



New Mexico State Canvassing Board

Cost Determinations – Estimated Actual Cost of Recount & Recheck Proceedings

1 INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to §1-14-15 NMSA 1978, the state canvassing board shall determine the estimated actual cost of a recount per precinct and a recheck per voting machine no later than March 15 of even-numbered years. The costs are valid upon approval of the state canvassing board for elections conducted through March 15, 2018.

Pursuant to §1-1-6 NMSA 1978:

"Recheck" pertains to electronic vote tabulating systems and means a verification procedure whereby a printout of the electronic record of votes cast in an election is made from each electronic memory device in the electronic vote tabulating system and the results are compared with the results shown on the official returns.

"Recount" pertains to all paper ballots, including absentee ballots, provisional paper ballots, optical scan paper ballots and any other paper ballot and means a verification procedure whereby the voters' selections for an office are re-tallied and the results compared with the results shown on the official returns.

2 RECHECK COSTS PER VOTE TABULATING SYSTEM

Pursuant to §1-14-15 NMSA 1978, an applicant for a recheck shall deposit with the proper canvassing board or, in the case of an office for which the state canvassing board issues a certificate of nomination or election, with the secretary of state sufficient cash, or a sufficient surety bond, to cover the cost of the recheck for each voting machine to be rechecked.

2.1 ESTIMATED ACTUAL COSTS – MINIMUM COSTS

- Recount Precinct Board - \$1,000 per day.
 - Precinct workers may be paid up to \$200 per day pursuant to §1-2-16 NMSA 1978.
 - A recount precinct board is established pursuant to the provisions of §1-2-12 NMSA 1978 and shall minimally consist of four members as follows:
 - A presiding judge;
 - Two election judges; and
 - One election clerk.
 - For purposes of the determination of estimated costs, a five person recount precinct board is the optimal minimum number of precinct board members necessary to run a recheck on up to ten vote tabulating systems per day.
 - Additional precinct board members or rechecks that last beyond one day will increase actual costs.

3 RECOUNT COSTS PER PRECINCT

Costs of a recount shall include the cost of programming and certifying the voting systems to be used during the recount proceedings and daily per diem costs for the recount precinct board.

Pursuant to §1-14-15(D) NMSA 1978, additional costs to be paid by the applicant seeking the recount shall consist of docket fees, mileage of the sheriff in serving summons and fees and mileage of precinct board members, at the same rates allowed witnesses in civil actions.

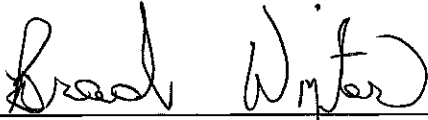
3.1 ESTIMATED ACTUAL COSTS – MINIMUM COSTS

- Election Project Development and Voting System Programming and Certification - \$1,440.
- Recount Precinct Board - \$1,000 per day.
 - Precinct workers may be paid up to \$200 per day pursuant to §1-2-16 NMSA 1978.
 - A recount precinct board is established pursuant to the provisions of §1-2-12 NMSA 1978 and shall minimally consist of four member as follows:
 - A presiding judge;
 - Two election judges; and
 - One election clerk.
 - For purposes of the determination of estimated costs, a five person recount precinct board is the optimal minimum number of precinct board members necessary to re-tally votes in up to ten precincts per day.
 - Depending on the size of the recount and the number of precincts included, recount precinct boards may include additional workers as determined by the county clerk and the secretary of state's office.

- Recounts that include additional precincts may require more members and/or more days, which may increase the actual cost of the recount.
- The county clerk and secretary of state shall establish the makeup of recount precinct boards and the conduct of a recount proceeding in accordance with applicable law. The makeup of recount precinct boards and the conduct of a recount proceeding may impact the actual costs associated with a recount. A hand tally of ballots is likely to require additional time and effort, which will increase costs.

Approved by the New Mexico State Canvassing Board on March 15, 2016:

Susana Martinez, Governor



Brad Winter, Secretary of State



Barbara Vigil, Chief Justice of the New Mexico Supreme Court