



**Orange County Registrar of Voters**  
**COMMUNITY ELECTION WORKING GROUP**  
**May 08, 2024**  
**SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA**

Bob Page called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

**ATTENDEES:**

CEW Chair Adria M. Jimenez, City Clerk, City of Buena Park  
CEW Vice-Chair, Theresa Bass, City Clerk, City of Anaheim  
Jennifer Hall, City Clerk, City of Santa Ana  
Lucinda Williams, City Clerk, City of Fullerton  
Tim Cheng, Asian Community  
Marisol Ramirez, Community Engagement Lead, Regal Medical Group  
Beck Levin, Disabled Community  
Gabriel Taylor, Disabled Community  
Barbara Barish, Senior Community  
Jeffrey Cardenas, Organizing Director, Democratic Party of Orange County  
Randall Avila, Republican Party  
Lyle Brakob, Veterans Affairs  
Russia Chavis Cardenas , At Large  
Bob Page, Registrar of Voters  
Justin Berardino, Deputy Director, Operations, Registrar of Voters  
Kim Hostler, Deputy Director, Administration, Registrar of Voters  
Imelda Carrillo, Election Services Manager, Registrar of Voters  
Enequina Chhim, Community Outreach Manager, Registrar of Voters  
David Goulding, Warehouse Manager, Registrar of Voters  
Stephen Barteau, Technology Services Manager, Registrar of Voters  
Tonya Pearce, Training and Special Projects Manager, Registrar of Voters  
Julianna Mailhot, Interim Candidate and Voter Services Manager  
Jose Macedo, IT Services Manager, Registrar of Voters  
Adrian Gabriel, Community Program Specialist, Election Services, Registrar of Voters  
Mariana Guerrero, Community Program Specialist, Election Services, Registrar of Voters  
Matthew Craven, Community Program Specialist, Election Services, Registrar of Voters  
Thu-Mai Tran, Community Program Specialist, Election Services, Registrar of Voters  
Kristy Chen, Community Program Specialist, Community Outreach, Registrar of Voters  
Phoebe Bui, Community Program Specialist, Community Outreach, Registrar of Voters  
Rosa Vizcarra, Community Program Specialist, Community Outreach, Registrar of Voters  
Min Hong, Community Program Specialist, Community Outreach, Registrar of Voters  
Lora El Amatory, Staff Specialist, Administration, Registrar of Voters

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Bob Page welcomed the group and went over some rules for the meeting such as meeting/zoom etiquette. Reminded everyone to update their screen names to indicate who the person is.

Reminded everyone that the meeting is no longer recorded as per county policy.

Also discussed that we will be going back to online CEW Meetings due to the low turnout in February 2024 in-person meeting.

The Registrar of Voter's staff self-introduced.

Adria Jimenez Introduced herself and CEW working group, welcoming herself and the meeting.

## **ROLL CALL**

Admin Staff Specialist, Lora El Amatory, filling in for CEW Secretary Marcia Nielsen confirmed the attendees for the meeting and that a quorum was present.

## **APPROVE 02/07/24 MINUTES**

A motion to approve the minutes from February 07, 2024, was made by Lucinda Williams and seconded by Jennifer Hall.

No objections, Beck Levin, not objecting but abstain because he was not present for February 07, 2024, meeting.

## **RECOGNIZE NEW MEMBER(S)/ANNOUNCE MEMBER RENEWALS**

### **New:**

- Barbara Barish – Senior Community
- Long Nguyen – Asian Community. Not Present
- Adrian Meza- Youth. No Present
- Russia Chavis Cardenas - At Large
- Lisa Tarlton- Vote Center CSR. Not Present

### **Vacancy:**

- Latino Community: one vacancy available, encouraging members if they know anyone interested in filling the spot to either check the website or reach out to ROV.

## **OPEN FORUM**

Jeffrey Cardenas, Democratic Party Perm Group: Before closing the forum, would like to get clarification on the daily updates of ballots, number of ballots that are needed to be counted, how would that change daily.

- Registrar Page responded explaining how the process works and that the numbers are estimates until the ballots are fully counted, placed in the correct category and certification is completed.

Registrar Page shared the new Mission and Vision Statements for ROV, he also explained the working groups that were set to work on updating the statements. Goal is to make sure that we are committed to what we do and help voters understand what and why we do it.

## **2024 PRESIDENTIAL PRIMAY ELECTION RECAP**

Registrar Page shared slides which contain information and data regarding the Primary Election, such as, ballot style, candidates, local measures, statewide Proposition, different voting locations/types and turnout. The number of vote centers might increase for General Election but that will be depending on registered voters.

Vote by Mail Ballots: Data on the various methods of returning a VBM ballot and time it was returned (before or after Election Day). With the new law regarding returning VBM ballots in the Primary, it was a soft opening for change in law where a *“voter is authorized to bring their VBM ballot and vote in person using it as long as they are checked in poll book and scanned”*.

VBM Processing Capacity: Not sure if a topic discussed before, investment on vote-by-mail ballot processing equipment to increase the capacity of handling VBM. An improvement in efficiency was noticed because of the change additional sorter, 91% results by election day and ability to go through all ballots except those that need cure by E+7. Not sure if we will hit the same percentages for the General Election in November, depending on turnout and voter behavior, but overall believe the investment was worth it.

High School Student CSR Pilot program/Election Services: Program was brought back as a pilot program which was previously a student volunteer program. Selected 48-50 of the busiest vote centers around the county and recruited High School Students to apply and participate. 2 students per vote center with 2.5 or higher GPA, permission from parent/guardian and school administrator. Received total of 121 applications, 87 students worked on Election Day. They had limited roles and only served as a monitor/greeter or CSR scanner.

- Received positive feedback from supervisors, working on proposal to expand it county wide in all vote centers.

Pop-Up Voting/Community Outreach: Pop-Up events and mobile units, 5 locations partnered with March Primary Election; partnering with community groups to educate and serve voters better. Variety of turnouts depending on dates and locations. Working with Election Services team to make sure the accessibility, needs and locations to provide more support to the county. Looking for possible ways to modify the program for November 2024 Election, currently working to have it from October 26th – November 04th.

Open Discussion before moving on to next topic, Upcoming Election.

- Clarification regarding Pop-Up Voting, equipment, and type of space to house pop-up voting.
- Registrar Page explained how it is currently an all-day event, he is open to discuss with the team and work with the community to consider different approach with shorter voting period.
- CEW members Barbara Barish and Tim Cheng suggested pop-up voting in Laguna Woods locations.
- Imelda Carrillo explained restrictions of Laguna Woods locations because of permit especially majority being gated community.
- CEW members will check and work directly with ES.

## **UPCOMING ELECTIONS**

### **2024 CITY OF ANAHEIM DISTRICT 3 SPECIAL RECALL ELECTION:**

Mail ballots on Monday, May 06, 2024, as of Wednesday, May 08, 2024, no ballots have been returned and drop boxes checked with 0 ballots to pick up. Last day to register to vote, May 20, 2024.

In Person Voting in district and ROV is May 25, 2024 – June -4, 2024.

Under law to complete canvass different than statewide, municipal 4th Friday after Election Day, June 28th for this election.

## **2024 PRESIDENTIAL GENERAL ELECTION PREPARATION**

Important dates and processes were discussed the Presidential General Election, including mailings, notifications, Vote-by-Mail ballots mailing, vote venter dates, Vote-by-Mail return options, and Certification.

**Vote Center Selection:** An overview of the vote center selection process including accessibility visits, vote center facilities, surveys, and locations. An update from Election Services, 264 full surveys have been completed, additional visits to follow. Currently working on ensuring adequate coverage within the community and working with city clerks on securing facilities and looking to cover larger footprint for General Presidential Election.

- Hard to recruit/most challenging cities are: Laguna Niguel, Fullerton, Westminster, Brea and Laguna Hills. Open to any lead, if not in listed cities in neighboring cities as well.

**Outreach and Voter Education:** High School Voter Education Weeks, connect and educate High School Students on what to expect as a registered voter. Outreach also addressed they are open for suggestions on any event that the organizations will be hosting.

**Open House:** Update on the last open house, it was well attended, and we plan to continue as we move into November. Scheduling them in the evenings to accommodate people's schedule.

**Voter Assistance Program:** overview on type of calls received.

**Election Observation Program:** Kick off as soon as the Vote-by-Mail ballots are sent out, ambassadors are available for questions/answers as a tool for voter education about election process and transparency.

**Communication Toolkit:** Overview on what they are and type. Also open for recommendations on toolkits for November. Suggestion from Beck Levin to have main communication videos have ASL on it not just caption. In addition, to suggestion from Jeffrey Cardenas to re-emphasize on how ballots are postmarked after Election Day.

**I Voted Sticker:** Bob Page opened discussion regarding I Voted Stickers which are placed in the Vote-by-Mail ballots. There are two versions, English only or multi-language.

**Transmittal and Maps Portal:** Specifically for City Clerks to modernize how information is collected for an election. Process is explained for the new portal.

- Clarification question from Jeffrey Cardenas regarding new and special district time frame. Bob Page explained the process and how it is communicated and posted. Will check with GIS supervisor regarding jurisdictions who changed method of electing members and send out in email.

**Bob Page time check:** Asked members if they would like to stick to 4:00 pm end time. Majority agreed, therefore the next topic which is Pending State Legislation Senate Bills amendments information will be sent out by email.

**UPDATES FROM CEW VAAC AND CEW LAAC**

Imelda Carrillo provided updates from the April 30<sup>th</sup> CEW/VAAC Meeting. Gabe Taylor added having UCI Students that joined was great and plan to invite them in the future to the meetings because their involvement will help with social media and getting the word out specially services available to voters with disability.

Enedina Chhim discussed LAAC Meeting update including High School Pilot Program, language assistance and services and reviewed Pop-Up voting partnerships and language CSR Recruitment in addition to community outreach and partnerships.

VAAC and LAAC next meetings: tentative hold for August 29, 2024.

**FUTURE BUSINESS ITEMS**

Next CEW meeting: Scheduled for Wednesday, September 04, 2024, via Zoom.

Topics for discussion: nothing was brought up. Will email ideas anytime.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting concluded at 3:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lora El Amatory, Staff Specialist/Administration