

RYAN RONCO
COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER-REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

STEPHEN AYE
ASSISTANT RECORDER-REGISTRAR

LISA CRAMER
ASSISTANT COUNTY CLERK



3715 ATHERTON ROAD
ROCKLIN, CA 95765
PHONE: 530-886-5600
FAX: 530-886-5688
election@placer.ca.gov
www.placercountyelections.gov

PLACER COUNTY ELECTIONS OFFICE

Placer County Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting

November 2, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Date: 11-02-23

Time: 2:00 – 2:58 p.m.

Location: Training Room, Placer County Elections Office, 3715 Atherton Road, Rocklin, CA 95765

Present In-Person:

- VAAC Member Alexa Gurrero (PIRS)
- Elections Staff Ryan Ronco, Philip Chantri, Stacy Robinson, Tina Belding, Dillon Dineen, Marcus Smith, Tracy Hyde, Cody Nicols, Mason Gray, Hana Uhler
- IT Staff Jeremy Kelley

Present Online:

- VAAC Members Barbara Smith (Placer County Democratic Party Central Committee), Fred Nisen (Disability Rights California).

Minutes

I. Elections Staff/Attendee Introductions

- VAAC members and other attendees were welcomed and thanked for their participation. VAAC members, advocacy group representatives, and Elections staff introduced themselves.
- Reminder that VAAC are still meeting monthly and will likely continue to until the March primary is over.

II. Committee Updates – Mr. Chantri

- a. **Election Administration Plan:** Formally approved; Placer is now officially Vote Center County.

- b. **Staffing:** All Election Aides will be full, background-checked temporary employees of the county and receive an hourly wage. A new link sent out that leads straight to county jobs site.
- c. **Legislation:** AB 626 passed, allowing counties to look up a voter at the vote center, confirm that they haven't already voted, and let them remove their VBM ballot from envelope and feed it into the scanner to see it counted immediately.
 - i. Fred Nisan asked if, when a voter fills out their VBM ballot, do they still need to sign their ballot? Mr. Chantri answered that if a VBM voter brings the ballot in just to drop it off and not see it scanned, they only need to drop it off. If they want to feed it into the scanner, they need to wait while election staff check that they haven't voted already, print out a label that needs to be signed as the roster, and then it can be scanned. The label serves the same purpose as the roster that any voter signs.
 - ii. Barbara Smith asked if voters registered as No Party Preference and wanting to vote in the primary will need to surrender their ballot and get a ballot for the party in which they want to vote. Mr. Chantri answered that NPP voters will receive a postcard from the Elections office informing them of their crossover choices and giving them a box to check as to which party they would like to vote in. If they change their mind at the last minute and want to select something different, vote centers can check all voters in the county to see if that voter has returned a ballot or not and if they haven't, they can get a new one for the party they want.
- d. **Dropbox updates:** Two new ones, Roseville Oriental Market and Sikh Gurdwara Temple boxes installed recently. One potential new one in Sun City Roseville. Elections is still negotiating with Sierra College as to where the drop box there will be installed.
- e. **Vote Center Updates:** Addendum No. 3 - Room change at Cooley Middle School. They changed to the Staff Room and was surveyed again.

III. Old Business:

- a. **Voter Information Guide Pages**
 - i. Fred suggested changing the wording in the "what happened to my polling place?" area of the second paragraph of the VIG pages to not say there are fewer machines and be specific about what machines. He also asked why we're talking about the fact that everyone gets a ballot by mail because it was already happening before going to VCA. Mr. Chantri answered that a subset of Placer's registered voters didn't understand that all voters get a ballot in the mail before ever going to VCA so that's why we're addressing it.
 - ii. Fred suggested Elections clarify that in the VIG and website. Fred also suggested putting information in about options for voters that can't sign their name. Mr. Chantri asked Fred to send him information from other counties that have good programs for that.
 - iii. Alexa asked if you could get a stamp as your signature. She said she does it all the time and people assume you need power of attorney even though you don't. Mr. Chantri
 - iv.

answered that it's true you don't need power of attorney except in rare cases and never in voting rights.

- b. **Postcard**
- c. **Website**
- d. **Public Workshop(s)**

IV. Remote Accessible Vote By Mail Presentation – Dillon Dineen

- RAVBM lets voters receive an accessible, electronic version of their ballot by email. Follow a link in the email to open a fillable PDF form you must download and fill out, then go to <https://ravbm.uocava.com/placer> where you'll enter a code and find your ballot.
- Once you click "Accept", you are disconnected from the website so there's no way anyone can see what you put on your ballot. You must fill out and download your ballot, print it out, and return it by mail or by drop box.
- Fred encouraged Elections to encourage voters using this to use the ballot envelope provided to them rather than an envelope of their own.
- Alexa asked if Vote Centers could receive electronic signatures. Mr. Chantri answered that we cannot.

V. Questions and Answers

VI. Future Agenda Items

- Fred reminded the committee that he had brought up ASL in a past meeting. Mr. Chantri answered that we don't have an answer for that yet and agreed to receive information on that from Fred.
- Mr. Chantri gave a final invitation to VAAC members to send in agenda suggestions and additional info on topics covered in meetings.