

**Help America Vote Act
Idaho State Planning Committee
Minutes, February 4, 2010**

The meeting was called to order by Jim Mairs. Those in attendance were:

Jim Mairs, HAVA Coordinator, Secretary of State Office
Tim Hurst, Chief Deputy, Secretary of State
Lisa Mason, Secretary, Secretary of State
Brian Kane, Deputy Attorney General
Dan English, Kootenai County Clerk
Rose Gehring, Idaho County Clerk
Chris Rich, Chief Deputy Ada County
Christine Boulter, Jefferson County
Elenore Chehey, League of Women Voters

Introduction of Christine Boulter, Jefferson County Clerk. Sharon Widner has retired and she is taking the position that Sharon had.

Bobbie Ball, the ADA Task Force Representative, will be taking Todd DeVries place for Idahoans with Disabilities.

The minutes for August 21, 2009 meeting were approved.

Review of HHS Grants

HHS Grants are the access to polling place grants. We have received another \$100,000 this year. We have awarded almost \$351,000 since it began 5 years ago. We have available another \$349,000. As of right now, there are no active applications. We would like to see more county applications to improve polling places before the election.

The Democracy Fund

Currently we have almost 4.8 millions dollars in the Democracy Fund. Most of that is for equipment for the voting system replacement grant program. We have spent all of the Title II requirements money from the first allotment that was for the voter registration system. Last year we received another \$575,000 from the federal government. We were just awarded another \$500,000 and will be asking for an additional \$350,000 that will all be used to support the statewide voter registration system. It costs the state \$425,000 per year for support for the registration system.

Federal and State Legislation

MOVE Act (Military Overseas Voting Efficiency) requires absentee ballots to be available for military and overseas voters to be mailed out 45 days before the election. Counties must have procedures in place to send ballots to the voter either by mail or electronic means, depending on how the voter asks for the ballot. Electronic can be by fax, email or any other method. Although the ballot may be sent electronically, the ballot must be mailed back. It **can not** be faxed or emailed back. The main thing is that the voter has to be able to request voter registration cards, make absentee ballot requests and receive ballots by mail or electronically.

A voter ID bill requiring voters to show a government issued ID when they appear to vote has been proposed by the legislature. Acceptable ID's are: Driver's License, Dept. of Transportation issued ID card, passport, tribal card or a student ID card from a university. Poll workers will not be validating the address on the card because the address will already be in the poll books. They are only checking to make sure that the voter is the same person on the ID. If a voter does not have ID they can sign an affidavit swearing to their identity under penalty of perjury. The new bill will require additional training for poll workers and voter education.

There is also a bill moving the deadline for a candidate to file a declaration of intent to run as a write-in from 14 days before election to 28 days before the election. This will give the counties more time to test the voting equipment and do their certifications work before the election.

Preparation for the Primary Election Tuesday, May 25th

The Secretary of State's office will be holding trainings around the state for the counties and their election workers. The counties also have AutoMark and tabulators servicing in February. Ballot preparation and production calendar with ES&S has begun. It looks like we will have 2 ballots, possibly 3.

A media campaign promoting accessible ballots and polls will include statewide radio, billboard and television outlets as we have done in the past.