

Board of Elections

FY 2013 Revised
FY 2014 Recommended
Staff Presentation
March 13, 2013

Departmental Functions

- Managing voting machines
- Certifying election results
- Managing election officials
- Overseeing voter registration
- Monitoring campaign finance reporting
- Matching public funds for general elections

Board of Elections and Secretary of State's Role in Elections

- Board of Elections and Secretary of State's Elections & Civics Division are charged with different responsibilities
 - Complementary tasks, many of which are mandated by Rhode Island General Laws

Board of Elections and Secretary of State's Role in Elections

Board of Elections	Secretary of State
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supervises all elections• Prepares state and local referenda• Instructs and certifies all election officials assigned to polls• Prepares and distributes poll worker guides and related materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provides municipalities with forms for candidates• Certifies federal and state candidates for ballot placement• Provides descriptions and explanations of state referenda in Voter Handbook

Board of Elections and Secretary of State's Role in Elections

Board of Elections	Secretary of State
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prepares and delivers voting machines and supplies to polling places• Conducts recounts• Certifies election results to Secretary of State• Conducts voter registration drives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Publishes guides for candidates, election officials, and voters• Provides ballot information and polling place locations on website• Prepares and prints ballots• Maintains central voter registration system

Summary by Category

General Revenues	FY 2013 Enacted	FY 2013 Revised	FY 2014 Governor	Change to Enacted
Salaries & Benefits	\$1,239,597	\$1,222,469	\$1,137,415	(\$102,182)
Contracted Services	362,845	90,876	171,788	(191,057)
Operations	349,674	608,478	430,158	80,484
Total	\$1,952,116	\$1,921,823	\$1,739,361	(\$212,755)

Governor's Changes

- Personnel
- Elections
- Legal Services

Personnel

- **Board Members**
 - Currently only five of the seven members accept the \$7,000 annual salary
- **11.0 FTEs for FY 2013 and FY 2014**
 - Governor recommends the enacted and requested level - all 11.0 are filled
- **Seasonal Staff**
 - Varies with the two-year election cycle

Personnel

- FY 2013 Revised - \$1.2 million
 - \$17,128 less than enacted
 - Includes \$20,000 less for seasonal staff based on actual Nov. 2012 election expenses
- FY 2014 - \$1.1 million
 - \$102,182 less than enacted
 - No funding for seasonal staff reflects off-year in the election cycle
 - Statewide benefit savings and other adjustments

Election Expenses

- FY 2013 Revised - \$0.6 million
 - \$11,250 less than enacted
 - \$18,000 less than requested
 - Reductions to printing, postage and staff training based on actual expenditures from Nov. 2012 election

Election Expenses

- FY 2014 - \$0.5 million
 - \$0.2 million less than enacted
 - Cyclical
 - \$61,500 less than requested
 - Includes \$60,000 less for legal expenditures

Legal Services

- Board requests \$80,000 for FY 2013 and FY 2014
 - \$18,000 more than enacted
- Governor recommends \$80,000 for FY 2013 and \$20,000 for FY 2014
 - Appears to be based on actual expenses from recent fiscal years
 - Board spent \$27,575 as of 2nd Quarter Report

November 2012 Election

- Voting machine failures and long wait times
 - Board cites combination of multiple-page ballots and aging voting equipment as the primary cause
 - Bureau of Audits Report from August 2012 indicates optical scan machines have exceeded their useful life
 - Board purchased the machines in 1997

November 2012 Election

- Board has verbally expressed interest in purchasing new voting machines
 - No funds in Board's request or Governor's Budget

Board of Elections Building

- BOE building is located at 50 Branch Avenue in Providence
 - Approved capital plan includes \$6.0 million from RICAP for new building in DOA Budget
 - Board updated request to \$5.4 million
 - Governor recommends \$0.3 million in FY 2013 and \$1.0 million in FY 2014 for repairs and renovations to the current facility

Electronic Reporting System

- Governor recommends requested \$150,000 for FY 2014
 - Modify electronic reporting system to comply with Disclosure of Political Contributions and Expenditures Act of 2012
 - Individuals, businesses and political action committees required to file additional electronic reports in certain instances

Electronic Reporting System

- Board's current vendor provided the estimate
 - Based on experience with similar reporting system in another state

Other Operations

- \$78,715 in FY 2013 and \$59,237 in FY 2014 for other operations
 - \$1,915 less than requested for FY 2013 and \$20,055 less for FY 2014
 - Appears to more closely reflect actual expenditures from recent fiscal years
 - Includes decreases for travel and miscellaneous expenses

Board of Elections

FY 2013 Revised
FY 2014 Recommended
Staff Presentation
March 13, 2013