



## Fresno County LAAC Meeting Minutes Thursday, 04/04/2019 6:00 PM

### Location:

Fresno County Elections Warehouse Training Room  
4525 E Hamilton Ave, Fresno Ca 93702

The Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM with the following members present: Brandi Orth, Susan Anderson, Rachel Lopez, Cindy Lee, James Kus, Andrew Baza, Rudy Rulloda, Joy Clark, Ancilla Cheek, Katie Moua, Linda Vang, Maria Eraua, Samuel Molina, Tou Lee, Loua Tith, Kamal Kaur, Sandra Celedon, Imelda R., Lisa Moreno, Va Her, Bir Ahluwalia, Naindeep Singh, Pedro Nauno, Rafa Sanchez.

### Committee Goals for 2019 and Recap of March 5, 2019 Special Election

Rachel Lopez began the meeting by outlining the committee's goal to partner with the Fresno County community to ease the transition towards the Voters Choice Act for 2020. This includes communicating information to limited English proficiency groups throughout the county as well as obtaining outreach referrals from committee members. It is also a goal for Fresno County Elections to keep in contact with all members of the committee. For members, regular participation and communication is expected.

Andrew Baza provided a brief recap of the March 5, 2019 Special Election by providing statistics on bilingual precinct officer staffing for the election. The recap included statistics on the consolidated precincts, bilingual poll workers on Election Day and the number of poll workers that dropped 7 days prior to the election. The languages included were Spanish, Hmong, Punjabi, Korean, Tagalog, Chinese and Vietnamese.

### Voter's Choice Act 2020 & Voting Equipment Selection

Brandi Orth briefly summarized key differences between the current polling place model and the new vote center model. Brandi described vote centers as multiple election offices spread out throughout the communities. The vote centers will have live data updates to ensure a voter did not vote anywhere else during this period and will be open for 11 days, and about 40 vote centers will be open 4 days before Election Day. Vote centers will be open on the week days, weekends and Holidays. There are multiple requirements listed in Senate Bill 450, one of which is voter outreach. Brandi emphasized the importance of Fresno County Elections attending community events and educating the public on the VCA model. Fresno County Elections would be available to make presentations to voters that attend these community events.

Along with the change going forward with the VCA model, James Kus also discussed how Fresno County Elections will be buying new equipment this year. While the change to the VCA model was a factor in our switch over, the elections department is required to obtain new equipment this year due to the Secretary of State de-certifying the voting equipment that the Elections department currently uses, which was purchased 20 years ago. The County vendor that has been selected is Dominion Voting Systems, and there will be a demo of the equipment to the Committee as soon as equipment is on site and available. New ballot tabulators will also be included in the purchase order, which will be available at each of the Vote Centers.

### **Establishment of Chair and Language Representatives**

The Fresno County Elections Department is seeking a Chair to lead the Language Accessibility Committee, as well as Language Representatives that will lead outreach efforts to connect with Limited English Proficiency voters and assist voters and the department in translation of materials. The committee members interested in serving as Chair and Language Representatives were Samuel Molina, Katie Moua, Kamal Kaur, Lisa Moreno and Bir Ahluwalia.

Samuel Molina will serve as the Chair of the committee with Katie Moua, Kamal Kaur, Lisa Moreno and Bir Ahluwalia serving as language representatives.

### **Meeting schedule going forward**

Rachel Lopez asked the committee about preference of meeting time and frequency. The committee agreed that the best time for these meetings to be held was after 5:00PM. Rachel stated that it would be best for the committee to meet prior to our August 13<sup>th</sup> election for the City of Fresno. As the Fresno County Elections Department progresses throughout the year, the committee will be meeting more frequently.

### **Future Agenda Items**

Rachel Lopez stated that future agenda topics will be to review the department Election Administration Plan (EAP) and committee members are always welcome to share any ideas for future agenda items that they wish to address. Ideas and topics can be emailed to [abaza@fresnocountyca.gov](mailto:abaza@fresnocountyca.gov) or [cllee@fresnocountyca.gov](mailto:cllee@fresnocountyca.gov).

The committee discussed further outreach in the community. Andrew asked for contacts with various organization throughout the next year, so that the Elections office can meet with and/or present to a group at their weekly/monthly/quarterly meetings.

**Meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM**