

Mendocino County

Project Documentation Package Staff Report

Summary

Mendocino County	Amounts
Staff Recommended Funding Award Amount	\$620,444.80
VMB Approved Allocation Amount	\$620,444.80
3:1 Matching Fund Amount	\$206,814.93
Total System Cost	\$865,018.24

Voting System:

Diebold AccuVote – OS (Optical Scan) Tabulators – 73 Units
Diebold AccuVote – TS (Touch Screen) – 73 Units

Vendor:

Diebold Election Systems, Inc.

Acquisition Schedule:

Mendocino County began receiving their new optical voting equipment in August 2003. They plan to have the new optical scan equipment acquired and in use in time for the November 2003 UDEL election. The county plans to begin acquisition of the touch screen units in December 2003 and will use this equipment in the March 2004 Presidential Primary Election.

Project Completion Date:

Mendocino County has projected that their project completion date will be upon certification of the November 2004 Presidential General Election.

Staff Recommendation:

Mendocino County's "Project Documentation Package" meets all of the requirements for completeness. The Diebold AccuVote Optical Scan and AccuVote Touch Screen systems are certified for use in California. However, it should be noted that the optional "voter verifiable printer option" listed under the "Project Cost" breakdown (with a cost of \$43,800), is not certified and reimbursement for these costs would be contingent upon the certification of this system option.

Mendocino County currently uses the Votomatic system. The Votomatic voting system has been decertified and Mendocino County is under a federal court order to replace their system before March 1, 2004.

Mendocino County's Registrar of Voters completed a Request For Proposal (RFP) process that included responses from six vendors. The county used an evaluation team as well as public comment to evaluate the vendor proposals and equipment. Mendocino chose the Diebold optical scan and vote tabulation system for precinct and absentee voting and included one touch screen unit per polling place to meet the state and federal accessibility requirements. This system configuration allows the county to maintain a paper-based system during the modernization process.

Mendocino County will utilize the Diebold AccuVote Optical Scan system for the first time at the November 2003 UDEL election. The Diebold AccuVote Touch Screen component will be used at the March 2004 Presidential Primary. The County believes that by rolling out the two system components separately will allow for adequate training of staff, poll workers and voters.

Mendocino County will only receive VMB payments once they have submitted invoices for their voting equipment, and any reimbursement for the "voter verifiable printer option" is contingent upon the certification of this system option.

It is our recommendation to approve Mendocino County's "Project Documentation Package" and issue a "Funding Award" letter in the amount of \$620,444.80.