

## **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 March 23, 2012, at the Pima County Administration Building, Finance Training Room, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, 130 W. Congress, Tucson, Arizona 85701.

**Item 1:        Roll Call**

**Present:**     Mickey Duniho, Charles Geoffrion, Jim March, Pat Pecoraro, Tom Ryan, Barbara Tellman, and Arnie Urken

**Absent:**        John Moffatt, Drew Spencer, and Benny White

Also in attendance: Brad Nelson, Pima County Elections Department

**Item 2:        Pledge of Allegiance:**

Those in attendance stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Item 3:        Approval of the February 17, 2011 Minute Summary:**

Pat Pecoraro motions to approve the minute summary. Barbara Tellman seconds the motion. Motion unanimously carries.

**Item 4:        Ballot Scanning Pilot Study – Tom Ryan**

Tom Ryan drafted a memorandum from the Commission to the Board of Supervisors to Secretary of State Bennett's Office. This memo was distributed by Catherine Hanna to the Commission prior to the meeting and Mr. Ryan is seeking comment.

### **Discussion**

Barbara Tellman is happy with the version presented. Charles Geoffrion wants the Commission to be aware that Secretary Bennett's office has stressed that their office is very busy, and understands this memorandum represents the Commission's desire to move forward. The Commission will be on record, but it is unknown if the study will occur.

### **Motion**

Barbara Tellman motions that the memo be forwarded to the Board of Supervisors for consideration to the Secretary of State's Office. Jim March seconds the motion. Motion unanimously carries.

**Item 5:        County Anonymous Questionnaire Tool Example – Catherine Hanna**

During the last meeting, Kelly Butwinski met with the Commission and presented a prototype of a web-based email submission form that would remain anonymous. Kelly presented a prototype to the Commission showing what the web pages would look like.

Catherine Hanna forwarded the updated Poll Worker Survey form, per Kelly's request following the last meeting.

The webpage would offer another tool to provide feedback, if the Commission desires. If the webpage were to be utilized for poll workers, Kelly would make it an unadvertised link that is distributed to the poll workers for follow up, and keep on the website for a period of time following the election.

Some Commission members wanted more detail and Kelly had suggested the Survey Monkey, which would offer services for both the general public and poll workers. Survey Monkey information can be exported (to Excel, for instance), as well, and maintain records over time.

### **Discussion**

Jim March would like to see mock-ups of the Survey Monkey forms before a decision is made. He's concerned with a voter inputting their information into a County webpage, as opposed to a secure site. He'd like to know what the URL's look like, and would like to see the layout of the webpage. Barbara Tellman stresses that no personal information would be divulged on the site.

Jim's not concerned with the security of the data, he's concerned with perception of the users, as they are entering data, and they have no idea where that data is going. Another concern is cost.

Catherine Hanna reminds the Commission that Survey Monkey can offer more options, which were proposed by several Commission members in February.

The next election is April 17<sup>th</sup> (CD8 Primary Election). Jim March withdraws his objection, adding that if the Survey Monkey program is less expensive, the Commission should agree to choose that option.

The new Pima County website plans to go live by mid-April 2012. If it is the pleasure of the Commission, Catherine would be happy to ask Kelly Butwinski to create some Survey Monkey mock ups for review. Charles Geoffrion explains that Survey Monkey can give more options, but unsure if the Commission needs that many options. He believes the email-based webpage will give enough information and should the Commission want more at another time, further consideration will be taken then.

Jim March agrees that the quickest option is best.

### **Motion**

Charles Geoffrion motions to place the email-based webpage on the County site retaining the option to migrate to Survey Monkey, as deemed appropriate, in the future. Jim March seconds the motion. Motion unanimously carries.

### **Item 6: 2012 Election Update – Brad Nelson**

Brad Nelson distributed the Elections Department Performance regarding the Presidential Preference Election, which outlines how the poll workers performed during the election.

There is always room for improvement, but considering that poll workers have not worked at a polling place election since 2010, the report card was good. One of the advantages of having

five (5) major elections this year allows for more practice, hence achieving that 100% report card.

The Elections Department sent out report cards to each one of the poll workers to show how they performed in their particular polling place, yet as in the past, they would keep repeating their mistakes.

April 17<sup>th</sup> is the Congressional District 8 Primary, and it will be an open election, meaning those who do not have a political party affiliation with one of the recognized parties will be able to participate. Five (5) of the recognized parties will be on the ballot: Americans Elect (no candidate and no write in), Libertarian (no candidate and no write in), Democrat (one candidate, no write in), Republican (contested election; 8 candidates, no write in), Green Party (one candidate). A hand count audit will occur after this election and should be fairly simple. No date has been scheduled, as of yet. The CD8 General Election will be June 12, 2012.

A problem with the CD8 Primary and General Elections is getting poll workers, as many are on their vacations. April 17<sup>th</sup> is the week of AIMS testing and many of the schools do not want the elections to interfere with their testing. Elections is waiting to hear from TUSD as to their polling locations. Voters will be notified with any polling location changes.

*Materials provided: Memorandum reference the Elections Department Performance Regarding the Presidential Preference Election to the Pima County Board of Supervisors, from Mr. Huckelberry, dated March 16, 2012.*

Additional information on the election can be found on the Election website at [www.pima.gov/elections](http://www.pima.gov/elections).

### **Item 7: Election Legislation**

Barbara Tellman wanted to know more information regarding the unified election days; HB2826. Brad Nelson explains that there is a member of the Legislature in Phoenix, Representative Michelle Ugenti, who wants to take all municipal elections in March and May (all years) and municipal elections in August and November (odd years), and place them on Pima County's even-numbered years' Primary and General election ballots. The Bill has made its way through the House, and is now in the Senate.

The motivation is that Representative Ugenti is tired of municipal elections throughout the State coming in with polling place elections in March and May with low voter turnout. She believes this Bill will increase voter turnout. Brad Nelson, and other Records and other Elections Directors from throughout the State, have concerns as to how this Bill will be administered if it becomes law. This could result in separate ballots, which could prove confusing to the voter.

This Bill also makes it impractical to recall an elected official.

If passed, this law would go into effect in 2014. This Bill will change the lengths of City of Tucson elected official's terms of offices.

Mickey Duniho asks if the Pima County election equipment is capable of being programmed to process an election if HB2826 is passed or is there equipment out there that has yet to be discovered. Brad Nelson will go to the vendors to ask that question. Pima County is in a much better position to handle this, with their current vendors, than Maricopa County.

The Commission will know if this Bill becomes law within six (6) months.

### **All-Mail Elections - State-Wide**

Mickey Duniho inquires as to discussions in the Legislature regarding All-Mail Elections becoming State law. Brad Nelson states that there are no discussions on that topic, to date. Barbara Tellman knows of discussions in the Legislature to remove PEVL, but that is unlikely.

### **Campaign Shirts**

Pat Pecoraro inquires about campaign shirts at polling places. Brad Nelson explains that in May 2010, in Coconino County, when there was a state-wide Sales Tax Election in support of education, there was a woman who walked into a polling place with a t-shirt in support of the Tea Party, having nothing to do with what was on the ballot. The poll workers told the lady that they were concerned about her attire and although she was allowed to vote now, she was told not to wear it during the Fall 2010 elections. The woman took offense, contacted the Goldwater Institute and complained.

Coconino County and Maricopa County came out and said that she was electioneering. If someone's clothing proposes that a particular candidate win or lose or a political party is good or bad, specific to what's on the ballot, it's electioneering. But if a voter is wearing an NRA or Sierra Club shirt, and it has nothing to do with anything on the ballot, it is deemed appropriate.

There's a law being proposed that the only thing considered electioneering inside the polling place is verbal speech.

### **Item 8: Redistricting Progress Report**

There are ongoing battles regarding funding for the states Independent Redistricting Committee. They submitted their maps for Congressional District and State Legislative District Lines, and some representatives suggest that the lines are final, but there are some representatives who believe the DOJ will not like the results.

Congressional lines were submitted first and 2-3 weeks later, the State Legislative District lines were submitted. If the DOJ takes the full 60-days and comes back with a No Objection Letter, that'll place the approval date around mid-May 2012.

This issue was dealt with 10 years ago, when State and Counties couldn't release the minimum or maximum signature requirements to run for elected offices until the DOJ approved the district line changes. On April 30<sup>th</sup>, the window opens for candidates to file their petitions, although they do not know their requirements. The window closes May 30<sup>th</sup>.

### **Item 9: Call to the Audience**

No audience members have comments for the Commission.

### **Item 10: Next Meeting Date and Time**

The Commission will meet again on Friday, April 27, 2012, at 9:00 am, Pima County Administration Building, Board of Supervisors Conference Room, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 130 W. Congress, Tucson, Arizona 85701.

**Item 11:      Agenda Items-New Business**

Mickey Duniho recently visited the King County Elections Department in December, and has been intending on providing the Commission with a report on his visit. He has a written report which he will forward to Catherine Hanna for Commission distribution.

Jim March inquired about observation rules for the upcoming April 17<sup>th</sup> CD8 election. Brad Nelson will forward the requirements to Catherine Hanna and she will forward them to the Commission. All EIC members will be expected to conform with the requirements promulgated by the Department of Elections based on Arizona Revised Statutes.

**Item 12:      Adjournment**

Barbara Tellman motions to adjourn the meeting; Tom Ryan seconds the motion. Meeting adjourned at 10:04 a.m.