
REBECCA SPENCER
Registrar of Voters



ART TINOCO
Assistant Registrar of Voters

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee (VAAC)
April 30, 2015 | 10:00 a.m.

Committee Members Present:

Mario Janesin, Committee Member
Bob Warburton, Committee Member
Ruthee Goldkorn, Committee Member

Guests:

John Kopp
Diane Gamache
Pauline Gaeta
Foster Tucker
Mike McLain
Maria Monte De Rey
Ellen Jones
Renee Dar-Khan
Jaimini Mehta - teleconference

Registrar of Voters Staff:

Rebecca Spencer, Registrar of Voters
Art Tinoco, Assistant Registrar of Voters
Caroline Saucedo, Elections Coordinator Assistant
Julie Caban, Committee Chair
Larry Smith, Committee Co-chair

Meeting Commenced at 10:00 a.m.

I. Welcome/Introductions

Introductions were made by the following staff: Registrar Rebecca Spencer, Assistant Registrar Art Tinoco, Committee Chair Julie Caban, and Committee Co-Chair Larry Smith. Following staff introductions, attendees of the meeting made introductions including one teleconference attendee.

II. Official Appointment of VAAC Members

Rebecca Spencer, Registrar of Voters and Art Tinoco, Assistant Registrar of Voters, presented VAAC certificates and welcome letters to the applicants appointed to serve as VAAC Committee Members. Members include Scott Barron (not present), Mario Janesin, A.J. O'Connell (not present), Ruthee Goldkorn, Bob Warburton, and Richard

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Olquin (not present). The VAAC Committee Members appointed were congratulated. Registrar Rebecca Spencer invited interested attendees to submit an application to become an official VAAC Committee Member.

III. Local VAAC and Registrar of Voters Accessibility Updates

Mr. Tinoco, provided updates on subjects discussed at the inaugural VAAC meeting on January 29, 2015. He reminded attendees of the purpose of the local VAAC meeting and stated that the meetings will be held on quarterly basis at the Riverside County Registrar of Voters office and in the Coachella Valley. Mr. Tinoco added that Julie Caban is the VAAC Committee Chair, and Larry Smith is the VAAC Committee Co-Chair. Mr. Tinoco informed those present that teleconferencing capabilities and ASL (American Sign Language) Interpreters were available. Suggestions were reviewed and changes were made to the Election Officer application and the VAAC application. The changes included adding a question about the need for reasonable accommodations. Both applications were updated to reflect the added question. A suggestion was made during the first meeting to publish a public notice in the local newspaper announcing the VAAC meetings. The public notice was published in the Press Enterprise newspaper in the Public Notice section. VAAC Committee Member Ruthee Goldkorn suggested the Registrar of Voters should have it placed in a more conspicuous area of the local newspaper such as the local section where readers would be able to have common access to it and in a larger font. The suggestion was noted. One of the attendees asked Mr. Tinoco if anyone can be a Committee Member even if they do not live in Riverside County. Mr. Tinoco stated, yes, and to submit an application for review and consideration. It was also mentioned that Federal Grant monies will be available through the Secretary of State's office; however the amount of monies granted has not been disclosed. An update will be provided at the next VAAC meeting. Election Officer Training and online training is currently being reviewed with some vendors. Mr. Tinoco stated that more updates would be presented at the next VAAC meeting. Riverside County will launch a new Accessibility Inspector position. There will be 60 to 80 Accessibility Inspectors covering all polling places to ensure accessibility. One of the guests asked how training was going to be conducted for the Accessibility Inspectors. Mr. Tinoco explained that assistance from one of the organizations within the VAAC will assist to train the trainers. Mr. Tinoco encouraged members to provide feedback on organizations with knowledge in conducting this sort of training and to please email Ms. Caban, Chair or Mr. Smith, Co-Chair with the information. Another suggestion was given by one of the guests present indicating that some polling places are not accessible and a checklist should be followed when searching for accessible polling places. Mr. Tinoco explained that the Registrar of Voters office currently uses the checklist from the Secretary of State

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office when searching and surveying polling places. Updates were concluded and Mr. Tinoco announced that the next meeting will be held in the Coachella Valley on July 30, 2015. He added that the location has not been secured and is to be announced. Teleconferencing capabilities and ASL Interpreters will be available.

IV. Status Report on the State VAAC

Mr. Smith, Committee Co-Chair, announced to the group that he is the Co-Chair of the local VAAC and is also Riverside County's VAAC representative at the State level. Mr. Smith added that the next state VAAC meeting will be held on May 1, 2015 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. He informed the group that the Secretary of State and their representatives are going to Denver next week with a planned topic on accessibility. Mr. Smith, Co-Chair stated that his goal is to bring future agendas and minutes from the state VAAC to share with Riverside County's local VAAC. It was suggested by one of the group members to have these VAAC dates available ahead of time so local VAAC Committee Members have adequate time to review and make suggestions. It was also suggested that VAAC Committee Members would like information on other county VAAC meetings. Mr. Smith also informed the group that some of the topics the state VAAC will be discussing are VoteCal with the five (5) pilot counties and new membership for VAAC Committee Members. Information about VoteCal will be provided to members regarding the counties currently involved. It was also suggested by one of the group members to keep the amount of information to a minimum but informative.

V. 2015 Election Schedule – June 2, 2015 City of Riverside Municipal Election

Ms. Caban, Committee Chair, provided an update of the June 2, 2015 City of Riverside Municipal (Mail Ballot) Election. It was announced that this election is a mail ballot election and postage is paid. Ms. Caban added that there are 10 drop off locations in the City of Riverside and a map is available and was mailed in voter packets sent with the ballots to each registered voter. Ms. Ruthee Goldkorn asked if accessibility was checked for all drop-off locations. Mr. Tinoco stated that the City Clerk's office selects the locations and provides the Registrar of Voters' Office with the locations selected. He added that these locations have been surveyed since many are also used as polling places.

VI. Questions/ Comments

One of the group members stated that it should be suggested that the Secretary of State's Office consider funding postage for vote-by-mail. It was stated that in some instances postage is paid but from an accessibility stand point, it should also be available. It was also suggested that the local VAAC should be kept in the loop about other county and state VAAC, ideally with agendas. Suggestions and concerns from

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local VAACs (Riverside) should be presented at the state VAAC level. It was also stated that the Riverside County Registrar of Voters email all members with the agenda for feedback for the next State VAAC meeting. It was added that VAAC email recipients can then decipher what is useful and what they would like to suggest and/or comment.

VII. Polling Place Accessibility Surveyor Training Video – Section 2

Path of Travel video was shown.

Meeting adjourned 11:00 a.m.