

RESOLUTION 15-__

AUTHORIZING A VOTE CENTER PLAN FOR IMPLEMENTATION FOR ALL COUNTYWIDE ELECTIONS BEGINNING IN 2016

WHEREAS, Cochise County voters have vastly shifted their preference from casting ballots at traditional polling sites to casting early ballots by mail or in person; and

WHEREAS, voters who arrive at the wrong polling site on election day account for a high percentage of the provisional or to be verified ballots cast and many are rejected; and

WHEREAS, Cochise County is committed to improving the voter experience during an election; reducing the high number of provisional ballots cast; increasing voter participation through convenience and accessibility of voting; expediting vote tabulation, and conducting elections more efficiently with less cost; and

WHEREAS, a centralized location at which any registered elector in the political subdivision holding the election may vote, regardless of precinct assignment, would allow the voter the convenience of appearing at any vote center and receive the correct ballot for which the elector is entitled to vote; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-411(B)(4) the Cochise County Board of Supervisors has the authority to implement the use of vote centers in place of, or in addition to, designated precinct polling places,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cochise County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the use of vote centers in Cochise County for all countywide elections.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Cochise County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the Cochise County Vote Center Plan for implementation beginning in the 2016 election cycle, to include eighteen vote centers in the areas indicated on Exhibit A hereto; any registered voter in Cochise County can vote at any Vote Center on Election Day, regardless of precinct assignment. If the Elections Director determines that there is a need for a substitution or other change in any Vote Center, she will bring a recommendation for the substitution or other change to the Board of Supervisors for

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approval; provided, however, that in the event the Elections Director, determines that a substitution or other change is necessary and time would not permit approval by the Board, the Elections Director, with the concurrence of the County Administrator, shall have authority to make the substitution or change.

Patrick Call, Chairperson
Cochise County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Arlethe G. Rios
Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Britt Hanson

Britt W. Hanson, Chief Civil
Deputy County Attorney