



**PIMA COUNTY ELECTION INTEGRITY COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES FOR APRIL 18, 2014**  
<http://www.pima.gov/commission/ElectionIntegrity.shtml>

The Pima County Election Integrity Commission met in regular session on April 18, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. in the Herbert K. Abrams Building, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room #1104 at 3950 S. Country Club Road, Tucson, Arizona.

**ITEM 1. ROLL CALL**

Present: Bill Beard, Mickey Duniho, Pat Pecoraro, Benny White, Brad Nelson, Elaine Lim, Chris Cole, Tom Ryan, Barbara Tellman.

Absent: Arnie Urken, Matt Smith.

Others in Attendance: Ellen Wheeler, Pima County Administrator's Office; Mary Martinson, Elections Department, Tom Quigley, Elections Department

**ITEM 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Those in attendance stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ITEM 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTE SUMMARY – March 28, 2014**

It was moved by Benny White, seconded by Bill Beard and carried unanimously to approve the Summary of the March 28, 2014 meeting.

**ITEM 4. NEW ARIZONA LEGISLATION – Bill Beard**

Bill Beard provided copies of "Election Related Bills at the Legislature" for April. He highlighted those bills that have been signed by the Governor, and those that may move through before the Legislature adjourns.

**ITEM 5. REMOVAL OF POLLING PLACE SCANNERS – Analysis of Impact – Brad Nelson**

Brad Nelson provided copies of a preliminary list of polling sites for the scannerless pilot project. These sites were chosen for their mix of demographics as well as having Wi-Fi access. To lessen the impact of not having automated counting equipment, electronic poll books will be used at each polling location where the scanner has been removed, thus the need for Wi-Fi. The use of Wi-Fi for the electronic poll books and attendant security issues are still being considered. One procedure being considered is turning the Wi-Fi on at the beginning of Election Day in each location to download early ballot addenda and address changes, and again at the end of Election Night to communicate polling site sign-offs; the rest of the day, the Wi-Fi might be turned off. Backup procedures being considered for implementation during the pilot project: electronic equipment known as "sniffers" would be brought in to each location to measure the Wi-Fi strength; each site will continue to use the poll lists; paper rosters will also be on-site as a backup to the electronic poll books. In central count,

ballots from these pilot polling sites will be run through an AccuVote using a card programmed for each precinct; the necessary tapes and reports used in the Hand Count Audit will still be produced.

**ITEM 6. ELECTION SYSTEM PROCUREMENT - Update – Brad Nelson  
EIC Recommendations – Tom Ryan/Benny White**

Brad Nelson said the RFP for Pima County election equipment and services has been published. The deadline for vendor responses is May 7, 2014. It is possible the contract may be awarded by July. The new system will not be used in the 2014 elections; the current system will be used.

**ITEM 7. BIFURCATED BALLOT – Brad Nelson**

Various county election officials and recorders have had discussions with the Arizona Secretary of State and their legal counsel. Procedures for the recorders across the state are still in process for how to flag and communicate with individuals who use the National Mail Voter Registration Form (NMVR). In all polling places, there will be a "Federal Offices Only" ballot. Yet to be determined is what verbiage the recorders will use to indicate these voters on the rosters or poll books; that verbiage will be duplicated on the ballot. If a voter flagged to receive the Federal Offices Only ballot insists on voting a complete ballot, they will be allowed to vote a full ballot as a provisional ballot. The recorder will verify the ballot and mark the provisional envelope with instructions on how to count the ballot, e.g., "Federal Offices Only," or "Full Ballot." If only Federal offices are to be counted, the Elections Department will duplicate the ballot for Federal offices only.

The Pima County Recorder issues a voter notification card to individuals who have registered using the NMVR form that shows only the Congressional district on it, with verbiage that indicates Federal ballot only. Along with the card, a letter is sent explaining why the notification card was issued that way.

**ITEM 8. COST OF ELECTIONS**

Benny White created graphic "pie" charts from data provided in a spreadsheet of election costs for the 2012 elections. He noted that account information for Recorder's office costs was not listed in the spreadsheet, and therefore the graphs showed several areas with no numeric entries. The data also did not show reimbursed cost for the Recorder's office.

It is requested that future cost spreadsheets for both the Elections Department and the Recorder's office show a separation of fixed costs (overhead) and election specific costs.

**ITEM 9. PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION ON ELECTION ADMINISTRATION – Tom Ryan**

Tom Ryan resumed reading from the spreadsheet beginning at the bottom of page 4, "Voting Before Election Day."

***States should expand opportunities to vote before Election Day:*** In discussion with F. Ann Rodriguez, Pima County Recorder, Benny White suggested expansion of hours of early voting sites till 8:00 p.m. on some of the days to allow working voters the opportunity to vote after work, especially the last week of early voting; and having early voting sites open on Saturdays during the early voting period. Ms. Rodriguez will take these suggestions into consideration and make a decision in June or July.

***States should not simultaneously expand early voting and excessively reduce the resources available for Election Day:*** Pima County has not excessively reduced resources; although the number

of precincts has been reduced, there are not normally long wait times to vote on Election Day. Accommodations for voters with transportation and other issues have been met with the availability of early mail balloting.

***States should adopt safeguards for mail balloting, including online tracking of absentee ballots so voters can verify the status of their ballot:*** The Pima County Recorder's office website has a link for a voter to check the status of their early ballot—when verified and when turned over to the Elections Department for tabulation.

***States should provide ballots and registration materials to military and overseas voters via their websites:*** It is assumed that the Pima County Recorder's office is doing this.

***Both the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot and the Federal Postcard Application should be considered as valid voter registration applications:*** It is assumed that the Pima County Recorder's office is doing this.

***However they may transmit their ballot, overseas and military voters would benefit from a system that allows them to create on their attached printer a ballot with a barcode that can be read by the local election administrator:*** It is unclear to the Election Integrity Commission what the intent of this item is.

***The standard-setting and certification process for voting machines must be reformed:*** This is a State and Federal issue.

***Audits of voting equipment must be conducted after each election, as part of a comprehensive audit program, and data concerning machine performance must be publicly disclosed in a common data format:*** The Elections Department does a precinct audit after each election where the GEMS tabulation is compared to the poll list from each precinct on two offices to verify a match. The Hand Count Audit is also conducted after each election.

***Local jurisdictions should gather and report voting-related transaction data for the purpose of improving the voter experience:*** Pima County does not have substantial problems, though use of time-stamping in the electronic poll books and reports from polling place marshals such as hourly counts of voters in line may be useful indicators.

***Wisconsin has a model election data-gathering program. Voting machine manufacturers should add functionality to their machines to help gather data, which jurisdictions should widely disseminate in a standard format:*** The format for reporting county vote totals to the Arizona Secretary of State is not specified; the format for reporting Hand Count Audit results is specified by the Secretary of State.

#### **ITEM 10. NEW BUSINESS**

None.

#### **ITEM 11. NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting date was set for May 9, 2014.

**ITEM 12. CALL TO AUDIENCE**

No audience present at meeting.

**ITEM 13. ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Benny White and seconded by Barbara Tellman and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 10:56 a.m.