Pima County Election Integrity Commission Agenda
January 21, 2011
Pima County Administration Building,
130 West Congress Street
Board of Supervisors Conference Room, 1st Floor
Tucson, Arizona 85701
9:00 am

1. Roll Call

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Introduction of New Member

4. Approval of the December 10, 2010 Minute Summary

5. Poll Worker Evaluation Form-Donna Branch Gilby--cont'd

6. Security of our Elections-Follow-up on Laser Printing-Jim March-cont'd

7. Bylaws for Election Integrity Commission- Jim March-cont'd

8. Provisional Ballot Discussion – Benny White

9. Recorder's Report on Poll Worker Errors – Benny White

10. Election Board Political Party Balance – Benny White

11. Ballots Discovered During Proposition 112 Recount – Benny White

12. Overseas Ballots – Tom Ryan

13. Ballot Scanning Legislation- Tom Ryan

14. Secretary of State Legislative Status Update – John Moffatt

15. Registered Voter Purge Process – Recorder's Office

16. Selection of Early Ballot Audit Batches – Brad Nelson

17. Ballot Duplication Cost and Causal Analysis – Brad Nelson

18. Ballot Recount – Brad Nelson

19. Commission Web Site – Benny White

20. Call to the Audience

21.   Next Meeting Date and Time

22.   Agenda Items-New Business

23.   Adjournment

1 statement that, for the following reasons, the petition lacks the minimum
2 number of signatures to place it on the general election ballot:
3   1. Signature sheets bearing secretary of state page
4   numbers _____ and bearing signatures of _____
5   persons   appeared   on   petitions   containing   a   defective
6   circulator's affidavit.
7   2. A total of _____ signatures on the remaining
8   petition sheets were found to be ineligible.
9   3. A total of _____ signatures included in
10   the random sample have been certified by the county recorders as
11   ineligible at the time such petition was signed and a projection
12   from such random sample has indicated that _____ more
13   signatures are ineligible to appear on the petition.
14 A facsimile of the certifications of the county recorders under section
15 19-121.02 shall accompany the signature sheets returned to the person or
16 organization that submitted them.
17   Sec. 21. Scanned ballot election auditing pilot program;
18   secretary of state; proposals; report; delayed
19   repeal
20   A. In cooperation with one or more county boards of supervisors, the
21 secretary of state may establish a scanned ballot election auditing pilot
22 program to audit and analyze ballot scanning and tabulating equipment for the
23 purpose of investigating or developing postelection audit systems for use on
24 a broad, election-wide basis. The pilot program shall include analytical
25 assistance from one or more of the universities under the direction of the
26 Arizona board of regents.
27   B. Notwithstanding section 16-624, Arizona Revised Statutes:
28   1. On request, a county treasurer shall release ballots to the custody
29 of the secretary of state for the purposes of the pilot program.
30   2. On approval of a governing body, the pilot program may be used to
31 audit the results of a live election for a special taxing district or for
32 another other local election. Ballots and software used in the pilot program
33 are not public records and are not subject to title 39, Arizona Revised
34 Statutes.
35   C. In cooperation with one or more county boards of supervisors, the
36 secretary of state shall solicit proposals for an auditing pilot program from
37 entities with ballot scanning capabilities. Proposals for an auditing pilot
38 program are not subject to procurement pursuant to title 41, chapter 23,
39 Arizona Revised Statutes, but the secretary of state shall solicit at least
40 three proposals. The secretary of state may coordinate and work with
41 election officials in other jurisdictions if a federal program or project on
42 scanned ballots audit procedures is established.
43   D. The secretary of state shall prepare and publish a report on the
44 results of the pilot program no later than December 31, 2013.
45   E. This section is repealed from and after September 30, 2014.

Date: January 13, 2011

To: C. H. Huckelberry, County Administrator

From: Brad R. Nelson, Elections Director

Re: Electronic Poll Books - An improvement in efficiency

Throughout the United States election officials are improving polling place efficiency by replacing traditional paper poll books with electronic poll books (EPBs). EPBs address many of the issues inherent in the production, delivery and usage of paper poll books. They enable faster check-in, eliminate printing costs, improve post-election data management and improve auditing capability. An EBP can be described as a software application running on a laptop, net book, tablet, etc; it receives authorized voter registration data from a secure master database via portable media.

Paper poll books are generally printed in a portrait format and bound along one edge. One page holds information for approximately 20 voters, depending on size and spacing. Each listing includes the voter's name, residence address and other information (registration number, party affiliation, mailing address, etc) depending on the requirements of the election. Finally, there may be additional election specific notations, such as whether a voter has requested an early ballot, or if the voter must sign an oath regarding their residence address because of their inactive voter status. This is a great deal of information for each poll worker to sift through, considering that most poll workers are "volunteers" who may have never worked at the polls and whose training consisted of a ninety minute "over view".

On the other hand, additional problems can occur because the paper poll books do not contain enough additional information to ensure fast exception handling. Exceptions include voters who are at the wrong polling place, voters who are required to vote a provisional ballot and voters who have requested an early ballot but show up at the polls to vote in person. To resolve these issues, poll workers often need to consult an election official, who may need to call election

headquarters or the Recorder. Because many exceptions occur simultaneously across the county, each call causes further delay and problems at the polls.

Delays are not the only drawbacks of paper poll books. Two others are printing and post-election data handling.

It is very expensive to prepare, print, bind and deliver paper poll books. Whether printed in-house or outsourced, poll books require high-speed printers, paper (up to 400,000 sheets for a county with 500,000 voters) and toner. Deadlines are critical, so staffs often work around the clock to complete the job on time. After the poll books are printed, they must be manually bound, then loaded in precinct supply kits and hand-delivered by truck. Voter registration data often changes in between poll book printing and election day, so jurisdictions frequently issue multiple supplemental poll book updates, giving poll workers even more paper documents to handle.

Post-election data handling requires a similar investment of time and manual labor. Paper poll books must be returned to election offices and stored. (In many jurisdictions, it is not uncommon for poll books to be misplaced after the polls close). During the next few weeks, staff members must "wand in" each poll book, scanning the bar code under the voter's name to update the voter's history. Because it is manual, this process is time-consuming and error-prone. On average, a worker scans about two poll books per hour. In a 500,000-voter county, updating voter history requires many hundreds on person-hours to complete.

Election officials across the country have found that the introduction of EPBs at the polls have reduced congestion (lines) at the polls, reduced the number of provisional ballots and saves the cost associated with the paper poll books.

The EBP concept is straight forward and delivers a long list of benefits:

- **Faster check-in.** Each EPB unit contains all voter registration data for the precinct and jurisdiction, so there is no need for alphabetically divided lines (A-L; M-Z). This simple change shortens lines and helps eliminate bottlenecks. To check in a voter, poll workers can scan a voter's driver's license, sample ballot, voter ID card or key in the voter's name. All of these methods are faster than leafing through a large paper poll book and the end result is higher efficiency.

- **No printing costs.** All EPB data arrives electronically, enabling jurisdictions to eliminate the costs associated with printing, binding and delivery of poll books. No paper is used which supports environmental stability.

- **Quick voter redirection.** Because EPBs include voter registration data from the entire jurisdiction, it is easy to help a voter who has arrived at the wrong polling place. Poll workers switch to "county-wide" mode and search to find the voter's correct polling place. (Some EPBs even provide maps with driving

directions.) Paper poll books only contain voters for one precinct, which make redirecting lost voters time consuming and error prone.

- **Instant data availability.** Many EPB systems provide instant, real-time access to data on election day. Election officials can perform real-time audits, reconcile voting machine totals and check-in totals to catch discrepancies early. Political party representatives can quickly check turnout among their base. Election officials can see turnout displayed by the hour to identify peak times, so they can improve staffing and add more resources for the next election.

- **No manual voter history scanning.** EPBs can deliver an accurate voter history credit file instantly on election day, eliminating the need to record results manually.

- **No supplemental poll book information.** EPBs receive an accurate data file on or immediately before election day, so there is no need for supplemental poll book information. Poll workers have only one file to deal with instead of multiple paper documents.

- **Easier exception handling.** Access to all voter registration data improves exception handling, making it easy to check whether voters have already voted an early ballot, need to confirm their address, or need to vote a provisional ballot. With EPBs, poll workers can resolve issue quickly without placing time consuming calls to election headquarters or the voter registration office.

In summary, Electronic Poll Books offer a proven, reliable way for election officials to avoid bottlenecks during check-in and improve overall polling place efficiency. EPBs have many functional advantages over traditional paper poll books, as well as measurable cost advantages.

Mr. Huckelberry, I feel strongly that the use of EBPs in Pima County will bring about a great improvement in efficiency at the polls, reduce the number of provisional ballots, and provide a much needed auditing tool to review the integrity of the election prior to the official canvass - among other improvements. I stand ready to discuss the subject with you at your convenience. I look forward to hearing from you.

Attachments:

- "Electronic poll books speed process for workers and voters" – Mindy Moretti, April 1, 2006, Campaigns and Elections
- "Electronic Poll Books Centralize Voter Rolls in Arizona's Yavapai County" – June 30, 2010, Govtech.com
- "County tests new e-poll books" – May 18, 2010, The Prescott Daily Courier
- "E-poll books aided faster voting" – November 3, 2010, Brenham Banner-Press

Electronic poll books speed process for workers and voters.

Title Annotation:	*VOTING MATTERS*
Author:	*Moretti, M. Mindy*
Geographic Code:	*1USA*
Date:	*Apr 1, 2006*
Words:	*784*
Publication:	*Campaigns & Elections*
ISSN:	*0197-0771*

Anyone who has ever spent an Election Day waiting in line A-J or M-S at their local polling place knows the agony of Etorre's Observation: the other line always moves faster.

Those days are numbered for millions of voters as Georgia, Montana and a handful of local jurisdictions in other states prepare to make the move to electronic poll books as a way to sign-in voters or route them to the correct polling place.

Electronic poll books, or e-poll books, range from laptops to personal digital assistant-type systems and are used in a variety of ways. They can be simple lookup devices, or they can be complete systems that sign in voters and track voter history. Despite the various incarnations and uses of e-poll books, the prevailing thought from those who use them is that life just got much easier for poll workers and voters alike.

"I'm hopeful that this technology, if properly implemented and used, will help resolve a lot of problems we have seen with voter registration systems in past elections," said R. Michael Alvarez with the California Institute of Technology.

Last year, Georgia finalized plans to acquire e-poll books from Diebold as part of the state's existing contract with the company that also provides the voting machines. Although the poll books have been used in several localities with another pilot set for March, they'll be used in the July primary.

"We had 14 pilots last November and they were all wildly successful," said Kathy Rogers, Georgia's director of elections. "Poll workers did great using them, and elections officials were extremely pleased."

Although Georgia is making the use of e-poll books statewide, Forsyth County actually created its own e-poll book system that has been used for eight elections. The county developed a program in conjunction with the elections office staff, the county IT department and a software program developed by an outside contractor.

Laptop computers were placed in each polling place with the voter registration database-- done in Microsoft Access--loaded on to the computer (a paper copy of the voter list was a

backup). On average, using the poll books reduced the number of phone calls to the elections office on Election Day by 80 percent and decreased the average wait time during peak voting hours to 15 to 20 minutes as opposed to 60 in the past. The books also greatly decreased the amount of time it took to produce election results and reports and to transmit the necessary information to the capital.

E-poll books' success has prompted county officials to consider creating a handheld unit to work in conjunction with the laptops.

In 2005, two localities in Virginia--Virginia Beach and Norfolk--used e-poll books as look up devices.

Elisa Long, general registrar for the city of Norfolk said use of the e-poll books helped cut down wait time for voters by 15 to 20 minutes.

"It just makes the process so much faster," Long said. "We used these in 20 precincts for the 2004 presidential election, and we literally had hundreds of calls less for that election than we normally do of people looking for their correct polling place."

However, as with any electronic elections technology, there are concerns about integrity, reliability and security. Some election watchdogs fear e-poll books could be the target for "denial of service" attacks on Election Day or eliminate human-verified physical evidence of how many people actually voted.

Still, despite the concerns and potential pitfalls, many elections experts and those using e-poll books sec the benefits.

During elections in September and November last year, Mecklenburg County, N.C. tested several different types of e-poll books in a handful of precincts. The test was conducted side by side with traditional paper poll books. Michael Dickerson, director of elections for the county said the training for the different systems was fairly simple.

"Our elections folks loved them," Dickerson said. "I think it's telling of the age we are in where more and more people are accustomed to a computer and they are willing to try something on a computer first."

According to Dickerson, poll workers reported that using the e-poll books was about six times faster than the traditional paper poll books. Dickerson said his office is waiting on state law to allow for the use of the e-poll books.

"The real saving grace on all of this is and the real cost savings is how much you save after the fact," Dickerson said. "After Election Day it generally takes two months to work notes and have the history updated, add to that a very tired staff. With these you can upload everything within a day or so after the election and it really takes away the human errors."

Electronic Poll Books Centralize Voter Rolls in Arizona's Yavapai County

| June 30, 2010

In the 2008 general election, nearly 15,000 ballots in Arizona were tossed out because people voted at the wrong polling place, according to the Secretary of State's Office.

To avoid those problems in the future, officials in Yavapai County, Ariz., launched a pilot project that tested six new electronic poll books at three locations for special elections Tuesday, May 18. Rolled out for the first time in the state, the high-tech devices centralize voter rolls in a single database so poll workers can save paper and easily direct prospective voters to the right precincts.

"Our ultimate goal is to facilitate our voters a lot faster with less resources," said Yavapai County Recorder Ana Wayman-Trujillo.

Using a portion of a federal Help America Vote Act grant through the Arizona Secretary of State's Office, the county purchased a total of 110 e-poll books with plans to put at least two in every polling place by the November elections, Wayman-Trujillo said. The e-poll books promote a paperless voter experience, she added, enabling poll workers to identify voters and track voting histories simply by scanning a driver's license or state identification card. A window for electronic signatures replaces a signature roster.

"We love our poll workers, but sometimes people don't spell their names right or miss their name in the poll book," she said. "The system uses a bar-code system that immediately tells you if you're registered, in what precinct and the style of ballot you need. It's really going to streamline the way things are done."

Typically if voters show up at the wrong polling place, they would only be able to vote using a provisional ballot. But with the electronic database, officials said, the county can save money by reducing provisional ballots and the extra time it takes to file them. Now, prospective voters can receive a printout that tells them exactly where to go to vote, Wayman-Trujillo said. The machines will also let them know if a resident has already voted somewhere else or by mail.

Secretary of State Ken Bennett visited one of the e-poll book locations, claiming that voters "may get a glimpse at the future of elections."

"We should always be open to advancements that make voting more accessible and secure," Bennett said in a release. "I'm excited the county has chosen to take this cautious first step."

These devices are already used in other states such as Georgia and Maryland, which had well documented problems with e-poll books in the past. In Yavapai County, the machines have the entire county voter rolls of more than 120,000 registered voters in its database. For this election, the county consolidated the polls from 95 spots to 52. And moving forward, officials hope to consolidate even more, which could happen mostly because 50,000 registered voters are on a permanent early voting list and don't need to go to the polls, Wayman-Trujillo said.

Ultimately the county hopes to set up vote centers, which would free residents up from having to vote at a specific precinct.

"It's a different twist on the polling place concept," she said of the vote centers. "You won't have any wrong polling places. You could go to any one vote center on Election Day and vote. We're trying to implement those for 2012."

The Daily Courier

Tuesday, May 18, 2010

County tests new e-poll books

By Linda Stein
The Daily Courier

Tuesday, May 18, 2010

The era of bulky, time-consuming paper polling books may be nearing an end.

Voters and poll workers at three locations in Yavapai County tested six new e-poll books Tuesday as part of a pilot project, the first in Arizona. County officials paid for the computerized devices through a portion of a $390,000 federal Help America Vote Act grant through the Secretary of State's Office.

The small machines resemble laptop computers. Made by Elections Systems Software of Omaha, Neb., they cost about $2,700 each and include a signature pad for voters to sign.
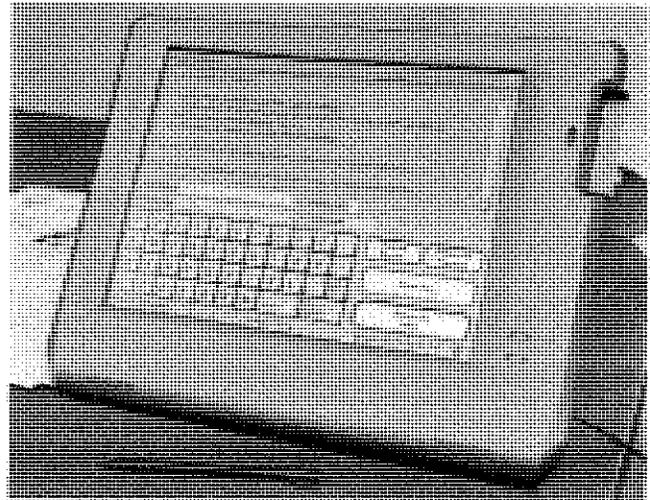
Arizona Secretary of State Ken Bennett visited the three trial polling sites - the Mackin Building, Copper Basin and Prescott Community Church - to see the devices in action.

"Everyone really likes them," Bennett said. "Things are going very smoothly." Other counties around the state await the results of the Yavapai County test, he said.
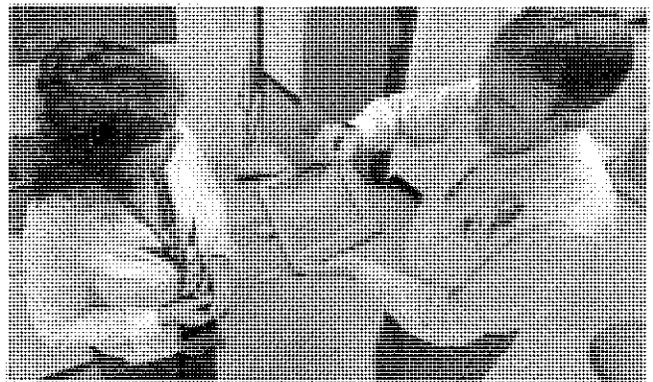
Yavapai County Recorder Ana Wayman-Trujillo said the machines have the entire county voter rolls of 120,458 registered voters in their databases so that voters who go to the wrong polling place can be directed to the correct one and given written printouts. Eventually, once each polling spot has the e-poll machines, voters will be able to vote where they prefer if the Legislature approves election law changes so that can happen, she said.

"We're shooting for 2012," Wayman-Trujillo said.

Matt Hinshaw/The Daily Courier
Yavapai County is the first county in Arizona to use the new e-poll book election tool.

Matt Hinshaw/The Daily Courier
Arizona Secretary of State Ken Bennett and Yavapai County Recorder Ana Wayman-Trujillo demonstrate the new e-poll book at the Yavapai County Administrative Services Building Tuesday afternoon.

Bennett added, "With the electronic poll books, all the voters can vote at 30 or 40 centers. They can pick a center close to home, work or their child's soccer field."

Currently, the county has 95 polling spots, but for this election they consolidated the polls to 52 locations.

The machines also will save the county money by reducing the need for provisional ballots. The e-poll books can tell if someone already voted through the mail, for example. Also, the machines keep track of voting histories.

"If we can make it more convenient to vote and save money, it's a win-win," Bennett said.

The e-poll books also eliminate the need for two lines of voters waiting while poll workers look up their names alphabetically, said Lynn Constabile, the county elections director.

"It made the line move faster," Constabile said.

Back-up for the data on the e-polls exists in case of failure, she said.

Some other states, including Colorado, Georgia, Maryland and Texas, already use the machines.

"We've been talking about this for a couple of years," Wayman-Trujillo said. "We've been very cautious about what we do."

Bennett added, "I'm proud Yavapai County is taking the lead of all the counties."

Related Links:

Brenham Banner-Press

NEWS

E-poll books aided faster voting

Print Page

By ALLISON P. SMITH/Staff Reporter

Published:
Wednesday, November 3, 2010 2:40 PM CDT

The Washington County election judges and clerks checked in voters faster and sent the voting information to the Texas Secretary of State in minutes with e-poll books in each voting location for the 2010 election.

The e-polls allowed election judges to look up voters and tell them where to vote if they were in the wrong voting poll by swiping driver's licenses.

"The election judges saw it in the early voting and wanted to use the e-polls on election day," county clerk Beth Rothermel said. "I thought we were going to have a lot of calls, but the election judges just loved them."

The election judges took to the e-polls like a duck takes to water, Rothermel said, and they didn't need much training to use the e-polls. The judges did a great job learning how to use the e-polls and found it was easy to learn, she said.

This is the first time the e-polls were on election day, Rothermel brought them out for the early voting and the primaries, but didn't think the election judges wanted to use them during the busiest voting day, she said.

"I am proud of all the election judges, alternate judges and clerks," Rothermel said. "This was a busy election and they did an outstanding job.

"The county is growing and we need to be more efficient."

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