

**Help America Vote Act
Idaho State Planning Committee
Minutes, August 24, 2011**

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

Chris Rich, Ada County Clerk
Dave Gibson, Caxton Printers
Tiffany Southwick, for Bobby Ball, ADA Task Force
Patty Weeks, Nez Perce County Clerk via phone
Abbie Mace, Fremont County Clerk via phone
Christine Boulter, Jefferson County Clerk via phone
Sherry Ward, Adams County Clerk via phone
Tim Hurst, Chief Deputy, Secretary of State
Lisa Mason, Secretary, Secretary of State
Jim Mairs, HAVA Coordinator, Secretary of State Office

The minutes for February 7, 2011 meeting were amended and approved.

Review of HHS Grants

HHS Grants are grants that are available to counties to improve access to polling places. \$20,613 has been expended to date in FY 2011 in 8 counties. \$6,372 in additional grants has been approved and is pending. An additional \$100,000 for reimbursement to counties for qualifying accessibility projects has been applied for from HHS.

The Democracy Fund

The Democracy Fund is grant money for counties to update their voting systems. Approximately 5 million dollars remains in the fund. 1 million dollars is reserved for ongoing maintenance and enhancement of the Idaho State Voter Registration System.

Jerome and Elmore Counties have applied for funds to replace their systems with the ES&S central count system. Minidoka County has applied for funds to replace their system with the ES&S M100 precinct count system.

Sub-grantees – Record Keeping Responsibilities under HAVA

The Inspector General's Office and the EAC conduct random audits of equipment and services purchased with Federal funds for the compliance with HAVA. This includes equipment purchased to implement the ISVRS, voting systems and ballot marking devices. Several states have been audited. Counties are required to

maintain accurate records. The office of the Secretary of State will be contacting all counties in Idaho to verify their inventory lists and equipment serial numbers to make sure that state records and county record match in preparation for a potential Federal audit.

Closed Primary Election Preparation

With the passage of House Bill 351, Idaho's political parties now have the option to close their primary elections. The parties have until November 17th 2011 to notify the SOS if they will allow voters not affiliated their party to participate or close their primary election to voters that are not affiliated with the party.

Voter education and poll worker training for the new party registration requirements will be necessary. A new registration card with a box for party affiliation has been distributed to the counties. A party affiliation form is also available on idahovotes.gov. A new Voters' Guide has been produced and will be available to Counties and online.

Procedural training on party affiliation and ballot issuing will be available to counties for poll worker training. A media kit with talking points and voter outreach print materials will be produced for use by the counties. When funding is approved by the legislature in January of 2012, the office of the Secretary will produce a statewide media campaign to educate voters about their choices for party affiliation and voting in the May 15, 2012 Primary Election.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.