

# FY23 Budget Overview

## General Information

Office/Department: Elections

Budget Contact Person: Brooke Baird

Budget Team Members: Brooke Baird, Stephen McDougall Graham

BCC Presentation Date: June 16, 2022

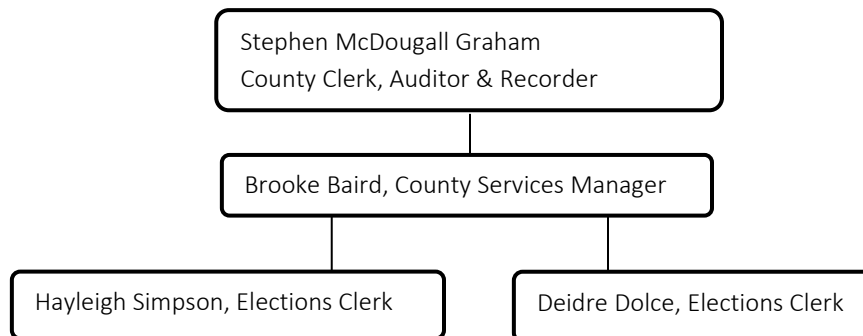
## Office/Department Profile

### Operational Description & Mission

Blaine County Elections Office plans for, prepares, conducts, and dismantles up to four (4) elections every year. Elections include federal, state, county, city, school district, and taxing districts (cemetery, fire, recreation, ambulance, library, water and sewer, and soil conservation) as well as special district elections. Often, we are consolidating and administering multiple districts' elections on any given election day. We certify candidates, create notices, create and proof ballots, test machines and equipment, orchestrate absentee voting, plan and order poll worker meals, recruit and train poll workers, set up polls, maintain countywide voter records, oversee election day activities, count votes, create canvass, update voter history, along with many other election related tasks; all while providing excellent customer service to anyone that calls or visits the office.

Our mission is to conduct accurate elections while adhering to Idaho Statutes, and foster community confidence through transparent and objective practices, efficiency in the voting process, and excellence in customer service. We achieve this by building partnerships with local businesses and community members, with taxing districts, and municipalities within Blaine County.

### Organizational Structure



## FY22 Highlights

- Successful Elections
  - November 2021 = 34.5%
  - May 2022 = 31.7%
  - Because of some local issues on each of these ballots, I think we had a slightly higher than average turn out than I would have normally expected for these types of elections (25-28%)
  - We are preparing for an August election as well
- Staff additions and utilizations
  - Deidre and Morgan (Admin Services Floating Department Support Specialist)
- Ballot camera
  - Provides live stream on our website while we have ballots in the office
  - Looking forward this FY
    - Purchasing new equipment – funds already available
      - Ballot printer
      - ExpressVote machines

## FY22 Performance Metrics

- Office Productivity – to date for FY22
  - Registration Info
    - 385 new registrations
    - 845 party affiliation changes
    - 41 name changes
    - 254 address changes
  - Ballot Info
    - 45 candidate petition filings
    - 2 LOT Questions
    - 3 Bond Questions
  - Statewide Petitions
    - 2 initiative petitions
      - 1280 signatures verified and counting
- Quality Customer Service – To the public and our poll workers
  - We did put out more signs at precincts with confusing entrances
  - We have identified some opportunities to improve the voter experience
    - Precinct set up options
    - Moving a precinct to another location
  - Opportunities to improve the poll worker experience
    - Additional training and tools for more efficient processing of voters
    - Post-election surveys
    - Training and/or information for poll watchers/challengers re: their dos and don'ts
- Preparation for possible Early & Election Day Incidents

## FY23 Budget Request Highlights

- Software upgrade (annual & per election costs)
  - \$825 annual + \$450 per election
  - The hardened laptop for election night reporting needs replaced
  - Security updates to all express vote machines
- Poll worker pay increase - last increase was 2017 – request for new funds would equal out to roughly \$15/hr