



Elections / Special Districts

Volume 1, Issue 1

Spring Newsletter

Special points of interest:

2013 Elections

May 21—Huachuca City

August 27

November 5

2014 Elections

March 11

May 20

August 26

November 4

We are moving

In early May, Elections/
Special Districts will be
moving to 1415 Melody
Lane, Bldg A.

Welcome

Welcome to our first newsletter. It is our plan to publish this newsletter quarterly to provide the residents of Cochise County with vital information regarding Elections and Special Districts. You will be able to find information about

latest elections, how to register to vote, how to properly complete your ballot, what are special districts, how are special districts formed and how are they governed.

The Elections/ Special



District Staff is here to provide you with all the information you need to assure that you no problems exercising your right to vote.

NEW TECHNOLOGY

We began a new era in 2011 with the purchased a (Used) Model 650 High Speed Scanner and Tabulator. The M650 accommodates ballot lengths from 14 to 19 inches. We can print grand total, precinct-level and audit reports. It is equipped with an internal recovery subsystem, the M650 provides reliable data retention in the event of power failure. Maintains

ballot integrity through, alerts of over-votes, blank, write-in or damaged ballots. We use this machine to tabulate early and provisional ballots



If that wasn't enough we purchased an OPEX Model 51 Rapid Extractor Desk

which offers speed and efficiency in processing Early Ballots. We can open a higher volume of early ballot envelopes at a time. With the increase in our productivity the process of opening early ballots will go faster, ballots lay flat longer which allows for faster tabulation.





Cochise County

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Your Vote Your Voice

WHAT WE DO

Cochise County Elections/Special Districts, administers prepares, conducts and tallies Federal, State and County elections held in Cochise County in accordance to Arizona Revised Statutes and Federal law. The Department also provides contract election services and assistance to the Cities of Sierra Vista, Benson, Tombstone, Huachuca City, Bisbee, Willcox, School Districts, Fire Districts and the Community College District.

This includes securing polling locations, hiring and training poll workers, preparing and delivering supplies, preparing ballots, processing early ballots and tabulation of all ballots.

The department handles petitions and campaign finance filings for candidates and also referendum, initiative and recall filings and elections.

Assistance is given to private citizens trying to form special taxing districts such as fire districts, light districts or water districts. Once the district is formed, the department is responsible for each district filing an Annual Report and Annual Budget. Each year the tax rate is set from the budget submitted by the district and the countywide fire district assistance tax is computed from the fire district budgets.

Our Staff: Juanita Murray, Elections Director Martha Reynolds, Elections Program Coordinator Anne Macak, Elections Technician

Our Department reports to Mike Ortega, County Administrator, while we are a three person department, during a major Election Cycle the department hires approximately 350 temporary workers to prepare and deliver supplies and work at the polls for the 49 precincts. This includes 14 to 20 people for Early Boards to process and prepare the Early Ballots for tabulation. For Election Day, 300 people are hired and trained to work the polling locations, couriers, receiving board and other election night boards.

Our mission of Elections/Special Districts is to conduct all elections to

the letter of the law. Which are U.S. Constitution, Arizona State constitution and Arizona Revised Statutes, Title 16 provide the laws that are followed by the Elections Department along with the Election Procedures Manual adopted by the Secretary of



Polling Location of BE J-six in Benson.

State and approved by the Governor, Attorney General and State Legislature.

Arizona Revised Statutes, Title 19 provides for Initiative, Referendum and Recall procedures.

For Special District, statutes are found in Title 48 and for school board and Bond Elections, statutes are found in Title 15.

As Arizona is under Section 5 of the Voter Rights Act, any procedural changes in elections must be first pre-cleared by the United States Department of Justice, including any laws enacted by legislature.