel Delucchi
OVSTA Consultant: Ryan Macias
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CHAIRMAN STEPHEN KAUFMAN: Now, that we have everybody in place, I'm going to call the meeting of the Voting Modernization Board to order, the first meeting of 2015, and we obviously have a lot of new faces on our board, and we have a new face in the Secretary of State's office. I've had the pleasure to serve on this board now through four secretary of states, and I must say I'm particularly pleased to be serving now with our new Secretary of State, Alex Padilla, at the helm. And I am very hopeful that under his leadership, we will get back to the business that we were set up to do, and that is to give money to counties so that they can buy new voting equipment.

And while all of you are new to this game, I am hoping at that some point in the not too distant future, we will be
out of business and the counties will be getting on with their business.

So that will be our goal in the future. I wanted to make sure we had this meeting, first of all, to welcome the new board members and get sworn in and also get you all up-to-speed on what has happened before you arrived here so that when we actually get in the business of handing out money, you'll understand the process a little bit better and we'll all be up-to-speed on that. And frankly, I think just getting in the rhythm of having these meetings again will be a welcome event for all of us.

So with that, I'd like to welcome our new Secretary of State, who I know has some remarks and who is going to administer the oath.

SECRETARY ALEX PADILLA: All right. I don't know if I need this. Seems to be a small enough group. I can just speak up. But I know we're recording.
I'll spare everybody the speech. I think this is preaching to the choir as it can possibly get, the nature before us, the nature of the investments, the nature of modernization, we've all sorted through the history lesson of the last 15 years, butterfly ballots, hanging chads, and experimenting with electronic machines, and here we are many, many years later.

But really timing being what it is, just as a more comprehensive conversation going on about what elections ought to look like in the future, the voter experience, and low and behold, the state of Oregon last week signed into a law what they called "A new voter voting," really is revolutionizing voter registration, as we know it.

So if you look at the end game of maximizing people participating in our democracy and voting in our elections, the big step one is to register, the big step two is to turn out. You know, if we flip the registration piece of its head
but it's an opt out for those who don't want to participate in democracy, let them do the work. But often, we have this group of registered folks who we know are eligible, then we can dedicate the time and energy the resources towards voter education and voter turnout.

So that is sort of, I think, the backdrop and the context for the technical work that's being done by this board, so I'm glad that it continues. But like the Chairman says, hopefully not for too long. Success means the board dissolves and the counties go on with doing their thing.

So in the interest of moving it along, I'll end it with that.

Congratulate all of you and ask you to stand and raise your right hand in front of all of your peers.

Please repeat after me.

This is the oath of office for the Voting Modernization Board.

I, state your name, do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the
Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California against all enemies, foreign and domestic, that I will bear truth, faith, and allegiance to the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California, that I take this obligation freely without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion, and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties upon which I am about to enter.

   Congratulations.
   Thank you.
   (Applause)

SECRETARY ALEX PADILLA: I hand it back over to the Chairman.

CHAIRMAN STEPHEN KAUFMAN: Thank you, Mr. Secretary. Okay. So now we have sworn in the new board we had. And I just wanted to take a moment to thank some of our departed members. Not departed in that sense.
Departed from the board. Mike Bustamante and Tal Finney who served from the beginning of this board and were there through thick and thin, sometimes barely in the case of Ms. Finney, but nonetheless, served this board well and the State well, and I want to thank them for all their service over the last number of years and welcome our new members to the board. I feel like I'm the old guy now.

So, but we'll trudge on. And we have another spot that will be filled, so we look forward to the last member joining us at some point soon down the road.

Okay. So with that, I think we've kind of done our roll call by virtue of the swearing in, but do you want to formalize it?

MS. MONTGOMERY: Sure.

(Roll call)

CHAIRMAN STEPHEN KAUFMAN:

Okay. We've received one
speaker card from David Holtzman.

Please come to the podium, please.

David, what is "L.A. Vote Fire?"

MR. HOLTZMAN: Oh, we'll get to that.

CHAIRMAN STEPHEN KAUFMAN: Okay.

MR. HOLTZMAN: There we go. I'll just come here where I can see a little better.

Before I get started, Mr. Chairman, some of my remarks have to do with general procedures about what can be done with the bond fund. Would you prefer I reserve those for Agenda Item 6, or shall I bump it up?

CHAIRMAN STEPHEN KAUFMAN: You know, if you have something that's related to a specific matter, why don't you hold that until we come to our discussion of a specific matter. If you have things of a general nature, go ahead and fire away, and if it bleeds over a
l little bit, we won't be upset.

MR. HOLTZMAN: I'll hold the
remarks about specific issues of the bond
fund until we get to Agenda Item 6.

So first of all, thank you
Mr. Chair, members of the board. My name
is David Holtzman. I don't want to
belabor you on what I'm not here about.
I'm an administrative law judge. I'm not
here in that role. I'm a past president
of the League of Women Voters of Los
Angeles. I'm not in here in a legal
role, but I am a founder of L.A. Vote
Fire, which stands for Los Angeles Voters
for Instant Runoff Elections, L.A. Vote
Fire.

And of course advocates of
instant run-offs for a long time face the
chicken and egg problem where there's
less demand for instant runoff elections
because equipment is -- the -- for the
complete range of candidates is not
available. And we would love for this
Board to do something to break that cycle
and encourage the availability of voting
that is capable of running instant runoff
elections with rank-choice voting.

Welcome new members.

Like I said, I am on a hearing
board and would like see you exercise your
judgment independently of the powers that
appointed you. And I would first request the
three who were appointed by the Governor not
to all sequentially consult each other before
deciding because that would probably be a
violation of the term.

And I mentioned this to the
commission and the Board Member Lagmay
before, I believe you should all recuse
yourself if you have had anything to do with
the preparation of the proposal, recuse
yourself from the discussion of that item.

If you do anything that has to
do with the acquisition of new
technology, I would appreciate if you
ensured that any new technology that can
be patented is not patented, but instead,
because I'm a patent attorney, let me
point out that you can file a statutory
invention registration which prevents
anybody else from being able to patent the technology and leaves it for the public to develop. Would hate for one organization or another to corner the market and reduce the availability of novel, useful technology.

Something that I would suggest that you have in voting equipment would be, first of all, a link to an electronic poll book so that people -- even people who have already submitted absentee ballots in the mail can, if they want to change their mind, up to election day, vote on election day and have that vote count, if they vote in person at a polling place.

Second, of course, rank choice voting enabled equipment -- please, please.

Third. No ink jets. Laser printers only. Ink jet cartridges, I just feel would be a terrible mistake because they dry out in storage and could lead to election day disasters.

And finally, just ensure that
whatever you get is tested and has
durability that makes it worth the
expenditure.

In general, I think you should
balance the cost of the public money with
the benefits of what you're buying with
the public money.

So thanks very much.

CHAIRMAN STEPHEN KAUFMAN:

Thank you, Mr. Holtzman.

And let me just say for the
record that this board is not in the
business of certifying or approving
voting technology, but we are in the
business of awarding funds to counties to
purchase voting equipment that has been
certified by other boards and other
agencies, so. But we appreciate your
comments.

MR. HOLTZMAN: I hope you have
a good many to choose from.

CHAIRMAN STEPHEN KAUFMAN: As
do we.

Okay. The next item on our
agenda is Item Number 5 is adoption of
the April 1, 2014, meeting minutes.

Since I was the only person who actually attended that meeting who is currently on the board, we're just going to accept those meeting minutes into the record, and they will be part of the record accordingly.

So with that, let's go to Item Number 6, which is our staff report and the staff is going to -- it's kind of a two-part report. I don't know if you guys are splitting it up or who is reporting on it. Is that you, Katherine?

MS. MONTGOMERY: That will be me.

CHAIRMAN STEPHEN KAUFMAN:

Okay. Katherine will provide a report, and I think this is really for the benefit of the new members. Hopefully, you've had a chance to look at the memo, but just to provide an overview of what the board was created for and what the purposes were, where we stand in terms of the allocation of funding the $200 million that was originally set
aside for the upgraded voting equipment
and that's kind of where things stand in
general.

MS. MONTGOMERY: I'm going to
try this without the mic since I've got
the written report, I'm just going to
read from that. If you need the mic,
just let me know.

"The Voting Modernization
Board, known as VMB or sometimes just
Board was established by the --"

(Audience comment)

MS. MONTGOMERY: Is this
better?

"The Voting Modernization Board
or VMB was established by the passage of
Proposition 41 - Voting Modernization Act
of 2002 at the March 5th, 2002, primary
election. The purpose of the Act was to
allow the state to sell $200 million in
general obligation bonds to assist
counties in the purchase of updated
voting systems, specifically voting
machines, voting devices, or
vote-tabulating devices that do not
utilize prescored punch card ballots and are certified for use in California.

"The five-member VMB (when fully staffed) is responsible for considering applications and awarding bond monies to counties and consists of two members appointed by the Secretary of State and three members appointed by the Governor. The Secretary of State currently has one outstanding vacant position. The terms of appointment are not limited. The Chair and Vice Chair are elected by the VMB members.

"In accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding with the VMB, the Secretary of State provides resources and administrative services to the Board. The Secretary of State's Chief of Elections serves as Executive Officer, an Elections Specialist serves as Staff Consultant, an Elections Division attorney serves as Staff Counsel, and the Assistant to the Chief of Elections serves as the Executive Assistant to the Board."
CHAIRMAN STEPHEN KAUFMAN:

Katherine, can I interrupt you for one minute. Do you want to identify for everybody up here who those people are so we know?

MS. MONTGOMERY: Sure.

Our chief of elections -- so the Board's executive officer is Jana Lean.

MS. LEAN: Hello.

MS. MONTGOMERY: And she's been with the board since the beginning.

I am the election specialist and staff consultant.

Robbie Anderson is our normal staff counsel. He's not with us today so we have Rachel Delucchi.

MS. DELUCCHI: And I'm also normal.

MS. MONTGOMERY: And then we also have Ryan Macias with us. He's a technical assistant. He's with the office of voting systems technology assessment.

MR. MACIAS: That's correct.
MS. MONTGOMERY: "The Act does not include a schedule for allocation of funds to counties to modernize voting systems. At the July 17th, 2002, VMB meeting, after much deliberation and public testimony, the VMB adopted a formula-based allocation for all of the counties. The VMB allocated funds to each county based on a formula that gives equal weight to the number of persons eligible to vote, the number of registered voters, the average number of persons who voted at the last four statewide elections, and the number of polling places (all numbers were based upon March 5th, 2002, Primary Election data).

"Once the formula allocations were established for each county, all 58 counties were invited to apply for their formula funding allocations. A "Project Documentation Package" detailing a county's voting conversion plan and executed vendor contract is required as part of the application for funding
process. By requiring this detailed conversion plan and signed vendor contract from the county before any funding award and disbursements occur, the VMB is able to ensure that the new voting system the county plans to convert to would comply with the specific requirements of the Act.

"The requirement for counties to submit "Project Documentation Packages" was established by the VMB in the adoption of the "Funding Application and Procedural Guide" and the "Statement of Plans and Projects" signed by the Governor. It has also been incorporated as the VMB's requirement for funding, in documents submitted to the Voting Modernization Finance Committee, and to request the issuance of commercial paper to fund the Voting Modernization Fund.

"The Act does not specify a deadline to allocate the fund monies. Given that there has been little movement in the availability of certified voting systems for counties to purchase since
the formation of the VMB, a deadline has yet to be established.

"Approximately $195 million in Voting Modernization Bond funds has been allocated amongst the counties (an additional $5 million is used to administer the sale and appropriation of bonds). To date, almost $130 million of bond funds has been approved and a balance of over $65 million remains to be spent by 25 counties, including Los Angeles who has over $49 million remaining.

"Once a Project Documentation Plan is submitted by a county, it is reviewed by VMB staff and submitted to the Board at a public meeting, typically within 30 days of submission. Meetings have been held in Sacramento or Los Angeles, as determined by the Board."

"Originally, meetings were held quite frequently. During the first five years of the VMB (from 2002 through 2006) the Board met 34 times. After the "Top-to-Bottom Review" conducted by
Secretary of State Debra Bowen in 2007, resulting in the decertification of multiple voting systems, meetings slowed down considerably, including two years where no meetings were held (2009 and 2013). The years 2010, 2011, and 2012 saw only one meeting per year.

"There are currently no applications pending action by the Board; however, Los Angeles County has indicated they intend to submit a project documentation plan for bond funds to be spent on research and development of their new proposed voting system.

"All governing documents and policy decisions made by the VMB to date can be found on our VMB website."

And I won't read you the address. It's very long.

CHAIRMAN STEPHEN KAUFMAN:

Katherine, have you guys updated the chart that we have that shows how much has been allocated to each county and how much has been spent, and have those been given out?
MS. MONTGOMERY: Yes, they are actually included in the packets that everyone has and the audience. Should be the last page. I'm pretty sure that's what it is.

CHAIRMAN STEPHEN KAUFMAN: Yeah, here we go.

MS. MONTGOMERY: Sorry.

CHAIRMAN STEPHEN KAUFMAN: And for those of you new folks, this is a listing of all the amounts that were allocated under the formula to the various counties.

MS. MONTGOMERY: I'm sorry. It's not in the very back. L.A.'s report is in the very back. So it's right before L.A.'s report.

CHAIRMAN STEPHEN KAUFMAN: It's in the back. Thank you.

MR. SANDOVAL: I'm not finding it.

CHAIRMAN STEPHEN KAUFMAN: And this will show you, you know, how much has been used by each county against their limit, and some of the counties
have had multiple phases that have come
board the before so they got a Phase 1
allocation and, you know, didn't quite
use up everything and they have come back
for additional, you know, functions that
they have added on to their voting
system.

MS. HOLOMAN: Is there a
timeline associated with...

CHAIRMAN STEPHEN KAUFMAN:
Correct, there has been no timeline in
place, and we specifically decided not to
put a timeline in place when things
essentially came to a halt because we
thought it would be unfair to the
counties to impose a deadline when there
weren't sufficient -- there wasn't
sufficient equipment for many of them,
including the county of L.A. to purchase,
so we've kind of been waiting the next
phase of approved voting equipment, or in
the case of L.A., which I think we're
going to hear very shortly, their own,
you know, they have now developed a
proprietary system that they are prepared
to move forward with.

  MS. HOLOMAN: Um-hmm. Right.

CHAIRMAN STEPHEN KAUFMAN: So that's kind of the day we've been waiting for. For sometime the thought has always been that at the end of the day, if there are funds remaining once all the counties have gone through their kind of first phase, that there might be a reallocation of additional funds, if there are additional funds remaining.

  MS. HOLOMAN: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN STEPHEN KAUFMAN: You guys should feel free to fire away at staff if you have any questions about where we started and how we got here. Anybody?

  Okay. Do you want to talk about the obligations of the bond process.

  MS. MONTGOMERY: Yes, I do.

CHAIRMAN STEPHEN KAUFMAN:

  Okay.

  MS. MONTGOMERY: It is very technical, I'm sorry.
So there has been a minor change to the way the general obligations are, so I spoke to the treasurer's office about this and I'm relaying what they told me to the best of my ability.

"Proposition 41 created the Voting Modernization Finance Committee (Committee). The three-member Committee is responsible for issuance and sale of the bonds authorized by the Voting Modernization Act in accordance with the State General Obligation Bond Law. The Committee consists of the State Controller, the Director of Finance, and the State Treasurer, or their designated representatives. The Treasurer serves as chairperson of the Committee.

"Prior to 2009, after funds were awarded to a county, money was borrowed from the Pooled Money Investment Account and those accounts were then paid back after the sale of bonds. However, after the economic downturn in 2008, the Pooled Money Investment Board decided that general obligation bonds could no
longer borrow against their Pooled Money Investment Account.

"In light of this, the Treasurer's Office decided that rather than requesting bonds be sold in order to free up money for issuance to a county at an undetermined date in the future, they will instead authorize the use of commercial paper. General obligation bonds are sold four times a year; twice in the spring and twice in the fall, whereas, commercial papers are issued once a month. The Voting Modernization Board (VMB/Board) does not always get six or more months advance notice before a county comes before them requesting bond funds. According to the Treasurer's Office, the issuance of commercial paper is a flexible option given the Board's specific needs.

"Currently, the staff to the Board reports quarterly to the Department of Finance speculating on the amount of funds that may be need to be available for disbursement to counties. This
information is then shared with the Treasurer's Office who works directly with the staff to the Board to borrow money in the commercial paper market for the amount requested. Once the bonds are sold at a later date, the borrowed money will be paid back.

"Staff to the Board will need to update our policies and procedures manual in the near future to reflect these changes and remove references to the Pooled Money Investment Account and replace it with language explaining the issuance of commercial paper."

CHAIRMAN STEPHEN KAUFMAN:

Thank you, Katherine.

Any questions?

Okay. Mr. Holtzman, I want to respect your notes here. Did you have any additional public comments with regard to matter 6?

MR. HOLTZMAN: I guess really fast.

I didn't really want to speak about the difference between commercial
paper and other types of funding, but
anyway, if you need to understand that,
just ask me.

Anyway, I just want to say that
I don't think that SB360 was effective to
change what bond money raised by
Proposition 41 can be dispersed for in
the Article 16 of the California Code of
Procedure provides for the purpose of the
bonding be specified in the measure.

And so -- and let's face it, if
you change from purchasing to selling
equipment or providing seed money for the
organization to sell equipment, they are
doing the opposite of purchasing, so I
just wanted to put that on the record.

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN STEPHEN KAUFMAN:

Thank you.

Okay. With that, we will move
to Item 7, and I'll invite the folks from
Los Angeles County, who I know wanted to
make a presentation regarding the status
of their system, voting systems
assessment project.
I guess we have a PowerPoint so we will adjust here. Well, why don't you come on up and introduce yourself.

MR. GRAY: Definitely. Very brief PowerPoint.

Jeremy Gray, Los Angeles County.

Okay. Can you hear me? Okay. I don't think I need a microphone.

Jeremy Gray, Assistant Registrar Recorder County Clerk. Dean Logan Registrar Recorder County clerk sends his apologies for not being here today. He is actually furthering this very dialogue in Washington DC with the presidential commission on elections administration discussing voting technology and improving the overall voter experience.

So today, I will give you a very brief update on our project.

With me I have Debbie Martin. She's Deputy Director, Registrar Recorder County Clerk Ken Bennet, IT project manager for our VSAP project.
Overall, let me see if I can get this to work. One second. Got to love it. There we go.

All right. So the -- L.A. County is probably one of the largest and most complex elections jurisdictions in the nation with almost 5 million voters serving ten languages, a very broad socio-economic, ethnic demographic of voters and constituents is a lot of moving pieces, and designing a voting system for such a broad community obviously is very, very complex.

Our goal was to design a new voting system that would best serve the needs of this diverse electorate.

Within the project, there are 14 principles, core principles, that we have identified and published, and actually attached to your agenda is a more elaborate description of each of these principles.

In managing the project, every strategy, every milestone, every task is tied back to one of these -- or multiple
core principles related to the project itself.

The principles are actually shaping the design of the voting system itself, and we rely heavily upon them. Human centered design is something that I can tell you as 20 years as a IT practitioner, unfortunately is something that is not always done in the IT space.

So Debbie and I parked in the same parking lot across the street and we needed tickets to park in a parking lot and it was about 180 buttons on this kiosk, but you only needed one button to actually print out a ticket to; park, right. That's not a good example of human centered design, and basically what human centered design says is design technology for the human, right.

It really starts with how human engagement begins with the technology itself. In the IT space, we often design technology based on business requirements, timelines, budgeting, the
regulatory landscape, and everything
else.

So this approach is very, very
unique in that it really focuses on the
voter first. And while we have to focus
on those other very complex aspects
within the technology ecosystem, the
voter themselves are actually prioritized
in our design philosophy.

Our proposed voting experience
-- and this slide kind of gives a good
visual depiction of that -- the ballot
marking device will allow for features
that are currently not possible with a
paper ballot. It provides the ability to
present any ballot style, which makes a
vote center possible, provides multiple
voting options on a single device, and it
allows voters with different abilities to
vote using the same device, which is
slightly unique from previous strategies,
and it maintains that paper ballot as the
official ballot of record.

Or overall high-level project
timeline: Phases 1 and 2 kind of set the
foundation to our strategy.

We conducted numerous public outreach research sessions. That provided us with an agreement amount of data. We established formal bodies of stakeholders from the election advocate community, various community entities, technology subject matter experts.

The data was established and gave us general voting system principles to ensure stakeholder needs continue to actually drive our process.

Phase 3; the current phase that we're in now, is the design engineering phase, and basically we've collaborated, as you may know, with a human design firm from up north IDEO, and we are actually designing actual iterative prototypes that will assist us in moving forward with our design.

Here you see another evolution of that prototype here in Phase 3. Actually, at this very moment, we have staff up north with IDEO conducting user testing where various users with
disabilities come in and they actually in
realtime are using these prototypes under
observation so that we can see various
user behavior and how the technology
performs under that user behavior.

So with that, again, very brief
highlights, and we are open to any
questions if you have them.

CHAIRMAN STEPHEN KAUFMAN:

Thank you.

Now, Phase 3 that was --
correct me if I'm wrong -- that was done
with funding requests that was made of
our Board last year. No. Okay. That's
independent of that.

MR. GRAY: Right.

CHAIRMAN STEPHEN KAUFMAN: What
is your timeline for completing Phase 3?
I know it's flashed by before, but as far
as the testing and design is concerned.

(Indicating)

And then do you have -- I see a
"Phase 4 future phase." What are you
forecasting at this point to be able to
put machinery into play during an
MR. GRAY: Well, you know, obviously some other aspects of our strategy need to happen to have that fully deployed.

Right now, I mean, we are looking at somewhere between 2018, 2019 on a soft roll out. We don't foresee this technology existing in the 5,000 polling places that we have now.

You heard that I slightly touched on the concept of vote centers. Obviously as a parallel strategy we are looking at that as a potential vehicle to deliver this technology to the public to, number one, improve that voter experience, voter turnout, and from a technology perspective, that would allow us to better manage the security, infrastructure, et cetera, that would be associated with a new voting system.

CHAIRMAN STEPHEN KAUFMAN: Let me turn to my other board members, working down the line.

Gab, do you have any questions?
MR. SANDOVAL: So you're essentially stating that you're going to create these centers to kind of deal with any issues that may arise from the system that's being implemented similar to what is taking place in, for example, Nevada where they have where the community centers or different places where individuals can vote as opposed to having it at each electoral site that currently is in place, so you're going to roll it out in that way as a pilot?

MR. GRAY: Well, there are numerous ways we could consider this. I mean, currently, we are discussing at a very -- and this is very premature -- but we're discussing -- so we have 5,000 polling places now. Obviously, we would not roll this out in, you know, at the 5,000 polling places.

MR. SANDOVAL: Right.

MR. GRAY: But it may be with our current polling place model, it may be at a few of those polling places throughout the county. Even separate and
apart from the vote center model, we
could, in fact, consider rolling it out
as what we call a soft launch on a soft
implementation at a few of those places
throughout the county of L.A.

MR. SANDOVAL: You mentioned
there were other factors that were
involved and that you would consider, but
you didn't identify them. What are the
other factors that would lead to the
success of this particular roll out?

MR. GRAY: So obviously vote
centers are going to be a key element and
working along with the Secretary of
State's office on the necessary
regulations and legislation associated
with that.

I think that's probably one of
the primary aspects that we need to focus
on and parallel into our technology
development.

MR. SANDOVAL: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN STEPHEN KAUFMAN:

Teri.

MS. HOLOMAN: It may be not
entirely germane to the conversation, but bear with me. It's my first meeting.

MR. GRAY: That's all right.

MS. HOLOMAN: But are you working with community groups and voter education groups, League of Women Voters, you know, others in kind of conceptualizing what this roll out will look like or what works for the community?

THE WITNESS: Definitely. And I apologize for my brevity.

We actually have put together two advisory groups. One advisory group comprised of community entities and presence there that have given us recommendations and opinions from day one.

The other advisory group is on the technology side, a group of individuals from our various academic industry environments, et cetera, that have also given us recommendations on how to approach that also.

MS. HOLOMAN: Okay.
MR. GRAY: Yes.

MS. LAGMAY: With the recent passage in Los Angeles city of charter amendments one and two, assuming that elections as proscribed in those charter amendments starting in the year 2020 are consolidated and not concurrent, what if anything, has that entered into your planning stages for development of the county systems if conduct of L.A. cities elections are to be taken on by L.A. County on a consistent basis into the future?

MR. GRAY: Well, you know, it's funny you should ask because that's very, very high on our radar.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Can you repeat the question. She's not using the mic.

MS. LAGMAY: So my question was with the recent passage in Los Angeles city of charter amendments one and two which changed the cities election dates to match up with state and federal which the county administers and assuming that
L.A. County will conduct those elections instead of L.A. city doing them on a concurrent basis, that means that L.A. County will absorb the administration of the largest city within the county and its large number of voters; my question was how has that recent phenomenon figured into the planning stages of the VSAP and what, if anything, has it changed the timeline or some of the parameters of how has it changed your planning stages for the roll out in the future.

MR. GRAY: Well, you know, it's funny you should ask because that is very relevant to our current planning and analysis right now. I mean, we are currently working with all of our project strategists and partners to actually look at system capacity.

MS. LAGMAY: Yes.

MR. GRAY: Ballot capacity, et cetera. We actually have an internal meeting on Monday, and we have prototypes of large ballots, and we are doing an
analysis to really look at ballot real
estate and how that's going to look in a
current and future landscape.

So it is on our radar. We are
planning. And we don't have all the
answers yet because a lot of things are
changing.

If you keep up with the media
articles, even as early as this morning,
I became aware of. But it is on our
radar. We are incorporating all those
variables into our planning to ensure
that a future voting system can manage
this changing landscape that we're in
now, but there are some unknowns that we
currently don't know as you know right

So further in our future
updates, we will definitely have more
information on a lot of capacity planning
that we're doing now.

MS. LAGMAY: Thank you.

MR. GRAY: Yes.

CHAIRMAN STEPHEN KAUFMAN:

Mr. Gray, you know, I think given how
much of what we do depends on what is outstanding with L.A., we could certainly continuing appreciate continuing updates with the County as you proceed along this path. I'm wondering if we might expect, not to put you on the spot, but might we expect the county to be here before us at any point in the coming months or a year requesting funding that for any portion of this project or any phase of your development project?

MR. GRAY: Yeah, well, we actually have submitted our application to the board.

MS. LEAN: We have not received that.

MR. GRAY: Yes.

MS. LEAN: But we have not received that yet. So it's coming down the road.

MR. GRAY: It is.

CHAIRMAN STEPHEN KAUFMAN: For at least a portion of it.

MR. GRAY: It is.

CHAIRMAN STEPHEN KAUFMAN:
Okay. Great.

Okay. Well, thank you very much. We appreciate it. We look forward to the updates.

CHAIRMAN STEPHEN KAUFMAN:

Mr. Holtzman, you submitted on this item number as well.

MR. HOLTZMAN: Thank you,

Mr. Chairman.

Welcome to Los Angeles for those of you who weren't from here.

While you're here, you might want to take a look at the technical center where the city of Los Angeles has a election system that's pretty much equivalent to the one that the County uses. And, in fact, the County that needs to, and you might consider funding this, could contract with the City of Los Angeles to expand its capacity for doing elections.

So it's something to keep in mind in the short-term if there's a demand for consolidating elections like board member Lagmay suggested there might
be after charter amendments one and two
and new election equipment that is not
available to do that -- existing
available election equipment could do
that. Also, if the county chooses to run
a top four runoff using rank-choice
equipment.

But I just want to say I
probably wouldn't be here today if I
haven't found it from a good government
perspective a little bit suspicious that
the County was going to award sequential
sole source contract to the same firm,
this IDEO firm that Mr. Gray was
speaking about. I appreciate Mr. Gray's
remarks that they have done the
investigation, to ballot real estate and
accommodating the City elections together
with the County elections.

I do think although the county
did a great job of trying to do -- did a
good job, I should say, of doing outreach
and getting input on the VSAP. I think
they could have done a much better job.

Now, under your authority to
reject this as inappropriate funding, I would love for you to require that the County proposal flesh out in writing the meaning of the VSAP principle of flexibility, which was in that cloud of principles that was up on the slide there and I would love to see in writing that it includes the flexibility principle, including being able to accommodate different election methods to ensure that it requires the ability to do rank-choice voting.

Just be very careful with going forward with new technology given what's happened here in L.A. school district when they tried to roll out an iPad that didn't seem to work as well as we thought or as quickly as we thought it would.

I really appreciate the work you're doing. I hope this money gets used for good equipment. And so thank you so much again for coming to Los Angeles for this meeting.

CHAIRMAN STEPHEN KAUFMAN:

Thank you again, Mr. Holtzman.
Okay. Item 8. Other business.

Staff, do we have other business to discuss?

MS. LEAN: We do have one other business to discuss.

So we were looking at proposing that you hold some standard meetings moving forward, perhaps every couple of months, get them on the schedule so we have them ready to go if we get project applications in or if you would like us to come pack and provide any other staff reports.

The proposal would be -- we could look at calendars later -- perhaps in May, August, and October.

So I'll throw some dates out and see what works for everybody. As soon as we have them established, we will go ahead and post them on the Voter Modernization website and we will also notice it to the county.

CHAIRMAN STEPHEN KAUFMAN:

Great.

And obviously, we're very
L.A.-centric on this board right now, but I think, you know, kind of rotating it and providing opportunities for public input both in Sacramento and Southern California would be great as we proceed through the year.

MS. MONTGOMERY: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN STEPHEN KAUFMAN: Okay. Any other comments from board members?

MS. LAGMAY: As far as housekeeping, I saw this in my packet. Are we supposed to sign these and turn them in?

MS. LEAN: Yes, we'll do that at the very end.

MS. LAGMAY: Oh, okay. Sorry. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN STEPHEN KAUFMAN: Okay. With that, do I have a motion to adjourn.

MS. LAGMAY: So moved.

CHAIRMAN STEPHEN KAUFMAN: Teri seconds. All in favor of adjourning.
CHAIRMAN STEPHEN KAUFMAN:

Okay. The first meeting of the Voter Modernization Board for 2015 is adjourned.

Thank you, everybody.

And thank you L.A. County for coming today.

(Whereupon the meeting adjourned; 3:00 p.m.)

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I, Jeanese Johnson, Certified Shorthand Reporter, in and for the State of California, do hereby certify:

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