

El Dorado County

Phase 2 Project Documentation Plan Staff Report

Summary

El Dorado County	
Initial Allocation Amount	\$1,095,674.94
VMB 3:1 Funding Award Amount	\$877,911.89
County 3:1 Matching Amount	\$292,637.30
Amount Dispersed to County	\$474,468.54
Remaining Allocation Amount	\$621,206.40
VMB 3:1 Funding Award Amount	\$621,206.40
County 3:1 Matching Amount	\$207,068.80
Remaining Allocation Amount	\$0.00

Voting System:

Hardware:

Dominion Voting Systems ImageCast High Speed Central Counting Systems (5 Units)
 Dominion Voting Systems ImageCast X Ballot Marking Systems (55 Units)
 Dominion Voting Systems Mobile Ballot Production Systems (23 Units)
 Dominion Voting Systems Ballot Adjudication Workstations (4 Units)

Software:

Dominion Voting Systems Ballot Adjudication System Software
 Dominion Voting Systems Remote Accessible Vote-By-Mail

Voting Technology Expansions:

Hardware:

Runbeck Election Services Agilis Mailing Sorting System (1 Unit)
 OPEX Corporation Envelope Extractors (2 Units)

Vendors:

Runbeck Election Services
 OPEX Corporation
 Dominion Voting Systems

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Acquisition Schedule:

El Dorado County anticipates receiving its new voting equipment beginning in July 2019 through August 2019. The county plans to begin using this equipment in the August 27, 2019, Uniform District Election (UDEL).

Project Completion Date:

El Dorado County projects that its project completion date will be upon certification of the March 2020 Presidential Primary Election.

Staff Report:

El Dorado County's Phase 2 Project Documentation Plan meets the requirements for completeness. The ImageCast Voting System is certified for use in California.

At the March 27, 2006, meeting, the Voting Modernization Board approved El Dorado County's Phase 1 funding award in the amount of \$877,911.89. However, El Dorado only submitted invoices in the amount of \$474,468.54. Therefore, a check in the amount of \$474,468.54 was mailed to El Dorado County on August 17, 2007, resulting in a remaining allocation amount of \$621,206.40.

El Dorado County began its search for a new voting system to aid in the transition from a Precinct Voting model to a Vote Center model in 2020, as set forth under the Voter's Choice Act. A Voting Systems Selection Committee comprised of the elections staff, members of the public, poll workers, trainers, former board members, and members of the League of Women Voters provided guidance and assistance in the selection of the new voting system. Following an extensive evaluation of bidders and rating of each proposed system, El Dorado County ultimately purchased an array of new voting equipment from three separate vendors (Runbeck Election Services, OPEX Corporation, and Dominion Voting Systems) to achieve its goal of a comprehensive modernized system.

As approximately 80% of all voters are projected to vote-by-mail in future elections, El Dorado has acquired two voting technology expansions to enhance the processing of mail ballots. The Agilis Mailing Sorting System and OPEX Envelope Extractors will both streamline signature verification, resulting in quicker processing and reduced errors. El Dorado County believes the acquisition of high-speed Central Count Units from Dominion Voting Systems will enable more efficient and quicker tabulation of results. The new centralized tabulation process will permit elections staff to tabulate returned ballots before the closing of Vote Centers on Election Day.

The deployment of three ImageCast X Ballot Marking Devices at each Vote Center will allow voters with auditory, visual, or physical limitations to utilize a customizable touchscreen interface to both understand their ballot and cast their vote privately and independently. El Dorado County has also purchased a Remote Accessible Vote-By-Mail System (RAVBM) to allow voters to mark their ballot at home, further increasing accessibility for voters with disabilities. A Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee is currently developing an extensive voter outreach program to introduce the new voting system to its voters and solicit feedback. The county plans to hold demonstrations of the new voting equipment at community events, elderly centers, and plans to involve the local media to promote the new voting method.

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El Dorado County will only receive VMB payments once it has submitted detailed invoices for its certified voting equipment and additional voting technology components. Please note that the staff proposed funding award is based upon allowable reimbursement under Proposition 41. Software licenses, warranties after the first year, and training costs listed in the El Dorado County contracts with Runbeck Election Services, OPEX Corporation, and Dominion Voting Systems would not be covered as a reimbursable claim under Proposition 41.

Staff Recommendation:

It is our recommendation that El Dorado County's Phase 2 Project Documentation Plan be approved and a Funding Award letter be issued in the amount of \$621,206.40.