

Vote Count Verification Committee

(A.R.S. § 16-602 (K))

Virtually via Zoom

Phone (602) 542-8683

Fax (602) 542-6172

FINAL UNAPPROVED COPY

Meeting Minutes of June 8, 2026

I. Call to Order

Ms. Jennifer Morrell, CEO & Co-Founder, The Elections Group, called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

II. Welcome, roll call and introductions.

Committee Members Present:

Jennifer Morrell
Reynaldo Valenzuela
Laurin Custis
Eslir Musta
Helen Purcell

Committee Members Absent:

Thomas Collins
Rhonda Barnes

Committee Staff Present:

Renada Fisher – Deputy State Election Director, Staff
Tanner Robinson – Elections Constituent Services Manager, Staff
Karen Hartman – Assistant Attorney General
Kate Myers – General Counsel

Approximate Zoom Viewership: 9

Ms. Morrell welcomed the committee members and staff.

III. Discussion and possible action on election of Chairperson and Co-Chairperson.

Ms. Morrell asked for a selection of committee Co-Chair.

Ms. Helen Pursell nominated Mr. Reynaldo Valenzuela, Director of Elections (Mail-in Voting), Maricopa County Elections Department, for committee Co-Chair. Ms. Laurin Custis, Director of

Elections, Yavapai County Elections Department, seconded the motion, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Votes:

Ms. Morrell: Yes
Mr. Valenzuela: Yes
Ms. Custis: Yes
Mr. Musta: Yes
Ms. Purcell: Yes

Ayes: 5
Nays: 0
Absent: 2

Mr. Valenzuela was designated as committee Co-Chair.

Ms. Morrell asked for a selection of committee Chair.

Co-Chair Valenzuela nominated Ms. Morrell as committee Chair. Ms. Purcell seconded the motion, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Votes:

Ms. Morrell: Yes
Co-Chair Valenzuela: Yes
Ms. Custis: Yes
Mr. Musta: Yes
Ms. Purcell: Yes

Ayes: 5
Nays: 0
Absent: 2

Ms. Morrell was designated as committee Chair.

IV. Discussion and possible action on Meeting Minutes for September 9, 2024.

The Chair asked for any discussion or motion regarding the previous meeting minutes.

Co-Chair Valenzuela motioned that the committee approve the previous meeting minutes dated September 9, 2024. Ms. Purcell seconded the motion, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Votes:

Chair Morrell: Yes

Co-Chair Valenzuela: Yes
Ms. Custis: Yes
Mr. Musta: Yes
Ms. Purcell: Yes

Ayes: 5
Nays: 0
Absent: 2

The minutes were approved.

V. Discussion and possible action regarding establishing the designated margins to provide to the Secretary of State.

Chair Morrell noted the thresholds as they are currently set.

- 3 votes or 1% of early ballots, whichever is greater
- 3 votes or 1% of polling place ballots, whichever is greater

Co-Chair Valenzuela noted previous reduction did not lead to any observed harm. He noted 2025 brought some 1% range, but that proceedings went well. The Chair noted she was excited to see the reports.

Chair Morrell motioned to maintain the current set margins. Ms. Custis seconded the motion, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Esler Musta, Elections Director, Coconino County Elections Department, asked for clarification regarding the 3 vote margin, wanting to know if it was an absolute determination regarding the difference between batch and cumulative reporting. Co-Chair Valenzuela stated it represented both the batch and the cumulative early vote totals. The Chair noted it was a good question for discrepancy between 3 votes and the percentage of the sample size, which is overall indicates the threshold set for discrepancies.

Votes:

Chair Ms. Morrell: Yes
Co-Chair Valenzuela: Yes
Ms. Custis: Yes
Mr. Musta: Yes
Ms. Purcell: Yes

Ayes: 5
Nays: 0
Absent: 2

The motion was passed.

VI. Call to the Public (Public Comments) – Please note: the Committee may not discuss items that are not on the agenda. Therefore, action taken as a result of public comment will be limited to directing study of the matter or scheduling the matter for further consideration and decision at a later date. Public comments may be sent to elections@azsos.gov, with the subject line: Vote Count Verification. Comments are limited to no more than 500 words per member of the public and must be received by 5:00 PM MST, June 8, 2026, to be included in the record. Comments will not be read at the meeting.

No public comments were received.

VII. Discussion and possible action on setting next meeting date(s).

Mr. Musta noted a preference for the first week of October.

Ms. Renada Fisher, Deputy State Election Director, Secretary of State's Office, offered to email committee members regarding an exact meeting date, likely to be held in September.

VIII. Adjournment

Ms. Purcell motioned that the committee adjourn. Mr. Musta seconded the motion, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Votes:

Chair Ms. Morrell: Yes
Co-Chair Valenzuela: Yes
Ms. Custis: Yes
Mr. Musta: Yes
Ms. Purcell: Yes

Ayes: 5
Nays: 0
Absent: 2

The meeting was adjourned at 2:24 p.m.