

Kern County Language and Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

July 2, 2025

VAAC

0:20 - Introduction of Members

- Introduction of current members and new members

5:30 - General Election Information

- Election Cycle Overview
 - Primary Election Year
 - Busy year getting things ready for the election
 - Off Year
 - Begins after an Election ends
 - Not “off” during the year
 - If enough signatures are received on a petition, we must hold an election for what is being petitioned
 - Can have several small elections during an “off” year
 - Assess previous elections to see what we can do better for future elections
 - Mock Elections
 - Legislation passes during the off year
 - We work with other counties and SOS to follow guidelines to implement new bills
 - Compare our notes with other counties after elections to see if there is anything we can improve
 - Gubernatorial Election Year
 - Midterm elections just as big as primary
 - Busy all year getting things set up for elections
 - Off Year
 - Same as first off year
 - Small elections might happen
 - Assessing previous elections to see what we can improve
 - Mock Elections
 - Update Procedures for unexpected emergencies on election day (earthquake, fire, power outage)

11:00 – SOS VAAC Committee Updates/News

- Informing committee of any updates from SOS for VAAC
 - o No updates from SOS
- Waiting for SOS to send Site Survey Checklist for VBM Drop Box Installation
 - o Planning on sharing new checklist during our next meeting

12:00 – ADA Supplies

- Shared with the committee the signs, supplies, and procedures used to make the sites ADA compliant
 - o Also talked about obstacles that we face at poll sites and how we come up with solutions to overcome those obstacles
- Boron Church Poll Site example
- Cuddy Hall Poll Site example
- Berkshire School Poll Site example
- Informed the committee of Poll Site Binders that we use to keep track of different issues and how to set up the 105 Poll Sites we use
 - o Use two binders
 - One big binder (In House Binder) with all the sites in it
 - Major Issues included
 - Measurements Included
 - Includes pictures
 - One ADA Binder (Site Specific Binder)
 - Has the way to set up the site
 - Has major issues the site might have as well as how to set up around these issues
 - Includes pictures

LAAC

33:05 - SOS Website Tour

- Sos.CA.Gov
- Navigate to the elections section of the site
- Translated Election Information
- How to change the SOS website into one of the nine different languages they offer
- Hotlines for the nine different languages they offer
- Voter information guide that includes the option to change the voter information guide language

37:50 - State Level Resources

- Useful outreach resources
- Outreach Publications page
- Other Elections Division Publications page
- Guide to the Voter Registration Drives
 - Request voter registration cards in bulk for registration drives

44:15 - Outreach and Upcoming events

- Always looking for new members
- If you know anyone who is interested, please have them apply on our website