

Election: Starkey's lead over James down to 8 votes

March 13, 2020



The gap between Del Norte County District 2 Supervisor candidates Valerie Starkey and James Ramsey is now eight votes. The top two vote-getters from the state primary on March 3 advanced to a runoff in November.

Incumbent Lori Cowan, who is leading the race with 485 votes, has secured a spot on the Nov. 3 General Election ballot and will face either Starkey or Ramsey.

According to Monday's update, March 9, from the Del Norte County Elections Office, Starkey had 359 votes and Ramsey had 351 votes.

The latest round of counting includes vote-by-mail ballots that were postmarked on or before the election and received by the election office no later than three days after the election or that were dropped off at polling places on election day.

The District 2 election was the only one on the local ballot that had more than two candidates. In local races with more than two candidates, the top two vote-getters move on, unless one of the candidates receives more than 50 percent of the vote.

The Del Norte County Elections Office reported that 6,417 votes were cast bringing turnout to 42.18 percent. There are 15,213 registered voters in the county.

Cowan led from the start in the District 2 race, but as the night went on Starkey overtook Ramsey. Based on the first report, Ramsey received 224 votes to 208 for Starkey.

With two of the four precincts accounted for on the third report of the night, Ramsey still held a slim lead over Starkey for the second spot on the Nov. 3 ballot — 254-243. Starkey overtook Ramsey on the final report of the night.