Securing Your Vote

Paper Ballots
PYT uses paper ballots to record each and every vote. Paper ballots allow for auditing and verification of automated vote counting systems. Paper ballots enable the Board of Elections to recount an entire election or single race, if necessary.

Automatic Voter Assistance – At the polling site, if a ballot is over-voted (more than 11 votes cast), mismarked, or damaged it is returned to the voter. A message will specify from the machine indicating why the ballot was returned and the correct course of action to resolve this issue.

Battery Back-Up – The Memory Packs contain battery back-up system so the vote totals can be retained in the event of power outage.

Ballot Tabulators/Voting Machines
The tabulators are electronic machines that are stand-alone devices. Once a vote makes his/her selections, he/she places the ballot into the secured tabulator. The tabulators are not connected to a computer network or any other device that would allow an outside entity to infiltrate or tamper with the system.

Ballot Tabulator - Automated Election Services (AES)
Ballot Tabulators contain security features that are critical to the conduct of holding a secure and transparent election. These tabulators provide the following secure audit trail key features:
- Machine tape printout
- Memory Pack with the vote totals securely stored
- Actual voted ballot document

Tabulator Certification and Sealing
The Automated Election Service (AES) Company will provide technical support staff and deliver tabulators to the Pascua Yaqui Tribal election sites. These voting machines are sealed with a numbered seal to insure that the pack cannot be tampered with or compromised. A special key is needed to open and operate the machine.

The tabulators are then tested and certified in front of the Pascua Yaqui Election Board Supervisors and Poll Workers. A copy of the certification form is then placed into the machine and additional copies are provided to the PYT Election Board, along with the test ballots to be retained as evidence of the testing and certifying of the voting tabulators.
On Demand Ballots for Early Voting and General Election Voting

AES and PYT Board of Elections will generate an On Demand Ballot specifically designed and calibrated for use with the Tabulator Voting Machine. Once an Eligible Tribal Member is verified with his/her Government issued Identification, a ballot will be printed. The tabulator will ONLY recognize and accept one ballot from each voter. Each ballot is automatically counted as the voter places it into the voting machine. Each counted ballot is then segregated into a secured storage bin. All ballots will be kept by the PYT for one year.

Secured Storage of Early Election Ballots, Absentee Ballots and Tabulators

Early Election Ballots, Absentee Ballots and all Tabulators will be stored in a secured room within Pascua Yaqui Tribal Police Department. ONLY Election Board Supervisors will have access to this secured room.

At each Early Election-polling site, the Pascua Yaqui Tribal Police will escort the Election Board Members with the election materials to the PYT Police Station where the materials will be stored in a secure room. For the General Election, June 1st, the Police Department will escort the Election Board Members with the election materials from the Polling sites to the Wellness Center for the final tabulation. After the Absentee Ballots are scanned and verified, they will be placed into an automatic letter opener. This keeps the identity of the voter and their ballot anonymous. Then all Absentee Ballots will be placed into the tabulator.

The PYT Board of Election Supervisors will post the official results June 1st, 2020 on or about 11p.m. at the Pascua Yaqui Wellness Center.

Respectfully,

Ernie Gallardo
PYT Board Of Election Supervisors