

Alameda County Elections Commission

Approved Meeting Minutes

July 16, 2026

4:00 PM

1225 Fallon Street, Room G-1
Oakland CA 94612

1 **Call to Order / Roll Call**

The Elections Commission meeting convened at 4:16 p.m. with President Dieter presiding as chair.

Present: Irene Dieter, Susan Henderson, Jim Lindsay, Alexander Ramon, Karl Seabrook, David Wagner, and Karen Butter [participated via teleconference at 229 Oyster Pond Road, Alameda, CA 94502 pursuant to Gov. Code § 54953(b)(3)].

Absent: Judy Belcher, Alissa Moore, Sasha Ritzie-Hernandez, Tiega Varlack, Allie Whitehurst, and ex-officio Thai Nam Pham

County staff in attendance:

Registrar of Voters (ROV): Cynthia Cornejo, Noe Lucio, Charles Smithline, and Shaheer Siddiqui

County Counsel: Jason Allen

2 **Agenda Changes**

No changes were made to the agenda.

3 **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

A motion was made to approve the June 18, 2026 Elections Commission meeting minutes by Commissioner Ramon, seconded by Commissioner Lindsay, and passed 6-0, with Commissioner Henderson abstaining.

4 **Announcements and Communications on Issues Not on the Agenda**

2:22

Interim Registrar Cornejo announced that the August 18th Special General Election for Congressional District 14 is being conducted, and the November 3rd Statewide General Election process has begun with the candidate nominations period ongoing. Commissioner Lindsay reminded the commission that the voting rights organization seat is open and that Commissioner Henderson's seat for a Disability Rights organization will be open. President Dieter added that the Board of Supervisors had recently advertised the voting rights seat on the county website. Commissioner Henderson announced that this was her last meeting.

5 **Public Comment on Issues Not on the Agenda**

5:29

There was no public comment on non-agenda items.

6 Monthly Update from Registrar of Voters (ROV) Office

5:50

Ms. Cornejo explained how a registered voter can vote their vote-by-mail ballot at a Vote Center without their identification envelope. In response to clarifying questions, she added these are not considered provisional ballots and the process is publicized.

7 Ongoing Agenda Items

7-A Ad Hoc Committee Reports

7-A(1) Voter Participation Committee

11:36

Commissioner Seabrook reported that more data has been requested from the Alameda County Labor Council. Commissioner Lindsay said the category of age will not be included, but that the Youth Participation Committee could seek that data by age.

7-A(2) Youth Participation Committee

14:14

Commissioner Butter reported the committee did not meet this month.

7-A(3) Budgeting for Elections Committee

14:43

Commissioner Wagner reported they decided on a plan of action; to ask the Registrar of Voters to educate the committee on how budgeting process works. Ms. Cornejo reported that the language explaining the five or more measures pricing has been posted on the ROV website and was presented at the workshop with the city clerks.

7-A(4) Rules and Procedures Committee

16:08

President Dieter explained the changes to the document based on the commission's feedback. County Counsel Allen provided input and said he will review for Brown Act compliance before the next meeting. The commission decided to revisit this item again at the next meeting; no action was taken.

8 Regular Agenda Items

37:50

8-A June Post-election Assessment

President Dieter explained the assessment revisions. A motion to approve the post-election assessment and submit it to the Board of Supervisors was made by Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Seabrook. Discussion ensued. The motion passed unanimously.

8-B Response Protocols to Email Inquiries

1:02:13

Ms. Cornejo reported that on the website under "Contact Us", users can select a subject category, provide their contact information, and a request description. The message will be emailed to the specific subject matter team, and the team typically responds within 48 hours. The ROV has a specific media point of contact to facilitate quick and efficient response. There have been no complaints. An email inbox exclusively for the city clerks was created after the

recent City Clerks workshop. Clarifying questions were asked and answered.

8-C Public Records Act Requests

1:13:00

Ms. Cornejo reported that the Public Records Request portal has enabled the team to record and track incoming requests for information more efficiently, using a color-coded system according to deadline and complexity of the request, and that requests are responded to according to legal parameters. There are 10 days to respond to requests, but if more time is needed the deadline can be extended. No action was taken.

8-D Voter Protection

1:18:00

Ms. Cornejo explained that the ROV always prepares for voter protection at Vote Centers, partnering with local and county policing agencies, before every election. The Secretary of State's office has created training on how to handle potential dangers, and all county elections offices are working with the county sheriff and city police chiefs in preparation, including providing them with the locations of the vote centers. The protected space from disturbance and electioneering around a drop box or vote center is 100 feet. Clarifying questions were asked and answered.

9 Special Report from the Registrar of Voters

1:34:40

David Pink, Elections Division Manager, presented the aspects of staffing Alameda County's 100 Vote Centers. Commissioners asked clarifying questions regarding Vote Center staffing needs, language support, and the terms used to describe the worker roles.

10 Adjournment

1:53:59

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.