

**Help America Vote Act
Idaho State Planning Committee
Minutes, April 12, 2013**

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

Gayle Batt, House Republicans
Patty Weeks, Nez Perce County Clerk - phone
Abbie Mace, Fremont County Clerk - phone
Chris Rich, Ada County Clerk
Chris Boulter, Jefferson County Clerk - phone
Elinor Chehey, League of Women Voters
Kristina Glasscock, Twin Falls County Clerk - phone
Sally Boynton Brown, Idaho Democratic Party Executive Director
Christine Pisani, Idaho Council on Developmental Disabilities
Tim Hurst, Chief Deputy Secretary of State
Jim Mairs, HAVA Coordinator, Secretary of State Office
Lisa Mason, Administrative Assistant, Secretary of State Office

The minutes for August 17, 2012 meeting were approved.

New Committee Members in 2013

Gayle Batt-House Republicans

Certification of Voting Systems 2013

A certification hearing for Election Systems and Software (ES&S) 3.4.0.0 Unity voting system was held in March. The new 3.4.0.0 software is a bridge for ES&S's previously certified tabulators, the M100 and the M650, to the vendor's new precinct tabulator, the DS200, and the new central count tabulator, the DS850. The 3.4.0.0 software will allow counties to upgrade their software and use their existing equipment or purchase the new DS200 precinct tabulator or the DS850 central count tabulator. The software upgrade will also improve the performance of the AutoMARK ballot marking device.

The ES&S 3.4.00 voting system, including software and 4 tabulators, have been certified by the Election Assistance Commission (EAC), and issued an EAC number having passed the required testing by the Wyle voting system test laboratory. The system met all Idaho and HAVA statutory requirements. The equipment tabulated ballots correctly at the hearing and questions of compatibility and improved performance were answered and demonstrated satisfactorily by the vendor. The 3.4.0.0 voting system was certified for use in Idaho on March 27, 2013.

On April 11, HART InterCivic, also voting system manufacturer, gave a demonstration at the request of Ada and Canyon Counties. The company will be asking

for a certification hearing sometime in the near future. The HART accessible voting machine has a touch screen and is lighter and easier to handle than the AutoMARK. When they apply for certification, there will be a public hearing, a review of all the statutory and HAVA requirements, and a demonstration of the capabilities of their system.

Jim is also looking at an accessible voting technology with Democracy Live that is based on Windows 7 Tablet. This system is a ways down the road but may provide an accessible solution in the future.

Preparation for 2013 Elections

An election is coming up on May 21 and so far everything is running smoothly with no problems. School elections will be coming up in August and city, cemetery, fire and recreations district elections in November.

We are in the process of replacing all of the dedicated computers for the ISVRS system in all the counties. It is costing approximately \$600 per unit and will also upgrade systems to Windows 7. It current costs approximately \$500,000 per year for the maintenance of the ISVRS.

HHS Grants (Improvements for Accessible Voting)

HHS (Health and Human Services) grant funds are available for improving access to polling places. Currently we have \$400,000 available in a draw down grant from Health and Human services (HHS). Last year we lost access to \$4,662 of funds allocated for Federal Fiscal year 2007 because it was not used. We currently do not have any access grant applications. In 2012 about \$15,000 was spent for polling places. Nez Perce County used \$2,772 for improving the entry into a polling place where the doors were heavy and difficult for people who didn't have a lot of strength and also people who were in wheel chairs.

Disability Rights Idaho submitted a list of counties that they considered had difficulty with accessible voting. After conducting a survey, they filed 13 complaints in October before Election Day. The concerns involved absentee in person voting period of time before Election Day. Our office has been in contact with all clerks involved and are assisting them with staff training suggestions, AutoMARK placement for early voting at court houses and temporary physical access solutions where appropriate.

The Democracy Fund (Voting System Replacement)

A couple of counties are considering changing voting systems. Clearwater County is looking at ES&S DS200 and also the new HART system that will be up for certification this fall. Lincoln County is looking at the M100 from ES&S. All punch card counties are looking at replacing their systems.

Other business from members of the committee

There was a question regarding uniformity of training poll workers. Each county is responsible for their poll worker training. Our office provides statewide training. For the upcoming election Ada County will be providing additional training for election judges and the handing out of ballots to make sure voters are given the correct ballot. Currently it is only Ada County that is offering training via the internet. The state developed animated poll worker training is based on job duties for each poll worker and is also available online. The counties may customize this job duty training to their particular county, based on their ballot type and available resources.

Meeting adjourned