



Orange County Registrar of Voters

COMMUNITY ELECTION WORKING GROUP

APRIL 22, 2010

SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA

Vice Chair Linda Andal called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

Present:

Karen Hamman, City Clerk, City of Mission Viejo
CEW Vice Chair, Linda Andal, City Clerk, City of Anaheim
Sharie Apodaca, City Clerk, City of Irvine
Lucinda Williams, City Clerk, City of Brea
CEW Chair, Eugene Lee, Voting Rights Project Director, Asian Pacific American Legal Center
Paul S. Joo, President, Korean U.S. Citizens League of Orange County
Mary Anne Foo, Executive Director, OCAPICA
Gladys Negrette, Data Analyst, Civic Engagement, NALEO (Alternate)
Zeke Hernandez, President Santa Ana Chapter, LULAC
Anthony Garcia
Christie Rudder, System Change Advocate, Dale McIntosh Center
Griselda Delgadillo, Disability Rights Advocate
Judith Barnes
Ruth Gibb, O.C. American Independent Party (Alternate)
Wanda Shaffer, President League of Women Voters of North Orange County
Anthony Stroma III
Lyle Brakob
Viola Sadler
Christopher Reese, Director of Communication Relations, CSUF
Brett Rowley, Community Outreach Manager, Registrar of Voters
Imelda Carrillo, Election Services Manager, Registrar of Voters
Katherine Reedy, Manager of Community Engagement/Legislative Analyst, Registrar of Voters
CEW Secretary, Marcia Nielsen, Candidate and Voter Services Lead, Registrar of Voters
Neal Kelley, Registrar of Voters

WELCOME / APPROVAL OF JANUARY 7, 2010 CEW MEETING MINUTES / BYLAWS

Registrar of Voters Neal Kelley welcomed group and noted we had several new members. Self-introductions followed. Vice Chair Linda Andal called for review and approval of minutes from the January 7, 2010 meeting.

Wanda Shaffer made the MOTION to approve, which was seconded by Zeke Hernandez and APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Linda Andal led a discussion of the suggested amendments to Article III, Section 5 of the bylaws. Neal Kelley referenced Suzanne Narducy's e-mail suggesting we change the verbiage to "member's terms expiring". Wanda Shaffer suggested placing the word "term" after "expiring". Linda Andal confirmed the wording in Section 5 to reflect two members with terms expiring on December 31. Linda Andal stated that the initial terms would be given by Neal Kelley as outlined in the bylaws.

Karen Hamman made a MOTION to approve the amended bylaws as discussed, using a random alpha to stagger terms, which was seconded by Wanda Shaffer. The motion was APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY. Neal Kelley will email length of staggered terms to members.

Chair Eugene Lee turned the meeting over to Neal Kelley.

JUNE POLL WORKER RECRUITMENT STATUS

Neal Kelley provided updates on poll worker recruitment for the June Primary. To date, we have 504 Inspectors with 1,200 needed; 1,232 Clerks with 5,500 needed; and additional 500 – 1000 volunteers for the A-Team. This group is used to help complete boards with last minute cancellations, many serving as bilingual poll workers. We have also recruited 300 Coordinators, each supporting 5 poll sites. Imelda Carrillo, Elections Services Manager, explained the function of the A-team staff and the 22 Collection Centers. Neal Kelley asked the group for help with recruitment for the A-Team.

JUNE BALLOT TRANSLATION UPDATE AND BILINGUAL / GENERAL OUTREACH

The ballot for this election will be 2 legal-sized pages with three sides printed. Neal Kelley discussed our tracking system which allows us to trace each file. He said that by statute mandates that we accept state translations of propositions. Brett Rowley, Community Outreach Manager, said we check translation versions and advise the Secretary of State of corrections. For this election, Chinese has been the language with the most issues. Eugene Lee will check with the Secretary of State's advisory groups and report to group.

A new law requiring bolding financial information in a state proposition has been challenging for our voting system. We have had to change from text to images. Extensive testing has been done.

Our office is utilizing new techniques to recruit poll workers, tripling the number of events we attend. Katherine Reedy, Manager of Community Engagement, explained our internship program which features 9 fully trained interns which compose our street team. Neal Kelley showed our new web page featuring interactive cards that are handed out. We survey results, react and respond accordingly. One page linked to the volunteer page will feature a photo taken at event and free printable frame. Zeke Hernandez suggested that we incorporate the peace sign which also could stand for "Vote". Neal Kelley welcomes suggestions from the group and announced that we will be at the OC Fair.

JUNE POLL SITE RECRUITMENT AND ADA COMPLIANCE

Imelda Carrillo mentioned that our office hosted a SOS Accessibility in conjunction with the Department of Rehabilitation Training in March. From this, the Secretary of State updated their checklists. Our signage needs to be updated and 290 poll sites will require modifications for June. ADA accessibility continues to be a priority. Christie Rudder asked about the definition of "Usable". Imelda Carrillo explained that this means a site is usable with modifications on Election Day. Christie Rudder said that voters might want to have a contact number added to the sample ballot pamphlet. Since parking is a problem, Imelda Carrillo stated most polling places have parking in

front but others are limited. There is a greeter on the board who will bring out DAU unit. Our biggest challenge is the bus lane at the schools. Clubhouses in large apartment complexes are becoming difficult to secure.

We translate all of the ballot materials for the sight disabled voters. An audio ballot is available in all languages we support. We will be working on this shortly.

Neal Kelley addressed the delivery of language ballots after English ballots. The time involved in the translation process usually delays this mailing, which will go out shortly after the English.

Neal Kelley asked for recommendations on the vote-by-mail envelopes. Chris Reese said he is concerned about privacy issues with the signature on the outside of the VBM envelope. Neal Kelley recognizes that said many are concerned about this. A discussion of this topic followed. The system limits the way we can address the VBM envelopes. Judy Barnes feels signing an envelope is like signing the roster. She thinks there should be a double envelope so the voter could put signed envelope into another. Neal Kelley said the envelope could have a flap over the signature, which will be perforated before it comes into our office. This would eliminate the need for two envelopes. He said that we will continue to explore options but noted that changes won't be immediate because of the expense.

JUNE MAILING AND PRINTING SCHEDULE / VOTE-BY-MAIL PRODUCTION / SAMPLE BALLOT

The sample ballot pamphlet has approximately 24 pages. We have already printed 900,000, and are on target with the balance. Neal Kelley wants to place a message on the sample ballot pamphlet cover of permanent vote-by-mail voters. He asked for input on ink jetting verbiage on the signature line on vote-by-mail application to discourage voters from signing and returning the application. He has considered inking "Stop. Do not sign. Permanent vote-by-mail voters will receive a ballot shortly". Many felt this verbiage was too strong and might confuse voters. A discussion followed including using separate covers, but costs would be prohibitive. Neal Kelley said he appreciated the input from the group. He said he will change his original verbiage to read: "Please note: Do not sign. Permanent vote-by-mail voters will receive ballots shortly." This will be printed twice on the application.

When asked how we notified this group, Neal Kelley explained that we mailed out pink cards to permanent vote-by-mail voters of their voting options. If they returned the card, we mailed a ballot of the selected party ballot. If not, voters were mailed a non-partisan ballot.

Neal Kelley said we are on schedule to drop sample ballot pamphlets on the first day that they can be mailed out - April 29. The vote-by-mail ballots will be printed shortly. New legislation allows voters to opt out of receiving sample ballot and obtain it electronically. This is difficult to predict. We have decreased our sample ballot pamphlet coverage to 10%, saving the county \$80,000.

MILITARY PORTAL/BALLOTING UPDATE/DECLINE-TO-STATE OPTIONS FOR VOTERS

We will launch a military portal in May which will be the first in California. It will allow military voters to access voting information in one centralized location. Voters will be able to verify registration, track ballots and get information on the MOVE act. We want to ensure the privacy of their military e-mail addresses. Neal Kelley asked group for suggestions. We will work with the pentagon and local liaisons to improve this service. Ruth Gibb offered her assistance and contacts at Fort Dix and the Pentagon. We will be encouraging military voters to use a personal email rather than their military email. Currently, we have 1,030 temporarily overseas voters and 1,025 domestic voters. The MOVE act requires the voter use global mail to get a ballot back to us.

**COMPLETED PROJECTS UPDATE / POLL WORKER PASS / WEBSITE / OUTREACH TOOLS
MARKETING MATERIALS**

We implemented all projects referenced in our last meeting. The beta test of 220 Poll Worker Passes was successful. We received valuable feedback in surveys from the participants. This is set to launch for June 2010, saving \$17,000 – \$20,000 for each election.

In our effort to be transparent, our website has changed significantly, detailing pressroom, community engagement, webinars, podcasts, video blogs, and our Election Academy. It provides numerous links for research and current news. We strive to educate the public that this information is available.

Neal Kelley asked for suggestions for CEW for future Outreach. The group has concerns with different issues, including poll worker training, security seals on the voting equipment, Chain of Custody documents, vote-by-mail education and security. There was a discussion on educating young voters. Neal Kelley believes that there is a disconnect with young voters that are registering to vote, but not voting. Katherine Reedy discussed the MyBallot program which will be at Loara this November. To date, we have recruited 1,400 students as poll workers. Our goal is to reach out and engage them in the process.

The date for our next meeting is August 19 at 9:30 a.m.

Eugene Lee made the MOTION to adjourn, which was seconded by Zeke Hernandez and APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia Nielsen, Secretary