

SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS TECHNOLOGY OVERVIEW

PROBLEM STATEMENT:

- Comply with State of Florida mandated software and systems. This mandate was originally slated to go into effect on 2016 but was later changed by the legislature to be 2020.

BUSINESS CASE:

- What are the current conditions?
 - Tabulation Center
 - Currently using the certified standard State of Florida software/hardware to conduct State & Local elections.
 - Current computers dedicated ONLY to these tasks are end of life cycle (WinXP)
 - Currently using high speed ballot readers (DS650's which are analog technology while the DS200 digital scanners at the polling places are digital) that are near end of life cycle.
 - Currently using 20 B1 telephone lines to receive votes cast on Election Day from 127 precincts. There potentially 4 machines at each site (2 DS200 and 1 Ivotronic ADA machines)
 - Election Center Ballot Preparation (Unity Room)
 - Currently using the certified standard State of Florida software/hardware to conduct State & Local elections
 - Current computers dedicated ONLY to these tasks are end of life cycle (WinXP)
 - Ivotronic touch screen machines are cumbersome to set up and difficult for the special needs community to use. They are the driving force behind the need for this upgrade.
- What are the goals and objectives (including how it will better serve the community)?
 - To maintain compliance with State Mandated Standards (Statute)
 - Replace cumbersome Ivotronic machines with new ADA compliant and mandated hardware for voting called Express Vote
 - To bring on line three (3) new generation digital high speed ballot readers that were purchased in advance in support of this mandated transition.
 - To meet the demand of significantly higher vote by mail (absentee) requests.
 - To upgrade the DS200 digital scanners with wireless modems thus speeding election results on Election Night by avoiding busy signals from competing DS200 and iVotronic machine sending data at once starting at 7:00pm
- What statutory requirement does this fulfill?
 - 101.56075.F.S.(3)
- What is the option of using the "current equipment" (existing in place today)
 - The "must comply date" was pushed from 2016 to 2020 – however, this implementation needs to happen not during a full election cycle (i.e.: not 2016 or 2018).
 - We have the resources and staff poised to make this happen promptly.
 - Moving forward now means that the current computer hardware is not pushed substantially past the "end of life cycle", reducing the risk of being non-ADA compliant due to the failure of 13 year old iVotronic Machines. Additionally, replacing the 650

High Speed ballot readers with the 850 machine reduces ballot my mail processing time in response to increasing ballot by mail participation

- Using existing configuration will mean continued or increased over time and temporary labor costs.
- What other new equipment options were considered?
 - Lee Supervisor of Election's is using software and hardware supplied by Election Systems & Software (ES&S) from Omaha NB. They are one of several companies that can supply certified products for Florida's elections. ES&S has faithfully and successfully supported elections for Lee County for decades. ES&S is the largest election support vendor nation-wide (owning 65% of the market share).

SOLUTION:

Components:

- What steps have already been taken?
 - Knowing that this mandate would happen (originally in 2016) LEE SOE purchased, out of their regular budgetary funds, Three (3) DS850 high speed ballot readers. These ES&S devices are fully warrantied and will be accepted as "new" hardware when LEE County moves to the Election Ware software/hardware suite.
- Plan for current equipment? (newly purchased)
 - Replace its counterpart in our existing hardware scheme at the Election Center and Tabulation Center.
- What do you still need?
 - Appropriation of requested funds by the BOCC to cover the Sales Order Agreement (attached)
 - Software for this upgrade is included when we purchase the hardware
- What is it replacing?
 - DS850 are replacing DS650 – High Speed Ballot Readers
 - DS200 to be outfitted with wireless modems are replacing DS200's with analog telephone modems – this is just a modification to already owned digital scanners
 - Express Vote hardware is replacing iVotronic touch screen machines
 - Election Ware (software) is replacing the following products: Unity Software & Election Hardware Manager and Election Reporting Manger which is 13 years old
- What is the plan for old equipment (trade/donate/repurpose)
 - Once this project is implemented, old computer hardware will be sanitized, to Department of Defense 7 specification for security. The high speed ballot readers do have a trade in value of \$59,000 and it is noted on the Sales Order Agreement (attached)

Cost:

- How much will it cost and what does that cost cover?
 - \$714,325.00
 - Express Vote Machines (175) for ADA Compliance
 - Software
 - Installation
 - Training

- Digital Scanner wireless modem installation
- See Sales Order Agreement (attached) for details.
- Future cost (maintenance and support-how will this be handled)
 - Current Annual Maintenance Costs are \$157,000
 - This amount will change as iVotronic Hardware is removed and new Express Vote hardware is added.
- Cost savings (removal of phone line and support people)
 - Eliminate Annual iVotronic Firmware Maint Cost. Savings \$25,564.32
 - Eliminate Annual iVotronic Software License Cost. Savings \$2,814.20
 - Eliminate 350 B1 land line phones lines for poll sites and Election Center. Savings \$221,544.00
 - Total of above items is \$249,922.52
 - Eliminate Temporary labor to pre-test iVotronic machines. Savings \$3,600
 - Eliminate Temporary labor to check telephone lines are operational at poll sites. Savings \$2,000
 - Eliminate Trainers to teach iVotronic Poll Worker Training classes. Savings \$6,400
 - Supplies for Communication packs used to transmit results at \$970
 - Total of labor/supplies \$12,970.00
 - Eliminate Installation of phone lines at new or remodeled polling locations. Savings \$2,500
- Timeline
- Timeline for purchase, manufacture, deliver, setup, testing, training
 - Cut Purchase order
 - Receive equipment 90 days
 - Unbox, test, accept equipment and write training manuals 30 days
 - Conduct training classes for election workers 15 days
 - Total 135 days
- Events timeline (upcoming elections and statutory requirement dates)
 - Lee County would need to complete this implementation prior to the start of the Presidential Preference Primary which is Tuesday March 1st.
 - A purchase order would have to be prepared no later than October 1st 2015 in order to insure adequate time in which to complete this project.