

**Elections Commission**  
*City and County of San Francisco*

Viva Mogi, President  
Charlotte Hill, Vice President  
Lucy Bernholz  
Roger Donaldson  
Christopher Jerdonek  
Charles Jung  
Jill Rowe



John Arntz, Director of Elections

William Walker, Secretary

## **REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

**San Francisco Elections Commission**  
**Wednesday, May 15, 2019**  
**6:00 p.m.**  
**City Hall, Room 408**  
**1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place**  
**San Francisco, California 94102**

### **Order of Business**

#### **1. Call to Order & Roll Call**

#### **2. General Public Comment**

Public comment on any issue within the Elections Commission's general jurisdiction that is not covered by another item on this agenda.

#### **3. Open Source Voting**

Discussion and possible action regarding the City and County of San Francisco's open source voting system project.

- a) Commissioners' Reports
- b) Technical Advisory Committee Report
- c) Director's Report

#### **4. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings**

Discussion and possible action to approve Minutes for the April 17, 2019 Elections Commission Meeting. (Agenda Packet: Draft Minutes April 2019)

#### **5. Commissioners' Reports**

Commissioner reports on topics not covered by another item on this agenda: meetings with public officials; oversight and observation activities; long-range planning for Commission activities and areas of study; proposed legislation which affects elections.

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***1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place – Room 48, San Francisco, CA 94102-4634***  
***Voice (415) 554-4305; Fax (415) 554-7457; TDD (415) 554-4386;***  
***<http://sfgov.org/electionscommission>***

## **6. Director's Report**

Director's Report on topics not covered by another item on this agenda.  
(Agenda Packet: Director's Report)

## **7. Agenda items for future meetings**

Discussion and possible action regarding items for future agendas.

## **Adjournment**

There will be an opportunity for public comment on each agenda item.

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# San Francisco Elections Commission

**May 15, 2019 Regular Meeting**

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**Elections Commission**  
*City and County of San Francisco*

Viva Mogi, President  
 Charlotte Hill, Vice President  
 Lucy Bernholz  
 Roger Donaldson  
 Christopher Jerdonek  
 Charles Jung  
 Jill Rowe



John Arntz, Director of Elections

William Walker, Secretary

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE  
 San Francisco  
 Elections Commission  
 Wednesday, April 17, 2019  
 6:00 p.m.  
 City Hall, Room 408  
 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
 San Francisco, California 94102**

- 1. ROLL CALL AND CALL TO ORDER:** *President Mogi called the meeting to order at 6:02 P.M. and asked Secretary Walker to call the roll. Quorum was reached with five members in attendance:*

Attendance for the Wednesday, April 17, 2019 regular meeting of the Elections Commission						
<b>Bernholz</b>	<b>Donaldson</b>	<b>Hill</b>	<b>Jerdonek</b>	<b>Jung</b>	<b>Mogi</b>	<b>Rowe</b>
Present	Excused Absence	Excused Absence	Present	Present	Present	Present
<i>Quorum achieved.</i>						

- 2. RECEIVED General Public Comment at 6:02 P.M.** on issues within the Elections Commission’s general jurisdiction not covered by another item on this agenda.

**Ellen Lee Zhou**, commented on *issues of voting fraud and ballot harvesting, issues of inactive voters on the voter registration rolls, and problems with candidates in San Francisco that are not Democrats participating in candidate forums.* She added that the past 35 or 45 years, the voter system has been corrupt considering the last elected republicans in San Francisco were that long ago.

**3. TABLED Open Source Voting Report (at 6:05 P.M.) until later in the meeting.**

*President Mogi moved to consider this item out of order to accommodate the arrival of a presenter for the item. There was no objection.*

**4. APPROVED Minutes from Previous Meetings at 6:05 P.M.:**

- a) Minutes for the February 20, 2019 Elections Commission Meeting; and
- b) Minutes for the March 20, 2019 Elections Commission Meeting.

*President Mogi entertained a motion to approve the minutes as a consolidated item. Commissioner Bernholz moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rowe. A roll call vote was taken by Secretary Walker:*

AYES: 5- Commissioners Bernholz, Jerdonek, Jung, Mogi, Rowe  
NOES: 0-None  
ABSENT: Commissioners Donaldson, Hill  
ABSTENTIONS: None.

***MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 20, 2019 AND MINUTES FROM MARCH 20, 2019 CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY (5-0).***

**5. RECEIVED Commissioners' Reports at 6:07 P.M.**

***Commissioner Jerdonek*** reported that via electronic mail he introduced Director of Elections Arntz with Professor Ron Rivest, an expert on developing procedures for and conducting risk-limiting audits from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

***President Mogi*** provided a written report to Commissioners from Vice President Hill, that primarily discussed a future presentation from a UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism

**RECEIVED Public Comment on Commissioners' Reports**

***Ellen Lee Zhou*** commented that the website was outdated and asked that information be updated.

**6. RECEIVED Director's Report at 6:10 P.M.**

***Director of Elections John Arntz*** reported that:

- The primary Department focus is implementation of the new Dominion voting machines. He referred to the demonstration ballot handed out in meeting materials and described many of the new features of the new ballot form,

including the change of the voting mark procedure from a “complete the line” to a “fill in the dot” process. The dot is a red color, which differs from the black broken line; the dot format allows the machine to read completed ballots more easily with the red ballot dot than with the previous broken line. He also described the ballot as a grid, with a series of lines used to place ballot content.

- Discussed plans to demonstrate new voting equipment at community centers in order to introduce the public to new voting equipment and test whether the new ballot format is user friendly and able to scan properly.
- Mentioned that he is collaborating with the voting system vendor to respond to a request from Commissioner Jerdonek and the Open Source Voting Technical Advisory Committee (OSVTAC) that the Department provide a demonstration ballot to the OSVTAC in order to see how the new voting equipment might interface with the Open Source Voting Project.
- **Director Arntz** concluded his report by going over the timeline of the next three election cycles: November 2019, March 2020 and November 2020; he added that because of the change to the Presidential Primary, that moves up from June to March, that the Department would essentially be running two elections simultaneously, the November 2019 and the March 2020 elections. As votes are being tallied for the November 2019 election, ballot simplification committee meetings will begin for the March 2020 election during the third or fourth week of November, which is before the tally is certified for the November 2019 election. Candidate filing deadlines will fall before the end of December, and the Department will also be coordinating the ability of non-party preference (NPP) voters to participate in the presidential primary of their choosing, should the party they are choosing allows NPP voters to participate.

### ***RECEIVED Questions from Commissioners regarding Director’s Report***

**Commissioner Bernholz** asked whether the Department had done any testing to determine whether the red circle might be challenging for voters with color blindness. Director Arntz responded that although no official testing was performed, that employees on the Department staff were able to see the portions of the form that are red, and that most importantly, that color blind voters are able to make out the circles as the place where voters need to mark the ballot. Director Arntz also added that the Ballot Simplification Committee, Pedro Gonzalez from FairVote and the Department Disability Accessibility Advisory Committee would all continue to be consulted as the ballot template continued to be refined.

**Commissioner Jerdonek** asked whether the Department had considered performing usability testing on the new ballot form with any focus groups. Director Arntz responded that although a usability test was not conducted, that employees of the Department were testing the ballot and that voting machines would be demonstrated in the community where individuals from all over the City can interact with the machines to determine what components are best and what processes might need refining prior to full voter machine deployment and implementation.

Director Arntz also added that the Center for Civic Design, a nonprofit that also consulted in the development of the ballot and voter handbook the previous time voting machines were purchased, was consulted when designing the current ballot form.

**Commissioner Jerdonek** asked about the feasibility of moving around components of the new ballot form, like for example, moving the red dot from the center of the square on the ballot form to the bottom of the square. Director Arntz responded that the ballot form was a grid, that the template did not provide for a great deal of maneuverability, and that he would consult with the voting system vendor to see what might be feasible.

**Commissioner Jerdonek** suggested adding the column number headings to the bottom of each column on the ballot as an aide to voters when marking their ballot. Director Arntz agreed to discuss Commissioner Jerdonek's suggestions with Dominion Systems. Director Arntz added that the Department explored extending the shading of each column down the entire length of the ballot; it was determined that this shading would interfere with the voting machine's ability to detect whether a circle was voted or not.

**Commissioner Bernholz** asked whether the voting system vendor, Dominion, had already administered an election in a jurisdiction that uses ranked choice voting and whether that jurisdiction had as many options for voting as the contests in San Francisco generally. Director Arntz responded that he did not know if there were another jurisdiction that contracted with Dominion with as many ranked choice candidates as San Francisco, but added that Santa Fe (New Mexico) did have a ranked choice contest, but only had five candidates to rank.

**President Mogi** asked whether the Department received approval from the city budget process to offer grants to community groups to perform voter outreach. Director Arntz responded that the proposal is still under review. He added that he was also working with the Office of Civic Engagement and Immigrant Affairs to gather input from their office regarding their outreach needs. Once these steps are completed, the Department will draft a request for proposals soliciting from organizations interested in collaborating with the Department on outreach efforts.

**Commissioner Bernholz** asked when each political party announces their deadline to allow for NPP voters to participate in their respective primaries. Director Arntz responded that a deadline is not set, but the announcement will likely happen around the fourth week of December.

**Commissioner Jerdonek** asked whether the Department will consider changing how ranked choice voting contests were reported in the summary of election results to place final round results first rather than first round winner results, which do not always coincide with the actual winner of the election contest. Director Arntz responded that at present no change was proposed; that the Department would continue to report first round results first. He added that per the City policy, once first round votes are counted and a winner is not declared, only then is

the ranked choice voting method applied and the subsequent reports are then posted. President Mogi suggested the question of how election results are displayed could be considered more broadly at a future time.

**Commissioner Jerdonek** asked Director Arntz to discuss the other requests made to the Committee on Information Technology (COIT). Director Arntz responded that an update to the Department asset tracking system in the amount of \$80,000 was approved, that a database request to upgrade the radio frequency identification property asset tags was approved; and a request for ballot sorting equipment was rejected by COIT, and went to the General Fund instead.

#### **RECEIVED Public Comment on the Director's Report:**

**Ellen Lee Zhou** commented on potential voter fraud and the lack of a system that tracks absentee voters and whether voters are on inactive status. She also stated that the policy of non-citizen voting in school board election placed undocumented voters at risk of being convicted of a felony. She also said she had reservations about a ranked choice voting system that gave voters an opportunity to rank up to 10 candidates. She also questioned whether absentee balloting and voting processes are corrupted.

**Pedro Hernandez, FairVote** – commented on the Voter Outreach Plan. He stated the plan looked robust and thorough. He thanked the Department and the Director of Elections for including FairVote in the outreach planning process. He added that the ability to rank more than three candidates in ranked choice voting contests will be exciting to many voters. He suggested decreasing the font size of names to help with the placement of the voting circle. He encouraged the Department to place the last round of ranked choice voting first when reporting results.

**Brent Turner, California Association of Voting Officials** – said he attended the Committee on Information Technology meeting that considered funding Department of Elections proposals and that he took exception to some of the scoring methodology. He hoped that COIT would reconsider its scoring method considering the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors many years ago were supportive of an Open Source Voting system.

#### **7. DISCUSSED Agenda items for future meetings at 6:39 P.M.**

**President Mogi** reported that Vice President Hill will schedule a report back from UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism student Emma Fernandez regarding outreach to voters to be heard at the July 2019 Regular Elections Commission meeting.

No public comment was given.

*President Mogi returned to items not heard earlier in the meeting agenda:*

### **3. RECEIVED Open Source Voting Project Update at 6:41 P.M.**

#### **RECEIVED Open Source Voting Technical Advisory Committee (OSVTAC) Report: *OSVTAC Chair Jerdonek* reported that:**

- The OSVTAC would hold a Special Meeting to Discuss Open Source Voting, develop code for the OSVTAC Voting Results Reporter, and discuss other items on Sunday, April 21, 2019, at the San Francisco Public Library-Main Branch: 100 Larkin Street, near Grove, San Francisco.
- The OSVTAC made progress on its Results Reporter utilizing data from the June 2018 and November 2018 elections, some of which was not in an open source software format. He then demonstrated what the Open Source Voting System Results Reporter would show to the public after voting results are tabulated and reviewed a number of features of the Results Reporter, including the highlighting of the winner or winning proposition in each contest, the graphical user interface and the colors utilized to distinguish elements of the report, and the ability to translate the report into other languages.
- Reported that the OSVTAC is still interested in meeting with Technical Lead Sean Roberts and mentioned that the Department of Technology had not sent a representative to attend the OSVTAC meeting since November of 2018.

#### **RECEIVED Commissioner Reports on Open Source Voting activities:**

***Commissioner Jerdonek*** reported that:

- The Committee on Information Technology Finance Subcommittee recommended not to fund Department of Elections funding requests. He reported that COIT gave a score of one to the Open Source Voting project and that COIT cited that the Department of Elections did not have capacity to pursue or manage the project and that the Department of Technology did not have the staff power to develop the open source software required for the Open Source Voting system. Commissioner Jerdonek stated his disagreement with the scoring rubric considering that the Department of Elections was no longer managing the project any longer.
- California Clean Money Campaign continues to work on a request for matching funds for two California municipalities to build their own voting system. The campaign will meet with Assemblymember Ting on April 18 to discuss the request.
- He is interested in the Commission seeking that the Board of Supervisors State Legislative Committee support the bill that may come out of the April 18 meeting,

and asked that either an Elections Commissioner and/or Chief Information Officer Gerull attend the rally intended to support this legislation that will be held the weekend of May 11.

**RECEIVED Director's Report on Open Source Voting activities:**

**Director of Technology and Chief Information Officer Linda Gerull** provided the following report on Open Source Voting Activities; Chief Information Officer Gerull reported that:

- The Department of Technology in conjunction with the Director of Elections have achieved the following accomplishments of the Open Source Voting System Project thus far:
  - o A feasibility study was conducted by Slalom Consulting; that work was slated to begin at the end of 2017 and ran through 2018. This work also addressed concerns brought forth by the San Francisco Civil Grand Jury Report.
  - o The Board of Supervisors did fund an add back to the budget for Open Source Voting in Fiscal Year 2018-2019, totaling \$1.5 million over two years.
  - o An initiation phase took place in 2018, with an assesment of the current state of Open Source Voting; this report will require more polishing and CIO Gerull is looking into resources for accomplishing this.
  - o Two employees have been hired to staff the open source voting project, one being a project manager.
  - o A requirements document is in the process of being drafted.
  - o An already scheduled April 19 community meeting to discuss the Open Source Voting project was postponed until May 31, due to the COIT Finance Committee not financing the Open Source Voting project.
- The Open Source Voting Project currently had a project balance of \$748,000 and the expenditure of 1.5 full time equivalents. There should be an expectation of \$733,000 in funding at the end of FY 2019-2020. The current funding strategy might require a partner willing to share in the costs of building a system. Framing the Request for Proposals in a manner that would allow proposers to suggest a business plan model, identify shared costs, determine what they would and would not fund, develop the timeline that might coincide with their proposed timeline, and truly define the type of assistance the partner might want from a local government partner.
- A public private partnership might create some competition between vendors, thereby generating different thought processes about how to move forward.
- Several other Department of Technology priorities were not funded by this round of COIT Finance Committee voting, including the CloudSF project, which is considered core city infrastructure upgrade at a cost of \$20 million to \$25 million, to be expended over a five year period; and other projects were also not funded.
- Her timeline of upcoming activities included the following:

- Evaluating potential Open Source Voting System Development partners
- Agree on a type of voting system design.
- Gather comment on potential models for developing the open source voting system
- Understand how to design a system that will meet California Secretary of State Certification Standards and have little to no cost to license software.
- Determine if the open source voting system proposal is more attractive to the RFP setting or in a future budget cycle
- The Department of Technology will continue to advance and advocate for the Open Source Voting project.

**RECEIVED Questions regarding Open Source Voting Update:**

Commissioner Bernholz asked what CIO Gerull anticipated might be different by pushing back the planned community forum hosted by the Department of Technology from April 19 to May 31. CIO Gerull responded that there may be more direction from the Mayor's Office or other policy advisors at that point. This would shape any message communicated to stakeholders at the community meeting.

**Commissioner Jerdonek** asked whether the Department of Technology would be supportive of the Elections Commission requesting that the Board of Supervisors State Legislation Committee support the matching funds bill. CIO Gerull responded that she receives her direction from the Mayor's Office regarding whether the Department of Technology supports a particular policy.

**Commissioner Jerdonek** asked whether CIO Gerull was able to give feedback on the matching funds legislation being developed by the California Clean Money Campaign and being presented to State Assemblymember Phil Ting (19<sup>th</sup> District) on April 18, 2019. CIO Gerull said that she had already submitted comments to California Clean Money Campaign Director Trent Lange regarding the proposed legislation.

**Commissioner Jerdonek** asked if CIO Gerull would be ok with the Elections Commission asking that the State Legislation Subcommittee of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors support the matching funds legislation. CIO Gerull responded that policy positions come from the Mayor's Office and that she would speak with the Mayor's Office within the next 8 days. She added that she drafted a statement for the Mayor to review. She added if the City and County is unable to fund the project this year, that the funding could be offered in a future year or a public private partnership could be explored.

**Commissioner Rowe** asked if there were any practical concerns that the Department of Technology might have with accepting the matching funds should San Francisco be awarded matching funds to build an open source voting system. CIO Gerull responded that as the legislation is currently written, there are specified deadlines that the City and County of San



Francisco might have trouble delivering a full Open Source Voting system, but could possibly complete components of the system and any matching funds dedicated to that would be appreciated.

**Commissioner Jerdonek** suggested the City and County consider the State of California as its partner to build out the Open Source Voting system. CIO Gerull responded that if the State of California is so interested in rolling out an Open Source Voting system that why the State is not taking the lead in building the project by managing it, making open source code available to all the cities and counties.

**Commissioner Jerdonek** asked if CIO Gerull and representatives from the Department of Technology working on the Open Source Voting project could attend a future Open Source Voting Technical Advisory Committee meeting. CIO Gerull responded affirmatively and added that the Department would be able to do that at some point.

**President Mogi** thanked CIO Gerull for her presentation and asked whether CIO Gerull anticipated that the Open Source Voting system project would score so low when being considered by the Committee on Information Technology's finance committee, and whether participating in the COIT process would yield any benefit for the Open Source Voting project. CIO Gerull responded that COIT was using this scoring rubric for the first time and that with more than 45 projects being considered, it was difficult for COIT to fully vet each project not knowing each project's background and scope.

**President Mogi** asked, considering that CIO Gerull stated that the COIT process was flawed and that since CIO Gerull would have scored the Open Source Voting project differently, if COIT would continue to improve its scoring process. CIO Gerull responded that two more presentations about the project have yet to occur before there is a final decision regarding the project and that she hoped that she could provide more information to the COIT Finance Committee so it could make a better decision.

**Commissioner Jerdonek** asked if CIO Gerull could attend the rally in support of Open Source Voting that the California Clean Money Campaign is planning for May 11 at the Women's Building in San Francisco. CIO Gerull responded that her participation in the rally would depend on decisions made at the next policy briefing and whether the Mayor would prioritize the Open Source Voting project.

**Commissioner Rowe** thanked CIO Gerull for her presentation and hard work on the Open Source Voting project.

**RECEIVED Public Comment on Item 3, Open Source Voting System Report:**

**Ellen Lee Zhou** gave public comment on corruption with the new voting system, the unnecessary expenditure of funds on an open source voting system when 60 percent of ballots submitted are from absentee voters, on where funding for a new voting system might come from, on who controls the money, and whether the public interest is protected. Zhou stated that voting rights are for people who are qualified, who are citizens and who obey the rules and laws. Zhou added that people bought votes when Ed Lee was mayor. Zhou said that ballots were found in the bay some years ago. Zhou concluded by saying absentee voters cheat and that the absentee balloting process should be evaluated.

**Trent Lange**, California Clean Money Campaign, thanked the Commission for its work toward an Open Source Voting system, announced that his organization was sponsoring Assembly Bill 1784, the "Secure the Vote" Act, that would award two counties \$8 million each in matching funds toward developing an open source voting system. He added that Los Angeles County would be applying for funds and said that San Francisco's participation is crucial to getting the matching funds legislation passed at the State Legislature. He concluded by saying that both Assemblymembers Chiu and Ting are very interested in supporting San Francisco's application for Open Source Voting system matching funds, but that the Assemblymembers would need more details about the City and County's budget proposal for how it would spend the funds before they could offer a final endorsement.

**Commissioner Jung** asked Trent Lange what the impact of the Elections Commission would be voting to support the legislation when the Commission does not oversee the relevant department, that an endorsement by the Commission would not be binding policy, and that the Commission cannot decide what the Mayor supports. Trent Lange of the California Clean Money Campaign responded that the Commission could after endorsing the legislation make a request to the Board of Supervisors State Legislation Committee. He added that the Elections Commission request for \$4 million in a previous budget cycle is what caused the initial \$1.5 million fund request from the City and County of San Francisco to be allocated.

**Commissioner Jerdonek** asked Trent Lange if there was anything else needed from the Commission other than getting the City and County to support AB 1748 to make the meeting with Assemblymember Ting's Office successful. Trent Lange responded that a budget outlining how the \$8 million would be used and a timeline outlining how benchmarks would be met that are stated in the bill's language. CIO Gerull suggested that Trent Lange bring the Slalom Feasibility Study, which outlines costs, plans and components, as well as risks, although it is not an engineering document. CIO Gerull recommended that the Slalom Consulting Report be shared at this meeting with the Assemblymembers.

**Trent Lange**, California Clean Money Campaign, announced that the Rally in Support of Open Source Voting would be held May 11 at the San Francisco Women's Building. He asked that the

Commission and, if appropriate at that time, CIO Gerull attend the rally. Commissioner Rowe agreed to attend the rally.

**Jim Soper** suggested that the Commission, Assemblymember offices and CIO Gerull work together on any potential documents that could be lined up in the next few weeks amidst the “April and May flurry times” at the State Capitol. He added that along with Assembly Bill 1784, a second process at the Budget Appropriations committee would be necessary to fund the bill.

**Allan Deckard**, Open Source Voting Group, said the Open Source Voting campaign began in the early 2000s. He added that his organization both created and demonstrated systems in 2008 at several conferences; this work was supported by \$50 to \$100 contributions and the work of dozens of volunteers and thousands of donors who were delighted to help. He suggested volunteers be recruited to develop the open source voting system.

**Alec Banesh** commented that he volunteered many years ago on Open Source Voting efforts in San Francisco. He suggested that everyone should be trying to move the Open Source Voting system forward. He thanked the Open Source Voting Technical Advisory Committee and CIO Gerull for their work. He added that Commissioners do all they possibly can to move this forward by discussing it with their appointing authority and the Mayor. He added that the Commission should consider his request with urgency.

**Brent Turner, California Association of Voting Officials**, thanked commissioners, thanked Allan Deckard, whom he called the father of the Open Source Voting movement, and asked that the Open Source Voting project be implemented as expeditiously as possible. He added that if the members of COIT that scored the Open Source Voting project as they did understood the gravity of the effort to implement Open Source Voting, that they would not want to associate themselves with such a poor ranking on the Open Source Voting system. He added that no was an unacceptable answer for the implementation of an open source voting system, and added that Secretary of State Debra Bowen was in the process of implementing open source voting, but was unable to before the end of her term because of health reasons.

**President Mogi** closed public comment and asked Commissioner Jerdonek for next steps. Commissioner Jerdonek responded that the Commission could decide to forward Assembly Bill 1748 to the State Legislation Committee of the Board of Supervisors. Deputy City Attorney Joshua White said the Commission could vote to have a Commissioner fill out the form that makes a recommendation to the State Legislation Committee of the Board of Supervisors.

**ROWE MOTION** TO RECOMMEND A “SUPPORT” POSITION ON ASSEMBLY BILL 1748 TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS STATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE:

*Commissioner Rowe moved that **the Commission support Assembly Bill 1748, authorize Commissioner Jerdonek to complete application for the Board of Supervisors State Legislation Committee, and authorize President Mogi's designee to present the motion at the State Legislation Committee.** The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bernholz. President Mogi asked that Secretary Walker take a roll call vote.*

AYES: 5-BERNHOLZ, JERDONEK, JUNG, MOGI, ROWE.  
NOES: 0-NONE.  
ABSTENTIONS: NONE  
ABSENT: DONALDSON, HILL.

**MOTION TO APPROVE ROWE MOTION TO SUPPORT ASSEMBLY BILL 1748 CARRIES WITH A UNANIMOUS VOTE (5-0).**

**CONSIDERED SPECIAL ORDER: Commendation of Service by Deputy City Attorney Joshua White to the Elections Commission of the City and County of San Francisco:**

**President Mogi** thanked Deputy City Attorney Joshua White for his service and for everything he has done for the Commission.

**Commissioner Jerdonek** thanked Deputy Attorney White and said he really enjoyed working with Deputy Attorney White.

**Commissioner Bernholz** thanked Deputy Attorney White for everything.

**President Mogi adjourned the meeting at 7:43pm.**



**Memorandum**

**To:** Elections Commission  
**From:** John Arntz, Director  
**Date:** May 13, 2019  
**RE:** Director's Report: May 15, 2019, Elections Commission Meeting

May 15, 2019  
Regular Meeting  
Item 6-Director's Report

Following is a brief listing of the work and related information in which the Department of Elections (Department) has been engaged since the previous Elections Commission meeting on April 17, 2019.

- I. **Update on the City's efforts to develop a highly accessible, open source voting system and other voting system matters.**
  - A. On May 8, I appeared before the City's State Legislative Committee to request support for Assembly Bill 1784 which would allocate \$16 million in State funds to counties to develop open source voting systems under a GNU General Public License 3.0. The Committee voted to support AB 1784.
  - B. On May 8, the Assembly Appropriations Committee placed AB 1784 in the suspense file for a hearing at a later date. According to the Appropriations Committee's website, suspense files "are then considered at one hearing after the state budget has been prepared and the committee has a better sense of available revenue. No testimony is presented – author or witness – at the Suspense File hearing."
  - C. Microsoft issued a press release regarding a new "software development kit" (SDK) named "ElectionGuard" that is designed to operate on tablets and ballot marking devices at polling places and voting centers and which ensures that votes are counted as cast.
    - a. ElectionGuard is open source using the MIT Open Source License and will be available on GitHub this summer but at an unspecified date.
    - b. ElectionGuard currently cannot be applied to vote-by-mail systems.
    - c. The SDK is available to voting system vendors and others to incorporate ElectionGuard into existing and new systems.
    - d. ElectionGuard will require approval by the California Secretary of State whenever incorporated into a voting system.
    - e. Election Guard is designed to print the hash of voters' selections onto a ballot stub that can be used to verify that the voting system correctly recorded individual voters' votes and allow everyone to verify the system correctly counted those votes.
    - f. Microsoft is developing a "reference voting system" to demonstrate that ElectionGuard will operate on common tablets or specialized ballot marking devices to represent the equipment often available at polling places and voting centers.
    - g. Microsoft intends to continue development of ElectionGuard so that the program can eventually be used with vote-by-mail systems and ranked-choice voting.
  - D. Regarding the implementation of the voting system for the November 2019 election, Department personnel continued to undertake training by Dominion representatives regarding the system's operations.
  - E. In addition to lecture-style training sessions, Department personnel have been obtaining hands-on practice with the voting system through simulation of the various election processes.

**II. The Department has initiated an outreach program intended to educate the public about the new ballot format and new voting equipment.**

- A. In early May, the Department's Outreach team began publicly demonstrating the new voting equipment with two initial full-day sessions at City College campuses. During the demonstrations, the Outreach team distributed informational materials such as a new RCV brochure and demonstration ballots, used a large dry-erase RCV ballot to explain how to mark RCV contests, and provided hands-on practice sessions using the new voting equipment.
- B. The Department developed a survey for distribution to participants to gather public input about the new voting system as well as feedback on the event itself that will inform the Department on the new system, outreach methods, ballot format and voting instructions.
- C. Already the Department's public service announcement (PSA) are airing on local radio stations and will soon air on television stations this summer. The PSA will run in English, as well as Cantonese, Mandarin, Spanish and Filipino on non-English channels. All PSAs that air on television allow for closed captioning in English, Chinese, Filipino, and Spanish.

**III. The Department continues its polling place signage redesign project with several items already in draft form.**

- A. The Department will introduce a three-sided, illustrated cardboard kiosk with multilingual voting information for the November 2019 election that more effectively presents information on voters' rights, election laws, results schedules, language and accessibility resources, as well as information about the new ranked-choice ballot format. The new kiosk requires a smaller footprint at polling places than the previous kiosk and is more durable and simpler to setup. (See Attachment 1).
- B. The Department has redesigned the Ballot Secrecy Folder that voters use at polling places when transitioning their voted ballots from voting booths to the onsite tabulator to present clear, illustrated voting instructions for both standard paper ballots and the new accessible ballot-marking device. (See Attachment 2).
- C. The Department has redesigned a multilingual Welcome Sign, with information on available voting resources, accessible voting tools, translated election materials and bilingual poll workers. The welcome sign is broken up into six language sections -- English, Chinese, Spanish, Filipino, Korean, and Vietnamese, with resources available in that language described in that language section. (See Attachment 3).
- D. The Department will introduce a new method for displaying a Vote Here sign to mark the entrance to each polling place for use in windy conditions rather than having poll workers taping the signs to walls and more effected by wind. The new method allows the sign to be firmly attached to an orange cone using bungee cords and has withstood testing outdoors by Department personnel. (See Attachment 4).

**IV. The Department is making final preparations for the buildout and relocation of its warehouse.**

- A. The Department is working with various City agencies to make final preparations for the buildout and relocation of its warehouse:
  - a. The San Francisco Port Authority (PORT) is nearing completion of the interior painting of the facility in preparation for the Department's occupation.
  - b. The Department of Technology (DT) is establishing services to build out the internet, networking, telephone, and security systems.
  - c. The Department of Public Works Bureau of Building Repair (BBR) is providing services for the facility's electrical, mechanical, plumbing, carpentry, and asphalt needs.
- B. Building permits are in final stages of review and the Department expects to begin operating out of the new warehouse in July 2019.



Polling Place Signage Redesign Project: Three-sided Voter Information Kiosk with pockets for voter guides and reference ballots



Content displayed on the Kiosk follows:

## Panel 1

### VOTER BILL OF RIGHTS

- The right to vote if you are a registered voter. You are eligible to vote if you are a U.S. citizen living in California, at least 18 years old, registered where you currently live, not currently in state or federal prison or on parole for the conviction of a felony, and not currently found mentally incompetent to vote by a court.
- The right to vote if you are a registered voter even if your name is not on the list. You will vote using a provisional ballot. Your vote will be counted if elections officials determine that you are eligible to vote.
- The right to vote if you are still in line when the polls close.
- The right to cast a secret ballot without anyone bothering you or telling you how to vote.
- The right to get a new ballot if you have made a mistake, if you have not already cast your ballot. You can ask an elections official at a polling place for a new ballot, exchange your vote-by-mail ballot for a new one at an elections office or at your polling place, or vote using a provisional ballot.
- The right to get help casting your ballot from anyone you choose, except from your employer or union representative.
- The right to drop off your completed vote-by-mail ballot at any polling place in California.
- The right to get election materials in a language other than English if enough people in your voting precinct speak that language.
- The right to ask questions to elections officials about election procedures and watch the election process. If the person you ask cannot answer your questions, they must send you to the right person for an answer. If you are disruptive, they can stop answering you.
- The right to report any illegal or fraudulent election activity to an elections official or the Secretary of State's office.

If you believe you have been denied any of these rights, call the Secretary of State's confidential toll-free Voter Hotline at (800) 345-VOTE (8683).

## Panel 2

### VOTING INSTRUCTIONS

#### 1. Get a Ballot

##### **If you are registered to vote in this precinct:**

a poll worker here can give you a standard ballot and a secrecy folder. If you vote by mail, you must surrender the vote-by-mail ballot packet sent to you to get the standard ballot.

##### **If you are registered to vote in a different precinct in San Francisco:**

you can vote here provisionally. See below.



**If you are not registered to vote anywhere in San Francisco:**

you can register and vote a conditional ballot. For more information, ask a poll worker.

**2. Vote Your Ballot**

Take your ballot to a voting booth.

Mark your ballot, referring to the instructions on the ballot or in a voting booth poster.

Place voted ballot in a secrecy folder and bring it to the ballot-scanning machine. Insert your ballot into the machine.

**Provisional Voting**

To cast a provisional ballot, complete and sign a provisional envelope and enclose your voted ballot.

Drop the envelope in the Red Box.

Your provisional ballot will only be counted if you are registered to vote in San Francisco.

Check your registration at [sfelections.org/reglookup](http://sfelections.org/reglookup) or ask a poll worker for help.

**Accessible Voting**

All polling places in San Francisco offer:

- accessible ballot-marking device, with audio and touchscreen interfaces
- magnifiers and easy-grip pens for marking paper ballots
- sip/puff and head pointers, available by request
- curbside voting

Poll workers can also provide assistance to voters.

**Panel 3**

**NOTICES**

**More Rankings in Ranked-Choice Voting Contests**

Voters can now rank up to 10 candidates in a ranked-choice voting contest, instead of three candidates as in the past.

When marking your ballot, refer to voting instructions printed on the ballot and posted in a voting booth.

**Language Access**

All polling places in San Francisco offer ballots and voter information in English, Chinese, Spanish, and Filipino, as well as facsimile (reference) ballots in Vietnamese and Korean. Voters can ask for assistance from poll workers, many of whom are bilingual, or call (415) 554-4375 for telephone interpretation in many languages.

### **Most Voters Do Not Need to Show ID**

You do not need to show identification to vote unless you are a voter with an incomplete registration voting for the first time in a federal election. In that case, a poll worker will ask you to provide photo identification, such as a driver's license, or a document with your address, such as a utility bill. Ask a poll worker to see the full list.

### **Election Results**

The Department of Elections will report preliminary election results on Election Night and every day until the election is certified. The Department will report final results after the election is certified. Preliminary and final election results, including reports for ranked-choice voting contests are available at [sfelections.org](http://sfelections.org) and at the Department's office in City Hall.

### **Election Integrity**

Under state and/or federal law, it is a crime to vote fraudulently, to help someone else vote fraudulently, to vote more than once, to interfere with official election processes, to violate the right to a secret ballot, or to tamper with voting equipment or election results.


Polling Place Signage Redesign Project: Ballot Secrecy Folder, containing illustrated voting instructions for both standard paper ballots and the new accessible ballot-marking device


### Ballot Secrecy Folder


Carpeta de secreto de la boleta | 藍色選票保密文件夾 | Ballot Secrecy Folder


**Use this folder to maintain the secrecy of your ballot.**  
 Use esta carpeta para mantener el secreto de su boleta.  
 使用此文件夾來保持選票的保密性。  
 Gamitin ang folder na ito upang mapanatili ang lihim ng iyong balota.

**When voting a paper ballot, follow these steps:**  
 Cómo votar una papeleta de voto | 如何投票選票 | Paano bumoto ng balota sa papel

- 


**1. Receive a paper ballot and stub receipts from a poll worker.**  
 Reciba papeletas en blanco y recibos de recibo.  
 收到空白紙票和短條收據。  
 Tumanggap ng mga blankong ng papel na balota at mga resibo ng stub.
- 


**2. Take the ballot cards to a voting booth to mark them. Refer to instructions in the voting booth poster or on the ballot. Do not write personal information, such as your name, on the ballot.**  
 Lleve las boletas a la casilla de votación para marcarlas. No escriba información personal, como su nombre, en la boleta electoral.  
 將標記的選票放在此文件夾中，然後將文件夾放入投票機。  
 Kumaha ng mga kard ng balota sa pagboto ng booth upang markahan ang mga ito. Huwag isulat ang personal na impormasyon, tulad ng iyong pangalan, sa balota.
- 


**3. Place the marked ballot cards in this folder and take the folder to the ballot-scanning machine.**  
 Coloque la boleta marcada en esta carpeta y lévela a la máquina de votación.  
 將標記的選票放在此文件夾中，然後將文件夾放入投票機。  
 Itagay ang minamarkahang balota sa folder na ito at kumaha ng folder sa makina ng pagboto.
- 


**4. Insert the ballot cards into the ballot-scanning machine, one at a time.**  
 Inserte la boleta en la máquina de escaneo de boletas.  
 將選票插入選票掃描機。  
 Ipasok ang balota sa makina ng pag-scan sa balota.

**When using an accessible ballot-marking device, follow these steps:**  
 Cómo votar utilizando el dispositivo de marcación de boletas accesible.  
 如何使用無障礙選票標記設備投票  
 Paano Bumoto gamit ang Magagamit na Marka ng Pagmarka ng Boto.


- 

**1. A poll worker will activate a ballot on the accessible ballot-marking device.**  
 El trabajador electoral activará la boleta en el dispositivo de marcado de boleta accesible.  
 投票工作人員將在可訪問的選票標記設備上激活選票。  
 I-activate ng poll worker ang balota sa naa-access na aparato ng pagmamarka ng balota.
- 


**2. Use touchscreen, audio keypad, or other assistive device to mark the ballot. Refer to the instructions presented by the ballot-marking device.**  
 Use la pantalla táctil, el teclado de audio u otro dispositivo de asistencia para marcar la boleta.  
 使用觸摸屏、音頻鍵盤或其他輔助設備來標記選票。  
 Gumamit ng touchscreen, audio keypad, o iba pang assistive device upang markahan ang balota.
- 

**3. Print the ballot. Place the printout in this folder and take the folder to the ballot-scanning machine.**  
 Imprima papeleta. Inserte una copia impresa en esta carpeta y lévela a la máquina de escaneo de boletas.  
 打印選票。在此文件夾中插入打印輸出並帶到選票掃描機。  
 I-print ang balota. Magpasingit ng printout sa folder na ito at dalhin sa ballot-scanning machine.
- 


**4. Insert the printout into the ballot-scanning machine.**  
 Recoja una copia impresa e insértela en la máquina de escaneo de boletas.  
 收集打印輸出並插入選票掃描機。  
 Kolektahin ang printout at ipasok sa machine ng pag-scan sa balota.



## Thank You for Voting!



¡Gracias por votar! | 謝謝投票! | Salamat sa Pagboto!



Content displayed on the Ballot Secrecy Folder in English follows:

## Front

### Ballot Secrecy Folder

Use this folder to maintain the secrecy of your ballot.

#### **When voting a paper ballot, follow these steps:**

1. Receive a paper ballot and stub receipts from a poll worker.
2. Take the ballot cards to a voting booth to mark them. Refer to instructions in the voting booth poster or on the ballot. Do not write personal information, such as your name, on the ballot.
3. Place the marked ballot cards in this folder and take the folder to the ballot-scanning machine.
4. Insert the ballot cards into the ballot-scanning machine, one at a time.

#### **When using an accessible ballot-marking device, follow these steps:**

1. A poll worker will activate a ballot on the accessible ballot-marking device.
2. Use touchscreen, audio keypad, or other assistive device to mark the ballot. Refer to the instructions presented by the ballot-marking device.
3. Print the ballot. Place the printout in this folder and take the folder to the ballot-scanning machine.
4. Insert the printout into the ballot-scanning machine.

## Inside

Thank You for Voting!

## Back

#### **The following activities are prohibited by law and punishable as misdemeanors and/or felonies:**

1. Electioneering, soliciting of votes, or circulating petitions within 100 feet of a polling place.
2. Removing or vandalizing any sign or official document in the polling place.
3. Asking for or taking a marked ballot from a voter (any person other than a poll worker).
4. Disclosure, by a poll worker, of a voter's choices to someone else.
5. Forging or altering election results, wrongfully submitting or stealing ballots.



Polling Place Signage Redesign Project: Welcome sign, providing information about resources and services available in English, Chinese, Spanish, Filipino, Korean, and Vietnamese

## Welcome, San Francisco Voters!

歡迎舊金山選民 | Bienvenidos los votantes de San Francisco | Maligayang Pagdating sa mga Botante sa San Francisco | Chào mừng cử tri San Francisco | 샌프란시스코 유권자를 환영합니다

Resources Available	資源可用	Recursos disponibles
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Official ballot in paper, audio, and touchscreen formats</li> <li>Sample ballot</li> <li>Voting instructions</li> <li>Voter guides</li> <li>Easy-grip pens</li> <li>Print Magnifiers</li> <li>Curbside Voting</li> </ul> <p style="font-size: x-small;">See poll worker name tags for languages spoken at this polling place.</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">We offer interpreting services in many languages. Call (415) 554-4375.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>紙質、音頻和觸摸屏格式的選票</li> <li>選票樣本</li> <li>投票說明</li> <li>選民指南</li> <li>易握筆</li> <li>打印放大鏡</li> <li>路邊投票</li> </ul> <p style="font-size: x-small;">有關此輪詢位置所使用的語言，請參閱poll worker name 標記。</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">我們提供中文服務。致電 (415) 554-4367。</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Boleta oficial en papel, audio y formatos de pantalla táctil.</li> <li>Boleta de muestra</li> <li>Instrucciones de votación</li> <li>Guías para el votante</li> <li>Plumas de fácil agarre</li> <li>Lupas de impresión</li> <li>Votación en la acera</li> </ul> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Consulte las etiquetas de nombres de los trabajadores electorales para conocer los idiomas que se hablan en este lugar de votación.</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Ofrecemos servicios en español, llame al (415) 554-4366.</p>
Available ang Mga Mapaakukunan	사용 가능한 리소스	Nguồn lực sẵn có
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opisyal na balota sa papel, audio, at mga format ng touchscreen</li> <li>Halimbawang balota</li> <li>Mga tagubilin sa pagboto</li> <li>Mga patnubay sa botante</li> <li>Madaling-mahigpit na mga panulat</li> <li>I-print ang Magnifiers</li> <li>Curbside Voting</li> </ul> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Tingnan ang mga tag ng pangalan ng botohan para sa mga wika na sinasalita sa lugar na ito ng botohan.</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Nag-aalok kami ng mga serbisyo sa Filipino, tumawag sa (415) 554-4310.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>핵시말리 (참고) 투표 용지</li> <li>유권자 안내서 (주 및 총선 전용)</li> <li>쉬운 그립 펜</li> <li>돋보기 인쇄</li> <li>Curbside 투표</li> </ul> <p style="font-size: x-small;">이 투표소에서 사용하는 언어에 대한 투표 각급자 이름 태그를 확인하십시오.</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">우리는 한국어로 서비스를 제공합니다. (415) 554-4375로 전화하십시오.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Phiếu bầu fax (tham khảo)</li> <li>Hướng dẫn cử tri (chỉ bầu cử Nhà nước và Tổng quát)</li> <li>Bút dễ cầm</li> <li>Kính lúp in</li> <li>Bỏ phiếu lề đường</li> </ul> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Xem thẻ tên nhân viên phòng phiếu cho các ngôn ngữ được nói tại địa điểm bỏ phiếu này.</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Chúng tôi cung cấp dịch vụ bằng tiếng Việt, gọi (415) 554-4375.</p>

**SAN FRANCISCO ELECTIONS**

**Voter Support Hotline**  
(415) 554-4375

Content displayed on the Welcome Sign in English follows:

**Welcome, San Francisco Voters!**

**Resources Available**

- Official ballot in paper, audio, and touchscreen formats
- Sample ballot
- Voting instructions
- Voter guides
- Easy-grip pens
- Print magnifiers
- Curbside Voting

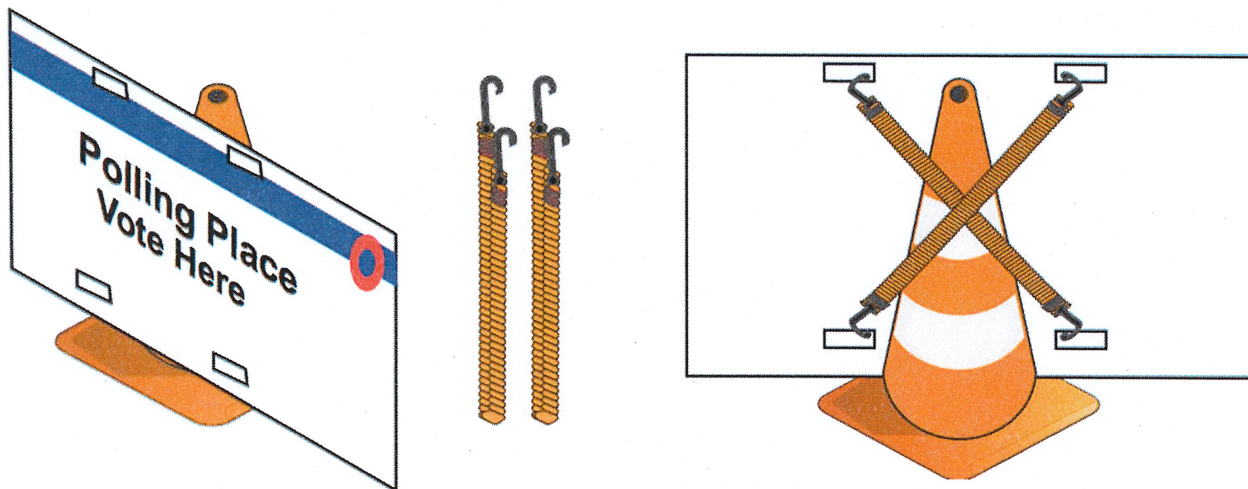
See poll worker name tags for languages spoken at this polling place.

We offer interpreting services in many languages. Call (415) 554-4375.

**Voter Support Hotline**

(415) 554-4375

Polling Place Signage Redesign Project: Vote Here sign, secured to an orange cone with bungee cards



# San Francisco Elections Commission

**May 15, 2019 Regular Meeting**

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