

Gila County
Precinct Boundary and Polling Place Change Summary
October, 2011

Supervisory and Community College redistricting plans adopted by the Gila County Board of Supervisors, changing demographics, and other specific polling place issues such as ADA compliant access, require Gila County make a number of precinct boundary and polling place changes. The changes include:

Pine-Strawberry East and Pine Strawberry West Precincts

The Pine-Strawberry precinct shall be divided north to south along Highway 87 and the new community college district boundary. That portion of the precinct to the east of the highway shall be designated as the Pine-Strawberry East precinct. That portion of the precinct west of the highway shall be designated as the Pine-Strawberry West precinct.

The reason for the change is to accommodate new community college district boundaries.

Both precincts shall be co-located for voting purposes and the polling place for both shall remain the First Baptist Church of Pine.

Sierra Ancha, and Carrizo Precincts

The Sierra Ancha precinct shall be divided north to south along the White Mountain Apache Reservation which is the new supervisory boundary. That portion of the precinct to the west shall be designated as the Sierra Ancha precinct. The Eastern portion of the precinct shall be merged into the Carrizo precinct.

The reason for the change is to accommodate new supervisory boundaries and to include additional reservation lands in reservation precincts.

The Sierra Ancha polling place will remain the Roosevelt Baptist Church. There are only two voting age people in the eastern portion being merged into the Carrizo precinct. Voter access will be greatly improved since their polling place is currently located off the reservation in Roosevelt, 77 miles away. The Carrizo polling place, which remains at the Assembly of God Church, is on the reservation, 13 miles away.

Wheatfields Precinct

A new precinct shall be formed along the boundary of the Miami #1 and Globe #1 precincts between Hicks Road on the South, Wheatfields Road and the new community college district boundary on the west, Jesse Lane on the north and the new supervisory boundary on the east. The new precinct shall be designated as Wheatfields.

The reason for the change is to accommodate new supervisorial and community college district boundaries.

The polling place for this precinct shall be co-located with the Globe #1 polling place at the Globe/Miami Chamber of Commerce. While this polling place is not located within the precinct, voters will be going to the same polling place as they did previously. There is no appropriate polling place inside the precinct boundaries

Pinal Creek and Claypool #2 Precincts

A new precinct shall be formed along the boundary of the Miami #1 and Globe #1 precincts and from the northern portion of the Claypool #2 precinct, between Bixby Road, Pinal Creek Road and the new supervisorial boundary on the east, Highway 188 and the new community college boundary on the west and the new community college boundary on the south. The new precinct shall be designated as Pinal Creek. The southern portion of the Claypool #2 precinct shall be designated as the Claypool #2 precinct.

The reason for the new precinct is to accommodate new supervisorial and community college district boundaries.

The Pinal Creek polling place shall be co-located with Claypool #2 polling place at St. Paul's Lutheran Church as there is no appropriate location in the Pinal Creek precinct. By co-locating the polling place, those voters moving from Claypool #2 to the new Pinal Creek precinct will be going to the same polling place as they did previously. For those voters moved from the Globe #1 precinct to the Pinal Creek precinct, St. Paul's Lutheran Church is 2.0 miles closer than the previous polling place, which was the Globe-Miami Chamber of Commerce.

Miami #1 and Miami #3 Precincts

The Miami #1 precinct shall be divided east to west beginning just south of Los Arcos Flore Street to the east and following the new College District boundary west to the Gila and Pinal county line. The northern portion shall be designated as the Miami #1 precinct. The southern portion shall be merged into the Miami #3 precinct. Additionally, the boundary between Miami #1 and Miami #3 beginning at Canyon Avenue on the west to approximately Latham Blvd on the east shall be changed to follow the new community college district boundary.

The reason for the change is to accommodate new community college district boundaries.

The polling place for Miami #1 remains the First Southern Baptist Church. The polling place for Miami #3 remains the Miami Town Hall. The Miami #1 polling place is 0.4 miles from the Miami #3 polling place.

Claypool #3 Precinct

The current polling place for the Claypool #3 precinct located at the National Guard Armory/Regional Skill Center, shall be eliminated. The new polling place shall be the First Baptist Church, which is located within the Claypool #3 precinct. Voting has been conducted at this facility in the past with good success.

The reason for the change is the deteriorating physical condition of the Armory building and difficulties moving large equipment located in the polling place in order to conduct voting. The new voting location is 0.5 miles from the old voting location and thus voters will not be significantly impacted.

Globe #1 and #2 Precincts

The northern and northeastern portions of the Globe #2 precinct shall be merged into the Globe #1 precinct. The new boundary line between the Globe #1 and Globe #2 precincts shall begin at US 60 and Broad Street on the west and follow the college district boundary eastward to Third Street. The southwest portion of the Globe #2 precinct shall be designated as the Globe #2 precinct.

The reason for the change is to accommodate new community college district boundaries.

Voters impacted by the move into Globe #1 precinct will now vote at the Globe-Miami Chamber of Commerce which is 1.0 miles from the previous polling place at the Lutheran Church.

The Globe #2 polling place at St. Peter's Lutheran Church shall be eliminated and the Globe #2 polling place shall be co-located with the Globe #3 polling place at St. John's Episcopal Church. The St. Peter's Lutheran Church shall be eliminated as a polling place due to space constraints, inadequate ADA compliance, and declining demographics. The new voting location is .04 miles from the old voting location and thus voters will not be significantly impacted.

Globe #3 and East Globe Precincts

The northeastern portion of the Globe #3 precinct along the community college boundary at Third Street to the eastern boundary of the precinct shall be merged into the East Globe precinct. The southern portion of the Globe #3 precinct shall be designated as the Globe #3 precinct.

The reason for the change is to accommodate new supervisorial and community college district boundaries.

The Globe #3 polling place at St. Paul's Methodist Church shall be eliminated and the Globe #3 polling place shall be co-located with Globe #2 polling place at St. John's Episcopal Church. The reason for the polling place change is to eliminate the use of an ADA noncompliant polling location. The Episcopal Church, which is located in the Globe #3 precinct, has appropriate disabled voter access and is located across the street from the previous polling place. Voters will not be impacted by this move.

The East Globe polling place shall remain at the Church of the Nazarene. For voters affected by the Globe #3 boundary change, the Church of the Nazarene is located 2.3 miles from the previous polling place at St. Paul's Methodist Church.

Globe #4 and #5 Precincts

The northeastern portion of the Globe #4 precinct along the community college boundary at Sixth Street (Josephine) shall be consolidated with the East Globe precinct. The remainder of the Globe #4 precinct and the entire precinct shall be consolidated. The new precinct shall be designated as Globe #4.

The reason for the change is to accommodate new community college district boundaries. The reason for the merging of the remainder of Globe #4 and Globe #5 is declining demographics.

The East Globe polling place shall remain at the Church of the Nazarene. For voters affected by the Globe #4 boundary changes, the Church of the Nazarene is located 1.4 miles from the previous polling place at the Gila County Courthouse.

The polling place for the merged precinct Globe #4 shall be the Elks Lodge. The Globe #4 polling place at the Gila County Courthouse shall be eliminated due to logistical challenges. The Courthouse must be used immediately following the closing of the polls for public access to election results. This has caused the poll workers at the Courthouse, not to mention the public who is waiting, a great deal of consternation as poll workers try to get the polling place shut down in order for the public to enter. The Elks Lodge is not located in the Globe #4 precinct. However, it is the most suitable place available and is only 0.5 miles from the center of the precinct. The Courthouse was not located in the Globe #4 precinct and was approximately 0.7 miles from the center of the merged precinct.

Globe #6 Precinct

The current polling place for the Globe #6 precinct shall be moved from the Maranatha Baptist Church and co-located with the Globe #4 polling place at the Elks Lodge.

The reason for this change is to eliminate the use of an ADA noncompliant polling location. The Elks Lodge building has appropriate disabled voter access and is located 2.2 miles from the previous polling place. Voters will not be seriously impacted by this move as both facilities are just off the same major highway.

Hayden, Winkelman, Christmas Precincts Combined into Copper Basin Precinct

The boundaries between the Hayden, Winkelman, and Christmas precincts shall be dissolved and the entire area shall become a new precinct. The new precinct shall be designated as the Copper Basin precinct. The voting place for the new Copper Basin precinct shall be the Hayden High School. The Hayden, Winkelman and Christmas precincts shall be combined.

The reason for the change is declining population, increased permanent early voting, and difficulties in recruiting poll workers in these areas. The new precinct shall be called the Copper Basin precinct.

The new polling place shall be located at the Hayden High School. This new polling place is 1.9 miles from the Hayden Town Hall polling place, 0.3 miles from the Winkelman Town Hall polling place and 9.0 miles from the Christmas polling place. Hayden and Winkelman voters will not be significantly impacted by the change in polling place. It is recognized that the Christmas voters will have to drive ten minutes further to the new polling place, but they must drive to their current polling place as this is a rural area and it has become extremely difficult to get poll workers to continue to man the previous Christmas polling place in Dripping Springs.

San Carlos, Christmas Precincts

The southeastern boundary between the Christmas and San Carlos precincts shall be moved to the west to follow the reservation and new community college district boundaries.

The reason for the change is to accommodate new college district boundaries and to include additional reservation lands in reservation precincts.

There is zero population contained in the area being merged into the San Carlos precinct and therefore, no voters are affected.