



MEMORANDUM

Date: June 29, 2022

To: The Honorable Chair and Members
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: Jan Leshner 
County Administrator

Re: **Election Preparation Update**

Over the past several months, the Board of Supervisors has been updated on various efforts underway to prepare for and hold the 2022 election. On Friday, June 24, 2022 a Mock Election was held to demonstrate electronic poll books (e-poll books) and the ballot-on-demand printers and to allow the public an opportunity to interact with the equipment.

The attached memorandum from Elections Director Constance Hargrove summarizes the June 24, 2022 Mock Election. It is important to note that the problems that arose were related to the preparation of the training database Ms. Hargrove's response to a host of questions is found in the attached memorandum.

While the challenges encountered by some participants were instantly addressed and easily remedied, since the result was not perfect, a second Mock Election was immediately scheduled for July 1, 2022. A report on the outcome of that session will be provided to the Board under separate cover.

JKL/dym

Attachment

c: The Honorable Gabriella Cázares- Kelly, Pima County Recorder
Members of the Election Integrity Commission
Carmine DeBonis, Jr., Deputy County Administrator for Public Works
Francisco García, MD, MPH, Deputy County Administrator for Health and Community
Services & Chief Medical Officer
Constance Hargrove, Director, Pima County Elections



ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT

PIMA COUNTY GOVERNMENT
6550 SOUTH COUNTRY CLUB RD., TUCSON, AZ 85756
(520) 724-6830 FAX (520) 724-6870

Date: June 28, 2022

TO: Jan Leshner
County Administrator

FROM: Constance Hargrove
Elections Director

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "CH", is written over the name "Constance Hargrove". A horizontal line extends to the right from the end of the signature.

RE: Mock Election Update

The Elections Department held a Mock Election on June 24, 2022, to demonstrate the electronic pollbooks and the ballot on-demand printers. The Mock Election was held to allow voters to see and interact with the new equipment. While most participants had a good experience, others encountered some challenges. These challenges were not intentional, and we did not hold the event to work out the kinks of the new system. I am grateful for the intermittent workers that served as pollworkers during the Mock Election. Some employees received a few minutes of instruction the morning of the event. I am also thankful to the staff for setting up and running the Mock Election in my absence.

The challenges encountered by some participants resulted from miscommunication among staff in preparing the database for the event. Some of the challenges are listed below:

- Cards containing names of fictitious voters did not work.
 - The fictitious voters are a part of the training database. The e-pollbooks did not contain the training database.

- Voters already checked in on the e-pollbook.
 - The e-pollbooks contained the testing database. The database loaded on the e-pollbook is the one we use to test the database and workflow for election day. The staff selects individuals registered to vote with different political party affiliations to ensure they receive the correct party ballot. Mr. Bill Beard was one of the voters chosen in the testing environment. The e-pollbook functioned properly by not allowing the poll worker to print a ballot.

- Mr. Beard also questioned how the system could identify him when his precinct is not in the pollbook database.

- The pollbook determines voter status based on name and address. Voter status has nothing to do with the precinct. The system uses the precinct to print the correct ballot with ballot on-demand or to issue the correct ballot manually.
- The e-pollbooks did not have ballots for new precincts.
 - The August Primary is the first election since redistricting. No ballots exist for the new precincts except the official ballots for the upcoming election. The intent was never to match voters and ballots during the mock election.
- The e-pollbooks work together with a receipt printer which prints out the voter's ballot information for the ballot officer.
 - We do not have receipt printers for the August Primary. Therefore, the pollbook officer records the ballot information from the e-pollbook to help the poll worker provide the correct ballot to the voter. The poll worker issues the ballot slip after they complete the check-in process on the e-pollbook.
 - An employee created a second special situations table to help reduce the line. However, he did not give the poll worker enough pre-printed ballot slips when he created the second table. The ballot slips are a tool for the poll workers, but they are not required in the Vote Center.
- Does the system log the number of times a request to print is sent from the e-pollbook?
 - I do not have the answer, but I will verify this information.
- Does the system log the actual number of printed ballots regardless of requests in the print queue or power failure?
 - All print requests are connected to a voter's record. A voter can spoil a ballot up to three times. The e-pollbook will only allow you to spoil three ballots. However, you can administratively reprint a ballot if the printer jams or the ballot does not print correctly. The administrative reprint does not count against the voter's three ballots.
 - The inspector and judge of the opposite party must keep track of all ballots printed and ballot stock used in the Vote Center. The inspector can reconcile ballot stock used to the number of check-ins on the e-pollbook whenever they add more stock to the printer.
 - I will verify if the system logs administratively reprinted ballots.
- Will the system track the number of ballots and ballot requests sent to the printer by date and Vote Center?
 - I need to verify this information.

- A concerned voter asked, what is the procedure for providing security and chain of custody for ballots at Vote Centers?
 - Voters place ballots cast on election day in a locked metal ballot box. In addition, voters put provisional and early ballots in a locked blue ballot box at the Vote Center. After the polls close, the inspector and judge of the opposite party (JOP) open each box separately and count the contents. They must also complete an Official Ballot Report where they record the number of election day ballots, the number of early ballots, and the number of provisional ballots. One copy of the Official Ballot Report goes into the ballot boxes, and the other copy goes inside the official returns envelope. The inspector and JOP deliver the ballots and other voting equipment to the receiving station. The ballots and other voting equipment are then transported from the receiving station to the central office.

- Has all Tenex equipment required for the Early and Primary election arrived and completed satisfactory testing?
 - The Recorder's office does not use Tenex equipment during Early Voting. We will receive the final shipment of Vote Center equipment on June 30. Final testing of equipment begins on July 7.

- During the Mock Election, a participant without a photo ID and only a concealed carry card and no photo id were given a Provisional Ballot. Participant marked ballot, and when giving the Provisional Ballot to monitor at the Ballot box, monitor placed the so-called Provisional Ballot into the regular Ballot Box. How do you determine a Provisional Ballot if they are all identical or placed in the wrong Box?
 - Voters place their marked ballots into a provisional ballot envelope which is how we distinguish provisionals from regular ballots if they put the ballot in the wrong ballot box.

- During the official Emergency Voting on July 30 or August 1 or Primary election on August 2, what happens after the voter signs the poll book and while waiting for the Ballot to print, there is a failure in either the equipment or connection? The Voter and all those waiting in line to Vote must wait because at least one Voter or more are in limbo while waiting. They have already checked in and signed, so they cannot just leave and go to another Vote Center.
 - The Emergency Voting sites and the Vote Centers have emergency pre-printed backup ballots. Voters will not be left in limbo if there is an equipment failure.