



WASHOE COUNTY

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: *July 14, 2026*

DATE: Tuesday, May 22, 2026

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Andrew McDonald, Registrar of Voters
(775) 328-3690, amcdonald@washoecounty.gov

THROUGH: Kate Thomas, County Manager
Mark Stewart, Division Director of Purchasing and Contracts
775-328-2281, mstewart@washoecounty.gov

SUBJECT: Recommendation to approve a two-year Interlocal Agreement between Washoe County and the Nevada Secretary of State, outlining the duties and obligations of each party for ongoing maintenance of the Voter Registration and Election Management Solution (VREMS), implemented pursuant to NRS 293.675. The Agreement requires the County to contribute a share of the cost of the KNOWiNK Total Vote Election Management system in the total amount of \$238,000.00 for FY27 and FY28 (\$119,000 per fiscal year). If approved, authorize the Division Director of Purchasing and Contracts to execute the agreement. Voters. (All Commission Districts.) FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

SUMMARY

This agreement outlines the duties and obligations of the Nevada Secretary of State and Washoe County for the ongoing maintenance of the Voter Registration and Election Management Solution (VREMS) project, a top-down database of registered and pre-registered electors statewide.

The project establishes a centralized statewide voter registration database and integrates county election management systems with that database. It also enhances secure communication between counties, the Nevada Secretary of State's Elections Division, and other state partners, while reducing manual administrative processes.

NRS 293.675 imposes certain obligations on the County Registrar of Voters, specifically relating to electronically entering voter registration information received by the County into the State database. This Agreement includes an apportionment of the cost of the State's KNOWiNK system to the County for this purpose and imposes other obligations on the County including obtaining and maintaining compatible equipment. The agreement term is effective upon approval through June 30, 2028, with county cost responsibility beginning in FY27.

AGENDA ITEM # _____

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Innovative Services

PREVIOUS ACTION

On June 24, 2025, the Board of County Commissioners (Board) approved the acceptance of the Nevada Secretary of State Budget appropriation to Washoe County in the amount of [\$11,315.09] for the reimbursement of the purchase, shipping, and handling of nine additional charging carts for the 2024 General Election, in accordance with the implementation of the Voter Registration and Election Management Solution (VREMS) project (AB422 (2021)).

BACKGROUND

Assembly Bill 422 (2021 Legislative Session) directed the Nevada Secretary of State to establish and maintain a centralized, top-down voter registration database. Codified as NRS 293.675, the Voter Registration and Election Management Solution (VREMS) project connects all county election management systems to a unified statewide database, supporting secure, accurate, and efficient election administration across Nevada.

The Nevada Secretary of State has procured a statewide system and has covered initial implementation costs through FY26. Beginning in FY27, counties are responsible for ongoing maintenance, licensing, and system-related costs based on a tiered cost structure. Washoe County's assigned annual cost is \$119,000.

FISCAL IMPACT

The FY27 Budget has sufficient budget authority in Elections Administration (112210), Software Maintenance (710210) to support this two-year agreement in the amount of \$238,000.00 (\$119,000 per fiscal year). Budget authority will be requested for future fiscal years.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners approve a two-year Interlocal Agreement between Washoe County and the Nevada Secretary of State, outlining the duties and obligations of each party for ongoing maintenance of the Voter Registration and Election Management Solution (VREMS), implemented pursuant to NRS 293.675. The Agreement requires the County to contribute a share of the cost of the KNOWiNK Total Vote Election Management system in the total amount of \$238,000.00 for FY27 and FY28 (\$119,000 per fiscal year). If approved, authorize the Division Director of Purchasing and Contracts to execute the agreement.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: *"Move to approve a two-year Interlocal Agreement between Washoe County and the Nevada Secretary of State, outlining the duties and obligations of each party for ongoing maintenance of the Voter Registration and Election Management Solution (VREMS), implemented pursuant to NRS 293.675. The Agreement requires the County to contribute a share of the cost of the KNOWiNK Total Vote Election Management system in the total amount of \$238,000.00 for FY27 and FY28 (\$119,000 per fiscal year). If approved, authorize the Division Director of Purchasing and Contracts to execute the agreement."*