Agenda Item 4
The Pima County Election Integrity Commission met virtually on November 19, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

ITEM 1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Those in attendance said the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM 2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Misty Atkins, Ryan Maese, Levoy Hurley, Barbara Tellman, Benny White, Brian Bickel, Mike Cease, Arthur Kerschen, Mary Preble and Brad Nelson.

Also in Attendance: Pamela Franklin, Chief Deputy Pima County Recorder.

Absent: Michael Coltrin

ITEM 3. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

No one spoke

ITEM 4. MEETING SUMMARY APPROVAL:

The meeting summary was approved.

ITEM 5. AGENDA ITEMS:

5A. Intro to e-poll books/vote centers

E-Poll Books

Brad Nelson, Elections Department began the discussion of e-poll books by reminding the Commission the Board of Supervisors approved the acceptance HAVA Grant of approximately $650,000. Brad also told the Commission he expects an e-poll book contract and the questions of vote centers to go before the Board of Supervisors within the first three months of 2022. Pamela Franklin told the Commissioners the preparation of paper Signature Rosters Pima County has used in the past has to start two weeks prior to election day and e-poll books will streamline that process and processing voters. Commissioner White asked if e-poll
books would get a voter history report faster. Pamela Franklin said the use of e-poll books would get a voter history report in real time while with the paper signature rosters, that report would take nearly three weeks to get. Commissioner White asked if the e-poll book is hooked up the internet and something happens to damage the e-poll book, is there a live record captured someplace of who has voted? Pamela Franklin said yes. She also stated there will be procedures in place to cover the scenario of catastrophic loss of either power or damage to the equipment.

Commissioner White asked if any of the vendors for e-poll books are contemplating signature verification? Pamela Franklin said she didn’t think they were. Commissioner White asked if she would bring it up to the vendors. There was discussion with the Commissioners regarding signing the e-poll book as far as using a stylus or finger and the angle of the signature surface. Pamela Franklin assured the Commissioners the e-poll books Pima County buys will have a stylus for voters to use.

Commissioner White asked about the security of e-poll books that are connected to each other via the internet. Pamela Franklin replied that each vendor has layers of security and the vendors the Recorder’s office has looked at don’t have any access to the actual database, but interact with a mirror of the database in the Cloud.

Vote Centers

Commissioner White asked about internet connection and the security of that connection. David Wiseley, Elections Department, said the vendors he has spoken to said the devices would be white listed so the internet will only connect with them. He also said the data between the device and the internet would be encrypted. Commissioner White expressed concerns about the rural precincts and the distance some voters would have to travel. David Wiseley said the Elections Department is planning to keep rural polling places the same as they have been in the past.

Commissioner Kerschen stated he didn’t think the e-poll books should be connected by the internet at all. Commissioner Tellman stated she believes there should be legislation detailing criteria on to establish vote centers. Commissioner White asked if there was any consideration about having legislation to update ARS 16-602 to have vote centers as far as how many Precincts need to audited. Brad Nelson stated the Board of Supervisors have to audit no less than 2% of the ballots cast the polling places, so they could increase the percentage to take into account Vote Centers. Commissioner Hurley asked if Vote Centers would help with the delay in getting all the ballots counted after election day. Pamela Franklin said yes because going to vote centers would eliminate a great many of the provisional ballots voted in the past.
5B. Justice Precinct redistricting and organization

Commissioner Bickel stated he did make the Commission’s voice heard to the Board of Supervisors with the recommendation that the Board of Supervisors do nothing as far as Justice Precinct Reprecincting was concerned. The Board of Supervisors voted to eliminate Justice Precinct 5. Commissioner Bickel was interested in finding out Pima County is one of the few counties that doesn’t have a consolidated constabulary.

5C. Possible recommendation to the Board of Supervisors regarding Cast Vote Record and observation

Commissioner White asked this agenda item be moved to the January meeting.

5D. Vail USD Election

Brad Nelson supplied the Vail Unified School District Election canvass to the Commissioners and explained the election was conducted entirely by mail. The Republican Party had observers at the L & A and during the scanning and the observers our processes to be just fine.

5E. City of Tucson Election

Commissioner Tellman stated the Democratic Party observed the entire City of Tucson Election from the L & A through the scanning of ballots. Everything went very smoothly and there were no issues that she could see. One thing that caused some difficulty was voters putting a Vail ballot in a City of Tucson affidavit envelope or a City of Tucson in a Vail affidavit envelope. The City and County had a system to swap ballots and it seemed to work really well.

5F. City of Tucson signature verification

This item was mistakenly put on the agenda.

5G. Military and Overseas ballots

This item was mistakenly put on the agenda.

ITEM 6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Possible recommendations to the Board of Supervisor regarding Cast Vote Record and Observation
Election of Officers

ITEM 7. NEXT MEETING DATE
January 21, 2022

ITEM 8. ADJOURNMENT