

Alameda County Elections Commission Meeting Agenda

November 20, 2025

Agenda Packet Version 2 - Agenda Packet Updated 11/18/25

Time: 4:00 PM
Location: Via Zoom/In person
San Lorenzo Library
395 Paseo Grande
San Lorenzo CA 94580

Teleconference Location: Union City Hall
34009 Alvarado-Niles Road
Union City, CA 94587

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(b), this notice and agenda will be posted and members of the public may attend and provide public comment at the teleconference location.

Zoom Link for Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85640232496>

1 -- **Call To Order / Roll Call at 4 pm** -- 2 minutes

2 -- **Swearing In of New Commissioners** -- none

3 -- **Approval of Agenda** -- 2 min

Modifications to the agenda can be made here

4 -- **Approval of Minutes of October 2025** -- 5 minutes

See attachment.

5 -- **Announcements and Communications** -- 5 minutes

No discussion on these items.

a. From staff

b. From commissioners

Election of officers

6 -- **Public Comment on Agenda Items** -- 15 minutes

If we have 5 or less commenters, then they will have up to 3 minutes each. 5-14 commenters will be limited to 2 minutes each. If we have 15 or more people, then they will be limited to one minute each. We encourage and appreciate written comments to be emailed to the commission at eoc@acgov.org.

7 -- **Monthly Update from Registrar of Voters Office** -- 10 minutes, for discussion

See attachment.

8 -- **Actionable Items** – action may be taken on all items

(a) Ongoing Items from Ad Hoc Committees – 20 minutes

The convener / lead for each committee has an asterisk by their name.

(1) Voting Participation (A Moore*, Whitehurst, Seabrook, and Lindsay)

Background: This committee is looking into how the ROV can move the needle for Black men and other populations that have a low voting rate.

(2) Nominations (Ramon and Seabrook)

Background: This committee is trying to find a strong candidate for the vacant “impacted community” seat, which the commission is responsible for nominating to the Board of Supervisors.

(3) Youth Participation (Varlack*, Whitehurst, and Butter)

Background: This committee is working to support efforts to strengthen youth civic engagement regarding elections, and to coordinate with the Registrar of Voters on outreach and program development.

(b) New Business

8(b)(1) November 2025 Post-election Assessment – 15 minutes

Background: The commission must conduct a post-election assessment in collaboration with the ROV and report it to the Alameda County Board of Supervisors. In general, the purpose of the post-election assessment is to highlight what worked well and to identify issues in need of improvement. To start that process, commissioners are to provide feedback about the November 2025 special election.

Possible Action: Establish an ad hoc committee or appoint one commissioner to bring back a draft assessment at the January meeting.

See attachment.

8 -- Actionable Items – action may be taken on all items, *continued*
(b) New Business, continued

8(b)(2) Recruitment for ROV position – 15 minutes

Background: At some point the county will publicize the job opening for ROV and hold interviews to fill the ROV position. Commissioners are encouraged to spread the word to your network of contacts to help increase the pool of candidates applying for the job. The commission could inform the supervisors that commissioners are reaching out and offer further assistance to the Board of Supervisors if called upon by them to do so.

Possible Action: There are two issues here to be dealt with. First, sending a letter to the BOS offering assistance to the BOS as requested.

This item could be accomplished by the formation of an ad-hoc committee to take action as needed. Alternatively, the commission might approve the attached letter at this meeting, possibly with modifications, and then an ad-hoc committee could then be formed to work on the additional items.

See attachment.

8(b)(3) Youth Voting - 15 minutes

Background: 16- and 17-year-old youth can now vote in the Oakland and Berkeley elections. The ROV's office implemented this for the November 2024 election. However, one piece of this implementation is outstanding – allowing youth to pre-register and vote in vote centers.

Possible Action: That the commission vote to encourage the ROV's office to work with its vendor to develop a technological solution that would allow youth to pre-register and vote in vote centers by the June 2026 election.

9 -- Special Report from the ROV

No ROV report this month as the office is 100% engaged in election tallying.

10 -- Public Comment on Agenda or Non-Agenda Items -- 15 minutes

The 15 minutes here is a fixed allocation of time and will be divided equally among all who wish to comment, with a maximum of 3 minutes per person. If your comments are complex or if you didn't have enough time, we always appreciate it if you send your input to the Elections Commission at eoc@acgov.org.

11 -- Adjournment (as close to 6:30 as is viable)

The next meeting will be Thursday, January 15, 2025, at the San Lorenzo Library.

ALAMEDA COUNTY ELECTIONS COMMISSION
UNAPPROVED MEETING MINUTES

Date: Thursday, October 16, 2025
Time: 4:00 PM
Location: Via Zoom/In person
San Lorenzo Library Greenhouse Community Room
395 Paseo Grande
San Lorenzo, CA 94580
Teleconference Locations: Union City Hall
34009 Alvarado-Niles Road
Union City CA 94587

270 West 43rd Street
New York NY 10036

1. Call To Order / Roll Call

The Elections Commission meeting of October 16, 2025, convened at 4:17 p.m. in the San Lorenzo Library Greenhouse Community Room. The meeting was called to order by President James R. Lindsay.

Present

Commission Members: Judy Belcher(arrived late), Karen A. Butter, Irene Dieter, Susan R. Henderson(left early), James R. Lindsay, Alissa Moore(arrived late), Alexander Ramon, Karl I. Seabrook, Zabre Valentine, Tiega N. Varlack (remote), and Allie Whitehurst (arrived late, left early).

City Clerk: Thai Nam Pham (remote, left early)

Registrar of Voters: Tim Dupuis, Cynthia Cornejo, Shaheer Siddiqui, and Charles Smithline.

County Counsel: Jason Allen.

Absent

Commission Members: David Wagner

2. Swearing-In of New Commissioners

There were no new commissioners to swear-in.

3. Approval of Agenda

No modifications were made to the agenda.

4. Approval of Minutes of September 18, 2025

A motion to approve the minutes as written was made by Commissioner Ramon, seconded by Commissioner Seabrook, and passed 8 to 0.

5. Announcements and Communications

- From staff

Deputy Registrar Cornejo reported the Registrar of Voters is working with ITD to keep the filter for elections results choices intact for one week. The ROV is considering how to keep all the CVR reports in place while complying with state 100% accessibility requirements. The ROV provided the commission with the Dominion contracts and the 2010 RCV MOU. The ROV is considering ways to provide more information for observers.

- From commissioners

There were no announcements from the commission.

6. Public Comment on Agenda Items

Public comments were made on agenda items

7. Monthly Update from Registrar of Voters Office

- **Ms. Cornejo presented the November 4, 2025 election print communications.**
- **Noe Lucio explained how poll watchers can request a list everyone who's voted in-person.**
- **Commissioner Moore inquired about AC Vote on the Go.**
- **Commissioner Seabrook inquired about the criteria for setting the four-day and eleven-day vote centers.**

8. Business Items

a. Ongoing Items from Ad Hoc Committees

(1) Voting Participation

- **Commissioner Moore expects to present a report in the November meeting.**

(2) Nominations

- **Commissioner Ramon said the committee is looking for a member of an impacted community.**

b. New Business

(1) Review of third-party contracts

- **President Lindsay requested detailed information about all vendor contracts. Commissioner Pham asked the commission to review all vendor contracts on behalf of city interests. Regarding the purchase of Dominion by Liberty Vote, Commissioner Belcher asked what could happen to the current contract. Ms. Cornejo conveyed the Secretary of State’s assurance that the current contract is unaffected.**
- **A motion to request a full list of all contracts over \$100,000 presented in writing to the commission after the November 4, 2025 election, including the name of the vendor, the cost, and the contractual obligations was made by President Lindsay, seconded by Commissioner Ramon and passed unanimously, 11 to 0.**

(2) Clarification on Ballot Measure Consolidation Charges

- **A motion was made for the ROV office to work with the city clerks to analyze a financial proposal and provide a status update over the next six months by Commissioner Butter, seconded by Commissioner Ramon and passed 10 to 0 with one not present.**

(3) Implementation of Elections Code 30165 – vote-by-mail ballots verified at voting centers

- **A motion was made to request that the ROV provide a special report in February 2026 on the progress and findings of research regarding possible implementation of Election Code 30165 and what it would take to implement it by a certain date by Commissioner Belcher, seconded by Commissioner Varlack, and passed 10 to 0 with one not present.**

(4) Proposal to Establish a Youth Participation Ad Hoc Subcommittee

- **A motion was made to approve the creation of a youth participation subcommittee to coordinate with the ROV on outreach and program development and to appoint Tiega Varlack, Allie Whitehurst and Karen Butter to this subcommittee by Commissioner Belcher, seconded by Commissioner Dieter, and passed 10 to 0 with one not present.**

9. Public Comment on Agenda or Non-Agenda Items

Public comment was made on agenda and non-agenda items.

10. Special Report from the ROV

The Registrar of Voters’ response to the Grand Jury Report was submitted to the Board of Supervisors, the Supervisors approved the response on October 7th. The final report was submitted to the Grand Jury by the Supervisors. Ms. Cornejo answered commissioner questions.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

The next meeting will be Thursday, November 20, 2025, at the San Lorenzo Library.

ELECTION COMMISSION MEETING – NOVEMBER 20, 2025

Agenda Item #7 – Registrar of Voters Monthly Report

1. Election:

- a. November 4, 2025, Statewide Special Election
 - i. On the ballot – Proposition 50(Authorizes Temporary Changes To Congressional District Maps In Response To Texas' Partisan Redistricting) (50%+1), Measure B (Washington Township Health Care District) (Parcel Tax) (50%+1)
 - ii. Vote Centers – 20 were opened starting Saturday, October 25, 2025, 18 additional Voter Centers were opened starting Saturday, November 1, 2025
 - iii. Official 24-Hour Drop Boxes – opened starting, Monday, October 6, 2025
 - iv. Important Dates
 1. Canvass of Election – Wednesday November 5, 2025 (preparation and organization for processing on November 6) – Tuesday, December 2, 2025
 2. First Day of Plus Mail – Wednesday, November 5, 2025 –Wednesday, November 12, 2025 (due to the holiday)
 3. Drawing of batches for the 1% Manual Tally – Monday, November 17, 2025
 4. 1% Manual Tally – Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Attachment for Agenda Item #8(b)(1) – **Post-election Assessment**

To begin the commission’s brainstorming session ...

IMPROVEMENTS ENACTED (initial suggestions)

1. Formal encouragements to vote early were made via mailers, bill boards, etc.
2. Explanations of activities being performed at observation points were posted.
3. Ballot-process activities were publicized with a calendar and explanations, and alerts were released consistently.
4. The ROV site now has a link to the Unprocessed Ballot Report on the Secretary of State's web site.

POTENTIAL PROCESS IMPROVEMENTS (initial suggestions)

1. Implementing a pilot project for the use of poll pads remains pending but is expected to be pursued in 2026.
2. Virtual observation links were provided, explaining that if there were no election processes showing, it meant that team members were on a break and would return shortly or have finished for the day. However currently, voters must keep checking the website throughout the day to observe, rather than be alerted when actual activities are underway. For example, the website reads: “An election process will be conducted today. For ongoing updates, check the website where all election processes will be posted.”

Attachment for Agenda Item #8(b)(2) – **Recruitment for ROV position**

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Supervisors
From: Elections Commission
Date: [day sent]

Subject: Recruitment for ROV position

The commission is aware that the county will likely publicize the job opening for Register of Voters and will hold interviews to fill the position. We hope that previous reports from the commission will provide some input for establishing the criteria for the position.

Commissioners plan to help increase the field of candidates applying for the job by spreading the word through our network of contacts.

We understand that applications are to be submitted at _____ .

Please know that the commission is willing to provide any further assistance to the Board of Supervisors in this effort if called upon to do so.

Signed by the President and Vice-President of the Alameda County Elections Commission on behalf of the commission as a whole.

**** OTHER IDEAS FOR A POSSIBLE AD-HOC COMMITTEE ***

*** [not part of the letter] ***

Furthermore, while drafting the letter to the Board of Supervisor, an ad hoc committee might entertain:

1) Contacting other counties - The committee could contact other counties that have recently hired a registrar, and find out what process they used, what criteria they used, etc. Given that Alameda County is a very diverse county, it would be important to ask these other counties, “what did you do in your applicant search, and in your advertising for this job vacancy, to make sure that the pool of applicants was sufficiently diverse?”

2) Increasing Public Participation - The committee could decide whether to play a leading role in making this a public process as the public weighs in on what they want in a registrar.

3) The committee could reach out to election-interested good government groups, such as the League of Women Voters, Common Cause, ACLU and others to ascertain what those groups think should be the criteria and values for the next registrar in Alameda County and to share their input with the Board of Supervisors.