

Napa County

Project Documentation Package Staff Report

Summary

Napa County	Amounts
Staff Recommended Funding Award Amount	\$891,111.44
VMB Approved Allocation Amount	\$891,111.44
3:1 Matching Fund Amount	\$297,037.15
Total System Cost	\$1,188,148.50

Voting System:

Sequoia AVC Edge (Touch Screen System) – 250 Units

Absentee Voting System:

Sequoia Optech (Optical Scan)

Vendor:

Sequoia Voting Systems, Inc.

Acquisition Schedule:

Napa County plans to receive their new voting equipment in October 2003. The county plans to use their new voting equipment for the first time at the March 2, 2004 Presidential Primary Election.

Project Completion Date:

Napa County has projected that their project completion date will be upon certification of the March 2, 2004 Presidential Primary Election.

Staff Recommendation:

Napa County's "Project Documentation Package" meets all of the requirements for completeness. The Sequoia AVC Edge touch screen system is certified for use in California.

In February 2002, Napa County conducted a successful early voting pilot project using touch screen units supplied by Sequoia Voting Systems, Inc. Since the pilot project, Napa County has used the Sequoia AVC Edge touch screen units in three early-voting elections resulting in over 1,500 Napa County voters using the touch screen system.

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Napa County's main objective for buying the new voting systems was to meet the requirements of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA). According to Napa County, the Sequoia AVC Edge touch screen system was chosen because it could be easily integrated with their overall elections management system and it addressed the HAVA requirements to include the following: (1) the system reduces the possibility of over-votes; (2) makes voting more user-friendly for all voters; (3) increases accessibility for visually impaired voters; (4) reduces printing costs for precinct ballots; (4) improves the speed of reporting election results; and (5) expands early voting locations and ease of voting.

Napa County plans to begin installation of 250 Sequoia AVC Edge touch screen units in October 2003. They also have a plan to purchase another 100 Sequoia AVC Edge touch screen units once the HAVA punch card buyout money is made available. The new voting system will comply with the Federal and State laws regarding accessibility.

Napa County will only receive VMB payments once they have submitted "invoices" for their voting equipment.

It is our recommendation to approve Napa County's "Project Documentation Package" and issue a "Funding Award" letter in the amount of \$891,111.44.