

## **Pima County Election Integrity Commission**

<http://www.pima.gov/commission/ElectionIntegrity.shtml>

### **Minute Summary**

The Pima County Election Integrity Commission met in regular session on October 21, 2011, at the Pima County Administration Building, Board of Supervisors Conference Room, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 130 W. Congress, Tucson, Arizona 85701.

#### **Item 1:        Roll Call**

**Present:**        Mickey Duniho, John Moffatt, Pat Pecoraro, Tom Ryan, Drew Spencer, Barbara Tellman, Arnie Urken, and Benny White.

**Absent:**         Charles Geoffrion, Jim March, Ann-Eve Pedersen

Also in attendance: Brad Nelson, Pima County Elections Department; Mike Dale, Pima County Elections Department

#### **Item 2:        Pledge of Allegiance:**

Those in attendance stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **Item 3:        Approval of the September 16, 2011 Minute Summary:**

The minute summary was reviewed by the members of the Commission. No changes were noted. Barbara Tellman makes a motion to accept the minutes; Arnie Urken seconds the motion. Motion unanimously approved.

#### **Item 4:        Secretary of State Election Procedures Manual Process – Brad Nelson**

Secretary of State Bennett created a Committee, inviting representatives from all 15 counties, plus the political parties and various groups with interests in election-related activities. Numerous suggested changes were submitted by the representatives, including those which came in via the website.

A preliminary procedures manual was sent to the Governor's Office and the Attorney General's Office for review and comment. The final document will be given to the Governor and the Attorney General on October 24<sup>th</sup>; Kris Kingsmore, Assistant State Elections Director, does not foresee any problems with the manual being approved.

#### **Item 5:        2011 Election Update – Brad Nelson**

Ballots have gone out for the school districts; Marana School District and Tanque Verde School District will hold polling place elections. Poll worker training will begin within two (2) weeks. Brad will contact Catherine Hanna as to when the Recorder's Office will release the ballots to the Elections Department.

The mail-in only ballot elections have the option of going to a replacement center should they need to replace their paper ballot.

**Item 6:            Ballot Scanning Pilot Study – Tom Ryan**

John Moffatt requested a status update from the Secretary of State's Office regarding the pilot study. The Secretary of State's Office is busy with the recall election, Elections Procedures Manual updates, and elections legislation and has not reviewed the pilot study letter.

John expects a delay with moving forward with the pilot study, but offered the EIC's assistance with legislation should it be needed. The EIC is welcome to offer suggestions for legislation, but no suggestions have been provided at this time. Once the Secretary of State's Office distributes their legislative agenda, the EIC can request a briefing or ask for submissions.

**Item 7:            By-Laws for the Election Integrity Commission – Barbara Tellman & Charles Geoffrion**

Catherine Hanna distributed the final version to the Commission members for review.

Pat Pecoraro inquires about the EIC resolution, and would like to see language added noting that a function of the EIC includes *"making recommendations to the Board of Supervisors regarding election information technology systems and technical matters."* John Moffatt explains that the resolution didn't offer adequate direction and the by-laws will replace that document. Barbara Tellman believes the function describing the by-laws is adequate and should replace the current function description on the EIC website. Arnie Urken agrees.

Barbara Tellman makes a motion to adopt the EIC By-Laws, directing Staff to update the website. Arnie Urken seconds the motion. Motion unanimously approved. Pat Pecoraro noted that the wording is also inconsistent with the Web site. John Moffatt will coordinate making the various versions consistent.

**Item 8:            EIC Annual Report Template – John Moffatt & Catherine Hanna**

The Commission reviews copies of the Annual Report template, and is asked to offer suggestions as to its content.

John Moffatt commented to the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors and the County Administrator, noting that few commissions provide an annual report, despite the provision for creating one.

General Topics were identified and discussed: Elections Conducted, Legislation & Secretary of State Elections Manual, Voter Registration, Vote-By-Mail and Early Voting, Precinct and Poll Worker Topics, Auditing Elections, Security and Controls, Technology, and Cost of Elections.

Arnie Urken suggests that the page refrain from looking "busy" and include hyperlinks, which will take the reader to documents the EIC produced throughout the year.

Charles Geoffrion (not present) will contribute material for the Annual Report, along with John Moffatt and Catherine Hanna.

**Item 9:            System Specifications for Voting Systems – Arnie Urken**

Arnie Urken wanted to revisit this topic, as the state of the marketplace has changed, and the resulting EIC impact on the voting specifications and systems used by the State.

Originally, the EIC had spoken of a model standard for what the system should accomplish and what voters can expect. Arnie Urken seeks Commission discussion on pursuing this topic.

Tom Ryan questions the EIC involvement or impact to specifications and voting systems. The guidelines from the State originate from the voluntary compliance with Federal guidelines.

Arnie explains that states are beginning to discuss their own state's demands and needs. Arizona can do the same. John Moffatt explains that the Secretary of State's Office anticipated these needs and was recently trying to seek regional certification, as opposed to a federal certification, where group consensus may be enough to change specifications and standards. John is unsure how the Secretary of State's office will proceed with this, but suggests the three (3) voting equipment vendors (ES&S, Dominion, and Hart) attend a meeting to discuss how they see the industry and what's important, viable, and available to the customer.

Barbara Tellman suggests someone give the EIC an update on the overall status of developing technologies in the state. Brad Nelson suggests Kris Kingsmore, from the Secretary of State's Office, and Rey Valenzuela, from Maricopa County, Technology Committee to attend an EIC meeting to further discuss these issues.

Brad Nelson will contact the Secretary of State's Office and inquire about their intentions for technology needs for future elections.

**Item 10: Call to the Audience**

Tom Ryan calls to the Audience. Mike Dale provides the Commission with the final Poll Worker Evaluation Form. The form was intended to be placed in the supply boxes at each polling place, but a suggestion was made to include a **mailing address** on the form, where poll workers can mail in their comments, at their convenience, and at their own cost. A future initiative would be to include a self-addressed envelope where poll workers can mail in the form, postage paid.

**Item 11: Next Meeting Date and Time**

The Commission will meet again on Friday, December 2, 2011, at 9:00 am, Pima County Administration Building, First Floor, Board of Supervisors Conference Room, 130 W. Congress, Tucson, Arizona 85701.

**Item 12: Agenda Items-New Business**

As it relates to the Cost of Elections, Mickey Duniho asks Brad Nelson if there is evidence supporting the suggestion that mail-in ballot elections are less costly than polling election. Brad Nelson explains that when you initially compare the two (2) types of elections, there is little evidence showing a cost savings. However, significant savings is shown in the elections storage/warehouse areas, where the elections materials and equipment is stored. Equipment maintenance and upgrade costs aren't a factor in a mail-in ballot election; therefore, saving cost in the long-term. Brad Nelson will research the cost savings breakdown for the next meeting.

Benny White suggests advising the Board of Supervisors that the EIC is concerned with the cost of elections and request that they relay to the Secretary of State that it's desirable to conduct a survey of the State for impacts. This will be a "Motion" item.

In regards to Cost Analysis, Chris Roads, from the Recorder's Office, went to the school districts currently conducting mail-in ballots elections, and gave a powerpoint presentation which convinced the districts to switch to mail-in ballot elections, as opposed to polling place elections. Brad Nelson will contact Chris to provide that analysis. Barbara Tellman suggests a City of Tucson representative attend the next meeting to share their analysis. Brad Nelson suggests inviting the County School Superintendent to provide his comments.

2011 Elections Update will be updated to show 2012.

Tom Ryan would like an item added to discuss Election Legislation, which will include initiatives being considered.

An update will be given in regards to the Redistricting initiative.

**Item 13:      Adjournment**

Barbara Tellman motions to adjourn the meeting; Pat Pecoraro seconds the motion. Meeting adjourned at 10:12 a.m.