



NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: September 26, 2023

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Natalie Adona, Nevada County Clerk-Recorder/Registrar of Voters

SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing the donation of an OPEX Omaton 2100 Envelope Opener and an Election Systems and Software (ES&S) Mail Ballot Verifier (MBV) from Nevada County Registrar of Voters to Merced County Registrar of Voters.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the donation of an OPEX Omaton 2100 Envelope Opener and an ES&S MBV from Nevada County Registrar of Voters to Merced County Registrar of Voters.

FUNDING:

N/A

BACKGROUND:

The use of multiple pieces of election equipment became obsolete with the Board of Supervisors Resolution 23-079 approving the purchase of a new mail sorter. Two machines were impacted with the installation of the new mail sorter in 2023. The OPEX Omaton 2100 Envelope Opener cut open each envelope to easily extract ballots from the envelope. The new mail sorter cuts every envelope, therefore, the OPEX machine is now obsolete for our Elections operations. The ES&S MBV machine scanned images of envelopes to allow for election workers to complete the signature verification process. The new mail sorter machine scans the image of every envelope and has made the use of the ES&S MBV machine obsolete.

In the Spring of 2023, we worked with our vendors to find other counties in need of either, or both, pieces of election equipment. In a letter from Merced County Registrar of Voters, they requested the donation of both machines to their county. The donation was confirmed and completed on June 19, 2023.

We are seeking the approval of this donation in accordance with Nevada County Administrative Code Section A-IV 1.3(B) and Government Code section 26227. The County's Purchasing Ordinance authorizes the Purchasing Agent to sell, lease, trade or otherwise dispose of personal property that has been found not to be required for public use in accordance with state law.

Government Code section 26227 authorizes the Board of Supervisors to contract with other public agencies to operate programs Board of Supervisors determines will serve public purposes. In the



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COREY O'HAYRE
Assistant Clerk-Recorder/Registrar of Voters

furtherance of those programs, the Board may finance or assist in the financing of the acquisition of furnishings to be owned or operated by any public agency to carry out the programs without complying with any other provisions of state law relating to acquiring, improving, leasing, or granting the use of or otherwise disposing of County property.

The conduct of elections by California counties serves multiple public purposes, such as access to voting information and polling centers, and processing of mail and electronic ballots. The proposed donation of the OPEX Envelope Opener and the ES&S MBV ballot scanning/signature verification machine will facilitate these important public purposes.

Item Initiated by:

Corey O'Hayre

Approved by:

Natalie Adona

Submittal Date: 9/11/23

Revision Date: