Citizens Elections Advisory Committee
Meeting
Thursday, October 12, 2023

Meeting called to order by President John Eric Cedillo.

Roll Call
Alexis Dennard – present, in person
Ana Coca – not present
Camila Correa Bourdeau – present, in person (Secretary)
Elaine Tess Campbell – present, in person
Gwenda Joyce Lowe – present, in person
John Eric Cedillo – present, in person (President)
John Michael Yourse – not present
Dr. Levatta Levels – present, in person
Mildred Domenech – not present
Renato De Los Santos – present, in person
Tracy Yoo Clinton – present, in person
William David Griggs – present, online

Discussion Topics

Dr. Michael Scarpello – Resignation Letter
  • Succession planning has been in place for some time

Update on Vote Center Advisory Committee’s past actions and future goals
  • VCAC met several times to consider high turnout model and low turnout models to make recommendations to County Commissioners
  • Commissioner’s Court is using high turnout model for Nov 7th election
  • Every election will use high turnout model for now (364 locations)
  • 2025 – precinct lines to be revised

Presiding Judge Appointments
  • Party Distribution for 2023-2025 county commissioner districts
    o 84% Democratic, 16% Republican
  • Dallas County Elections Department used a judge grading rubric to assist the political parties in choosing judges

Constitutional Amendment & Joint Election
  • Projection for Nov 7th election for planning purposes: 9% of 1,309,450 eligible voters

Tactical Plan Update
  • County creates objectives first and from that the Dallas County Elections Department creates Key Results and create a Tactical Plan
• Half of the plan focuses on rebuilding and half focuses on running the organization

• Tactical Plan Projects:
  o Communications
    ▪ Developed outreach plan
    ▪ Built template for new website design
    ▪ Monitor legislation
    ▪ Develop database system with list of election contact info from state, County, and local governments
  o Executive
    ▪ Use of analytics (elections analyst)
    ▪ Exploring use of AI to enhance operations
    ▪ Focus on personnel and improving employee relations
  o HR & Records
    ▪ Develop and implement comprehensive HR Management Program
    ▪ Enhancement to election security plan
    ▪ Improved payroll processes; convenience and time to receive pay
  o Operations
  o Technology
  o Voter Registration Team
    ▪ Use technology to boost voter registration initiatives and managing Volunteer Deputy Registrars
    ▪ Voter Registration Plan
      • Upload list of registered voters to use digital targeting on social media; target those who are not registered
      • Run election ads to those who are registered
      • Considering working with DART to access ‘harder to reach’ people
      • There are also plans to have educational content out there to prepare voters for what’s on the ballot
  o Mail Ballot Team
    ▪ Pilot program for ballot distribution and tracking
  o Voting Sites Team
    ▪ Poll worker management software
    ▪ Refining political party collaboration
  o Training Team
    ▪ Expand scope of training responsibilities from poll workers to DCED staff and external stakeholders
  o Logistics Team
    ▪ Finalizing the move out of Langdon Street Warehouse
    ▪ Digitizing inventory process
  o Central Count Team
    ▪ First-time ballots programmed by DCED staff
• Establish training for ballot tabulation process
  o Election Hardware Team
    • Improving quality of technical services at voting locations
  o GIS Team
    • Round 3 of incorporating city boundaries and new sub-precincts
    • Countywide precinct line proofing project
  o Software and Tech Support Team
    • Development of various plans – Disaster Recover, Business Continuity, assessment and risk remediation

• 2024 Primary Election
  o Options:
    • Joint Primary Election
    • Separate Primary Election
    • Separate Primary Election with hand count
      • Significant increase in locations
      • Significant increase in needed poll workers

Public Comments
  • None

Next Meeting to be set by email

Motion to adjourn.