

Central Counting Station Personnel

Election Code, Title 8. Voting Systems, Chapter 127, Processing Electronic Voting System Results, Subchapter A. Establishment and Organization of Central Counting Station

The CCS is composed of several groups of people. They are the CCS manager (“the manager”) and the manager’s clerks; the tabulation supervisor and assistant tabulation supervisors; and the presiding judge of the CCS (“the presiding judge”), the alternate judge of the CCS (“the alternate judge”), and clerks.

The authority establishing the CCS is responsible for appointing the manager, the tabulation supervisor, and the presiding and alternate judges. Although assistant tabulation supervisors are appointed by the tabulation supervisor, their appointment must be approved by the authority establishing the CCS. For the General Election for State and County Officers, the appointing authority is county commissioners court.

The manager, the tabulation supervisor, the presiding and alternate judges, and the clerks must meet the eligibility requirements for a precinct election judge and must be registered voters of the political subdivision served by the authority establishing the CCS.

1. Manager – Jamie McKay; Assistant Manager – Daisy Arriaga

The manager is in charge of the overall supervision of the CCS and must have a written plan for operation of the CCS. The manager, as well as the presiding judge, may appoint clerks to perform duties at the CCS. To be eligible for appointment, the manager must have knowledge and experience in the conduct of elections with the electronic voting system for which the CCS is established. The general custodian of election records is eligible for appointment as the manager, even if the custodian is a candidate or officeholder.

2. Tabulation Supervisor – Ilse Schackmann; Assistant Supervisor – Diane Donovan

The tabulation supervisor is responsible for counting the ballots and preparing the necessary reports such as the canvass, and the overvote and undervote reports. The tabulation supervisor is responsible for the security of the program and ensures that no person, other than assistant tabulation supervisors, operate the tabulation equipment. If the tabulation supervisor is not the programmer, the tabulation supervisor must approve the program used to count the ballots prior to election day. To be eligible for appointment, the tabulation supervisor must be trained in the operation of the automatic tabulating equipment installed at the CCS. Employees of a political subdivision are not disqualified from appointment as the tabulation supervisor.

3. Presiding Judge – Elizabeth Eder; Alternate Judge – John Harle

The presiding judge and the alternate judge are appointed in the same manner as polling place officials provided in Section 32.002 of the Texas Election Code. In the General Election for State and County Officers, county commissioners court must appoint the presiding judge and alternate

judge from the lists of names provided by the county chairs. The presiding judge has the same authority as a precinct election judge with respect to maintaining order and administering oaths. This authority also includes resolving any questions about voter intent on a ballot. If the manager determines that ballots will be duplicated or manually counted, and then the clerks will duplicate or hand count the ballots, but the presiding judge will resolve any questions concerning voter intent. The presiding judge may also confer and advise the manager and tabulation supervisor on the operation of the CCS. If the presiding judge is absent, the alternate judge shall serve in the capacity of presiding judge; otherwise, the alternate judge performs the duties assigned by the presiding judge. The presiding judge is the custodian of the testing materials prepared for the test until the materials are delivered to the general custodian of election records following the third test. If personnel are granted temporary absence from the CCS while the polls are still open and the counting of ballots has begun, the presiding judge shall supervise those absences.