

San Benito County

Project Documentation Plan Staff Report

Summary

San Benito County	Amounts
Staff Recommended Funding Award Amount	\$303,222.05
VMB Approved Allocation Amount	\$303,222.05
3:1 Matching Fund Amount	\$101,074.02
Total System Cost	\$636,593.48

Voting System:

Hardware:

Precinct System: AVC Edge DRE (Touch Screen) – 50 Units
VeriVote (DRE Printers) – 60 Units

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

Software: AVC Edge Firmware version 4.3.320
Optech 400-C EMS/AERO Software version 3.54.1

Vendor:

Sequoia Voting Systems, Inc.

Acquisition Schedule:

San Benito County anticipates receiving their new voting equipment in February 2006. The county plans to begin using this equipment in the June 6, 2006 Primary Election.

Project Completion Date:

San Benito County projects 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 San Benito County include the VeriVote printers, which are a VVPAT component.

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Staff Report:

San Benito County's Project Documentation Plan meets the minimum requirements for completeness. The Sequoia AVC Edge DRE units, the VeriVote printers, and the Optech Insight units are certified for use in California. Please note that 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 California primary election. This condition is expected to be resolved before the end of the year.

San Benito County currently uses the Datavote punch card voting system. In order to meet the January 1, 2006 deadline for accessible voting equipment as required by the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) and new state law, San Benito County plans to replace the Datavote system with Direct Recording Electronic (DRE) touch screen technology in each of their polling sites and will use optical scan technology for absentee voting.

San Benito County will not implement the new voting equipment until the June 6, 2006 Primary Election, to allow the county time for testing the new equipment and for training staff and poll workers on the new voting system.

San Benito County will only receive VMB payments once they have submitted invoices for the purchase of their 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 training and other support services costs listed in the San Benito County plan would not be covered as a reimbursable claim under Proposition 41.

The contract executed between San Benito County and Sequoia does not conform to Secretary of State's August 3, 2005 directive regarding HAVA compliant voting systems. The county has indicated they will be amending their contract with Sequoia Voting Systems to incorporate language to address the SOS HAVA compliant voting system directive once negotiations have been completed regarding the agreed-upon language.

Staff Recommendation:

It is our recommendation that, upon receipt of the amendment to the contract language between San Benito County and Sequoia Voting Systems that incorporates the SOS HAVA compliant voting system directive language, the Voting Modernization Board approve San Benito County's Project Documentation Plan and issue a Funding Award in the amount of \$303,222.05.

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Update to October 17, 2005 Staff Report

Summary

San Benito County	Amounts
Staff Recommended Funding Award Amount	\$303,222.05
VMB Approved Allocation Amount	\$303,222.05
3:1 Matching Fund Amount	\$101,074.02
Total System Cost	\$636,614.14

Vendor:

Sequoia Voting Systems, Inc.

Voting System:

Precinct System: AVC Edge DRE (Touch Screen) – 65 Units
VeriVote (DRE Printers) – 76 Units

Absentee System: Optech 400-C Ballot Counter (Optical Scan) – 1 Unit
Optech Insight Precinct Ballot Counter (Optical Scan) – 1 Unit

Staff Recommendation:

It is our recommendation that San Benito County's Funding Award letter be issued in the amount of \$303,222.05.
