



# Cochise County Elections Department

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## Board of Supervisors Canvass of November 8, 2022 General Election Special Meeting at 4:00pm

The purpose of the canvass is to determine if the results are accurate, and the election conducted within the legal guidelines set forth in Arizona statute and that no abnormalities or defects in the process were encountered or noted. This is the fourth election successfully conducted this year in Cochise County.

- The election program was tested 7 times utilizing two test decks: a pre-printed deck of 952 ballots from the program vendor and a separate test deck of 1074 ballots from the printer hand marked by election officials. This process ensures all 174 ballot styles, on the 19" ballot, were tested successfully.
- A Pre-Election Logic and Accuracy test was performed on October 3, 2022 as required by law utilizing 8 batches of 737 ballots with a combination from the test decks used to verify the election program. These results were an exact match.
- The Arizona Secretary of State's office performed the state Logic and Accuracy Testing on October 5, 2022 with political party representatives from both parties represented in the county. No other members of the public were in attendance. The testing was successful with all votes accurately tabulated by central count and vote center election equipment.
- The 3 Early Boards convened on 10/25/2022 and were excused on 11/15/2022.
- We had 77,394 active registered voters in this election with a turnout of 60.1%. This is a bit below average turnout for a general mid-term election in our county.

### Registration by party:

- Republican 30,370
- Democratic 19,423
- Libertarian 642
- Ind/Other/Pnd/Grn 26,959
- 54,838 voters were mailed an early ballot at their request or AEVL resulting in 75% voting early.

- 550 voters were mailed an incorrect ballot style in the Willcox and Douglas AMA election due to human error in the Recorder's Office. These voters were sent a correct ballot and 413 returned that corrected ballot that was accepted. 56 voters did not correct the ballot they returned, and those ballots were adjudicated by the Early Boards. This ensured voters were not disenfranchised on the races they were legally allowed to vote, and those ballots were then tabulated. This error has since been corrected so it doesn't occur in the future.
- All vote centers opened promptly at 6:00am. All but two were closed by 7:30pm. 14 had voters in line when they opened, and those lines were steady all day with the longest being 1.5 hours. This was an exceptionally long ballot with 10 statewide propositions and 6 local propositions. A mathematical formula is used every election to determine how long it takes a voter to complete a ballot based on number of races, contested races, propositions, check in stations and voting equipment. If voters were prepared and had completed their sample ballot and done research prior to coming to vote in person, the average time to complete a ballot was 7 minutes. The minimum time with no voter preparation was 22 minutes. Delays are created for all voters when some are not prepared beforehand.
- 11,994 voters showed up at the 17 Vote Centers on election day, amounting to 25% election day turnout.
- The phone bank opened at 4:30am on election morning and ran through 10:30pm with approximately 150 calls that are typical on election day. We received no serious complaints from voters, observers, or poll workers.
- The first release of votes occurred on election night at 8:05pm with 22,790 early votes released. That included all but 5200 ballots that were received from the Recorder's Office on November 7 and 8th. Results were posted efficiently and accurately during each posting to the AZ SOS online site. There were no problems with the County website being able to handle the huge amount of internet traffic on election night.
- We had 4 postings on election night. The last one occurring at 10:50pm with all 17 Vote Centers reporting. The Elections Dept was closed by 11:45pm.
- 4100 early ballots were dropped off on election day at the vote centers. This is double the amount we usually receive. These were tabulated and posted to the website in several batches and were finalized by 11/16 at 10:00am.

- The Recorder's Office utilized 5 drop boxes at County Service Centers: Bisbee, Benson, Douglas, Willcox and Sierra Vista. These boxes are available during normal business hours only as they are inside the facilities. The drop box in Bisbee is outside but locked nights and weekends. 7,724 ballots were deposited during the early voting cycle as a combined total from all locations indicating voters appreciate this alternative to mailing their ballot back which saves the county postage.
- 842 people voted in person during regular business hours at the Recorder's Office from October 12 through November 4.
- 17 people utilized Emergency Voting on Monday, November 7, 2022 at the Recorder's Office.
- 1 voter requested to use the curbside voting service established this year.
- 227 Provisional ballots were cast and 117 were accepted by the Recorder. Those were tabulated and posted to the website totals on 11/16/2022.
- Provisional ballots were down again significantly from in the past using the new ExpressPoll Tablets along with following law providing a voter who received an early ballot could vote a regular ballot absent any other reason to vote a Provisional ballot. This prevented nearly 3000 voters from having to vote a Provisional ballot which takes significant time for Recorder staff to verify.
- There were no issues with the Epollbook tablets as we ensured full testing in the Primary election resulted in no errors exporting data. Epollbooks go through an extensive testing prior to each election to ensure accuracy and we had no issues of note this election.
- Voters had 5 business days, until 5:00pm on 11/16/22 to cure signatures on early ballots. The Veteran's Day holiday extended the date to Wednesday. There were 609 of those pending, 255 were cured. The rest were rejected by the County Recorder as were any ballots received after 7:00pm on election night.
- Final unofficial results were posted at 3:15pm on 11/17/22 with all official write-in candidates assigned.
- There were 2,135 write-ins in 8 races with 22 official candidates. Only those races are reviewed and assigned in the results. 575 legitimate write-in votes appear in the results out of 2,135. Overall, voters wrote in 10,188 names or filled in ovals which requires two people of opposite party to review and delays tabulation time every election.

- The Hand count by the Party's commenced with the Democratic party chair and a representative from the Republican party present on 11/9/22 at 2pm. At that time, they drew 2 VC's (2/5) and 2 early batches (1/30) to hand count. HC board convened at 9:00am on Saturday, November 12 and concluded at 5:00pm with no discrepancies indicating a 100% match in all races. 1,802 ballots (400 early ballots and 1402 vote center election day ballots) were reviewed by 4 boards with 12 members representing both political parties. The report was filed with the AZSOS on 11/14/22.
- The Post Logic and Accuracy Test was performed on 11/17/2022 and produced the same results as the Pre Logic and Accuracy Test performed on 10/3/2022 using 737 test ballots.
- We conducted 10 jurisdictional elections:
  - City of Sierra Vista and Town of Huachuca City – Mayor and Council City of Bisbee - Proposition 421
  - Bowie Water District Board Members
  - Palominas Unified School Board Members
  - Sierra Vista Unified School Board Members
  - St. David Unified School Board Members
  - Benson Unified School Budget Override
  - Bisbee Unified School Budget Override
  - Willcox Unified School Bond
- The county had 2 Propositions (420 & 422) related to establishing an Active Management Area in the Willcox and Douglas water basins.
- 10 poll worker training classes were held, and 195 poll workers trained during the week of October 17 hosting 2 classes each day.
- The Poll worker handbook and training are posted to the website as we've done since 2018.
- County employees used as election workers:
  - 12 delivery/pickup of voting equipment and U-Haul Trucks
  - 9 troubleshooters election day and phone bank
  - 15 county employees as Couriers (Directors)
  - 1 employee worked at a vote center as a poll worker

It takes a huge team effort to pull off a successful election which we've learned over the years. I continue to be honored to represent this county as the election official.

The Arizona Secretary of State will conduct the statewide canvass at the State Capitol on 12/5/2022. It is expected there will be at least one state wide automatic court ordered recount

that will occur during mid-December. None of the races in the County resulted in a margin narrow enough to conduct an automatic recount.

I believe this election was conducted within the legal requirements and all state and federal laws and the results should be certified by this Board of Supervisors. That concludes my presentation for the canvass of the November 8, 2022 General Election.

Lisa M. Marra, CERA, CPM  
Director of Elections