

Minutes

San Joaquin County Election Advisory Committee

San Joaquin County Administration Building, Training Room 146

44 N. San Joaquin St.

Stockton, CA 95202

Thursday, January 4, 2024, 6:00 PM

I. Call to Order

1) Pledge of Allegiance

2) Roll Call: Pat Barrett, Pam Sloan, Tony Amador, David Cushman, Christina Gonzaga, Carol Hadley, John Beckman, Janese Vermuelen, Christian Santos, Sup. Ding, Capt. Harty (Guest)

Motion David Cushman/Second Pat Barrett to add Capt. Harty to the Agenda. Approved.

Capt. Harty reported Shaq Kahn pleaded No Contest to 41 charges of illegal gambling, money laundering, tax evasion, and grand theft; 12 charges of unemployment fraud involving COVID reimbursements; and 14 election fraud charges

II. Approve Minutes

1) Election Advisory Committee – Regular Meeting – November 9, 2023 Motion/Second/Approved

2) Election Advisory Committee – Regular Meeting – October 19, 2023 Motion/Second/Approved

III. Consent Items (*No Action or Possible Action Requested*) Received

1) Receive Information on the Difference Between Poll Watchers and Poll Workers

2) Receive Signature Verification Training Documents Used by the Registrar of Voters

Committee members were encouraged to review the information and bring their questions to a future meeting

IV. Discussion Items (*Action or Possible Action Requested*)

1) Discuss Feasible Methods of Surveillance/Monitoring of Vote-By-Mail Ballot Drop Boxes for Possible Recommendation to the Registrar of Voters

Treat Drop Boxes like polling locations; assign hours of operation and temporary staffing to ensure voter integrity; need more secure locations

Registrar Hale reported the cameras will be covered by the HAVA security grant for next two elections; 24/7 360 degree footage will be displayed for everyone to observe on the ROV website; 20 drop boxes were secured as of 1/4/24

2) Discuss the Possibility of Placing Vote-By-Mail Ballot Drop Boxes in Front of Police Stations

Ca Elec Code Section 18540 and 18545 were cited

3) Discuss and Possibly Stagger Terms for Election Advisory Committee

Committee voted to forward to the Board of Supervisors to consider Option 3: Two of the five district members and alternates increase their existing term lengths from two-year terms to three-year terms or Option 4: Three of the five district members and alternates increase their existing term lengths from two-year terms to three-year terms.

Motion David Cushman/Second Pat Barrett/Approved

V. Presentations/Reports

1) Receive an Update on the 2024 Presidential Primary Advertising Campaigns

\$211K was spent on advertising: 23 print advertisements; 9/503 newspaper ads; 40 bus ads; \$27,550 on digital ads; \$53,864 spent on billboards; \$42,862 spent on Radio, \$40,377 spent on broadcast and streaming; outreach to 25 high schools; RTD will offer free shuttle transportation; \$10,250 spent on advertising at Stockton Arena

2) Receive a Status Update from the Registrar of Voters on the Adopt-A-Polling Place Program – small number of applicants for the Primary Election but will continue to build program for General Election

4) Receive a Report on Voter Registration & Voter List Maintenance - Received

4) Receive an Oral Report on Upcoming Board Items

a. Approve and Authorize the Registrar of Voters to Execute the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Grant Agreement with the State of California for the Polling Place Accessibility Training Program

Committee recommended the HAVA Election Security Grants be used for Drop Box staffing

VI. Public Comment

Jody Graham – Drop Box Daily Tally and Collection

Holly Moore – Drop Box Overage

Bill Smith – We can't make mistakes; this is the most important election of our lifetime

Joe Ferrari – Please produce copy of requested tape – please produce the manuals

David Robb – 20 states eliminated signature checking; we need a new system

Molly Watkins – ROV staff should not be endorsing candidates – ethics issue; inactive voter status is not a reason to deny a candidate filing

Alex Aliferis – promoted in person voting, 1 day same day voting; need voter verification; 14 drop boxes only; police stations accessible

Motec – Angel Ann Flores recall purposely delays; D2 SCC – calling for investigation

Cynthia Cuevas – cross check for residential addresses; do drop boxes have a shut off valve; 14 drop boxes only

VII. Registrar of Voters Comments – Everyone is invited to come into the ROV to observe the process

VIII. Committee Comments – Carol Hadley encouraged everyone to get involved in the Primary Election

IX. Schedule Next Meeting – After a long discussion, the committee requested the Board of Supervisors amend the 2024 meeting schedule to include an additional meeting date before the next regularly scheduled meeting in May. Motion David Cushman/Second Pat Barrett/Approved

X. Adjournment Pat Barrett Motioned to adjourn the meeting.