



**Registrar of Voters
COUNTY OF TULARE
AGENDA ITEM**

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ALLEN ISHIDA
District One

CONNIE CONWAY
District Two

PHILLIP A. COX
District Three

J. STEVEN WORTHLEY
District Four

MIKE ENNIS
District Five

AGENDA DATE: 06/05/2007

Public Hearing Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Scheduled Public Hearing w/Clerk	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Published Notice Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advertised Published Notice	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meet & Confer Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Electronic file(s) has been sent	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Budget Transfer (Aud 308) attached	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personnel Resolution attached	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Resolution, Ordinance or Agreements are attached and signature line for Chairman is marked with tab(s)/flag(s)	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>

CONTACT PERSON: I. Colin Strachan PHONE: 559-733-6278

SUBJECT: Purchase of Election Information Management System (EIMS) Intelligent Character Recognition – Optical Character Recognition (ICR-OCR)

REQUEST(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

- 1) Authorize the Chairman of the Board to sign amendment (D) to Board Agreement 16217 adding DFM's Election Information Management System (EIMS) Intelligent Character Recognition – Optical Character Recognition (ICR-OCR) system, programming, maintenance and fee structure.
- 2) Approve the necessary budget adjustments per the attached AUD 308 form (4/5ths vote required).

SUMMARY:

The ICR-OCR program allows staff to scan voter registration cards directly into the EIMS system, make corrections and verify the cards with a minimum of staff keying. This system will require much less typing and thereby reduce chances of staff repetitive motion injuries. The reduction in time needed to input registration cards will also save money in staff overtime and the hiring of extra help employees to enter registration data into the system. The system will also increase the speed and accuracy of the data allowing a quicker turn-around time for giving the voters their

SUBJECT: Purchase of Election Information Management System ICR-OCR
DATE: 06/05/2007

registration confirmations as an election approaches.

The 2008 election year is approaching. The number of first-time voters and voters who want to re-register to vote for the President of the United States will increase greatly. The Elections Department is already receiving registration cards for state initiatives trying to certify for the February 2008 election. A large percentage of staff and extra help time is spent on keying registration cards during the months before an election. The election office will receive up to 10,000 registration cards the month prior to a major election. To process these cards four to five extra help employees spend an average of 80% of their time on data entry. This is in addition to overtime hours for elections staff. With the new February election, there will be three major elections in 2008 plus a November Election at the end of this year.

With no end in sight as to how much work entering registration cards will generate next year, this new OCR system will help reduce the costs of registering voters as well as allow staff members to concentrate on other important tasks before an election. The system will help increase the speed and accuracy of inputting registration cards. In turn, it will increase voter confidence that they will receive a mail-in ballot or be on a precinct roster even if they registered on the filing deadline.

The EIMS ICR-OCR system just came out of successful testing at the Sacramento elections office which is why it was not included in the mid-year budget adjustments. If approved the system could be up and running by the end of July in time for the November election and will have a positive effect in its first year of operation.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

A total of \$55,000 dollars will be needed up front to purchase the ICR-OCR program and the server it will run on, while an ongoing yearly maintenance cost of \$12,000 will start next year. The Department anticipates that unbudgeted SB90 claims received in 2006/2007 will cover the upfront cost while sufficient savings from reduced staff overtime and the hiring of fewer extra help positions will offset the ongoing maintenance costs of this program in future years.

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:

The County's five-year strategic plan includes the Safety and Security Initiative to promote Countywide loss prevention and workplace safety as well as the Organizational Performance Initiative to provide state-of-the-art technology and infrastructure to support better service delivery.

SUBJECT: Purchase of Election Information Management System ICR-OCR
DATE: 06/05/2007

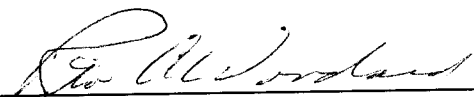
ALTERNATIVES:

The Board could choose to take no action; however, selection of this alternative would result in continuation of a more time-consuming and expensive voter registration process by the Elections Department.

INVOLVEMENT OF OTHER DEPARTMENTS OR AGENCIES:

None

ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:



Name
Title *ATR*

Cc: Auditor/Controller
County Counsel
County Administrative Office (2)

Attachment(s)

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF TULARE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

IN THE MATTER OF the Purchase of) RESOLUTION NO. _____
Election Information Management)
System (EIMS) Intelligent Character) AGREEMENT NO. _____
Recognition – Optical Character)
Recognition (ICR-OCR))

UPON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR _____, SECONDED BY
SUPERVISOR _____, THE FOLLOWING WAS ADOPTED BY THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AT AN OFFICIAL MEETING HELD _____
_____, BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

ATTEST: C. BRIAN HADDIX
 COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
 CLERK, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BY: _____
 Deputy Clerk

* * * * *

That the Board of Supervisors:

- 1) Authorized the Chairman of the Board to sign amendment (D) to Board Agreement 16217 adding DFM's Election Information Management System (EIMS) Intelligent Character Recognition – Optical Character Recognition (ICR-OCR) system, programming, maintenance and fee structure.
- 2) Approved the necessary budget adjustments per the attached AUD 308 form (4/5ths vote required).

