

Andrea Gyger

From: Beverly Wenger <yumacountyclerk@co.yuma.co.us>
Sent: Thursday, June 05, 2014 3:23 PM
To: SoS Rulemaking
Subject: Comments - working draft election rules

Secretary Gessler,

I am addressing my concerns regarding the Draft Rules for Conditions for Use.

There are several concerns most which deal with unfunded, ill-conceived mandates with disregard to counties and the State of Colorado's lack of funds.

Yuma County is one of the 33 counties that uses Hart election equipment.

Page 1: 20.3.1(e) Because Yuma County stayed mostly mail ballots, I do have adjustable headsets for all my DRE/DAU's. What bothers me is the fact that several smaller counties chose to mostly use the DRE/DAU and do not have the funds to accommodate a headset per unit, when in the smaller counties only one VSPC is required and possibly could get by with only one piece of equipment. Why purchase a headset for each piece of equipment when only minimal is being used? Maybe rewording of this to address actual equipment that will be used during an election cycle?

Page 3 (E): This will have a very unqualified use of county money if required. According to my interpretation, this would require all Hart counties to purchase BOSS which would cost a minimum of \$25,000 per county. When counties are struggling to make ends meet, why would you even consider adding extra financial burden? If the vendors are required to be bonded and insured, this should justify any qualms about the security of the equipment. The vendor typically has been in business for years with a good clean track record while our offices change staff repeatedly, thus creating another increase (training) to the financial burden on the county.

Page 6 20.17.6 (C): This is completely unreasonable. Why wouldn't we be able to use a ballot box and then scan centrally or later at the VSPC when the power would come back on. My understanding early on, was the ability to keep the flow moving and still allowing the voter to vote. By providing a ballot box for the elector to drop their ballot in, the statement of the ballots, and signature cards, there are several checks and balances to ensure all the ballots are accounted for. There is absolutely no guarantee of uninterrupted power.

Elections have become a focal point for several groups for different reasons. I would rather see our Secretary of State and State Election Department work with our counties to create successful well ran elections.

Thank you for your time and consideration. It is disappointing that the late timing of these rules corresponds with our mailing of ballots. Again, smaller counties have several tasks during this time frame as all staff is expected to wait on customers, help with elections, complete recordings, and several other daily tasks.

Respectfully,

Beverly A. Wenger
Yuma County Clerk and Recorder
310 Ash St. Suite F
Wray, CO 80758

Email: yumacountyclerk@co.yuma.co.us
970-332-5809
Fax: 970-332-5919

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