

Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission

Hybrid Meeting held in-person and via Zoom Webinar due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, pursuant to 2020 PA 254 (MCL 15.263 and 15.263a), and in compliance with Section 6(10) of Article 4 of Michigan's 1963 Constitution

Full agenda, presentations, transcripts, and video recordings are available at www.michigan.gov/micrc

Thursday, June 3, 2021

5:04 PM – 6:04 PM

at

**Ford Community and Performing Arts Center
15801 Michigan Avenue, Dearborn, MI 48126**

MINUTES

PRESENT: Douglas James Clark
Juanita Curry
Anthony Eid
Brittni Kellom
Rhonda Lange (attending remotely from Reed City, MI)
Steven Terry Lett
Cynthia Orton
MC Rothhorn
Rebecca Szetela
Janice Vallette
Erin Wagner (attending remotely from Charlotte, MI)
Richard Weiss
Dustin Joseph Witjes

ABSENT: N/A

OTHERS PRESENT: Julianne V. Pastula, General Counsel
Edward Woods III, Communications and Outreach Director
Michigan Department of State ("MDOS") staff

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Commissioner Kellom, Chair, called the meeting of the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission (MICRC) to order at 5:04 PM.

ROLL CALL

MDOS staff called roll. All Commissioners were present and a quorum was met.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: Commissioner Kellom, Chair, called for a motion to approve the agenda. **Motion by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Witjes. Commissioner Kellom, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon separate motions, Commissioners discussed the public hearing minutes from May 27th and June 1st. The Commission also discussed the May 27th meeting minutes. The Commission offered no edits.

MOTION: Commissioner Kellom, Chair, called for a motion to approve the meeting minutes from May 27th. **Motion by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Witjes. Commissioner Kellom, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

MOTION: Commissioner Kellom, Chair, called for a motion to approve the public hearing minutes from May 27th. **Motion by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Witjes. Commissioner Kellom, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

MOTION: Commissioner Kellom, Chair, called for a motion to approve the public hearing minutes from June 1st. **Motion by Commissioner Rothhorn. Supported by Commissioner Witjes. Commissioner Kellom, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

PUBLIC COMMENT PERTAINING TO AGENDA TOPICS

Commissioner Kellom, Chair, put the motion "to begin the public comment pertaining to agenda topics portion of the agenda" which was adopted. No individuals provided public comment.

A full inventory of live and written public comment is available at www.michigan.gov/micrc

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Legal Update. Commissioner Kellom, Chair, put the motions “for General Counsel Pastula to provide an update on legal staffing and litigation requests for proposals” and “for General Counsel Pastula to provide an update on the petition to the Michigan Supreme Court” which were adopted. General Counsel Pastula informed the Commission that the legal staffing procurement request was reposted with identical language aside from the posting date. Responses are due June 8th by 2 PM. The RFP for litigation counsel received no vendor questions by the deadline and the proposals are due June 10th by 3 PM. On the petition to the Michigan Supreme Court, General Counsel Pastula reported that oral arguments are scheduled for June 21st. In addition to the supplemental brief filed by Petitioners, the briefs in support of the questions submitted by the Court both in the affirmative and negative have been filed by the Attorney General.

- b. Expanded Times for Meetings and Public Hearings. Commissioner Kellom, Chair, put the motion “for General Counsel Pastula to provide an update on expanded times for meetings and public hearings” which was adopted. In the previous meeting, the Commission requested options to increase the time and frequency of meetings. Additionally, the Commission requested options to increase the time of public hearings. After MICRC and MDOS staff collaborated, a memorandum was sent to the Commission with a host of options. The staff recommendation was to conduct meetings either 1 to 3 PM or 2 to 4 PM on Tuesdays and Thursdays prior to its public hearings. The second option was a single meeting from 12 to 4 PM on Thursdays. The third option was meetings of any length of time on Wednesday or Friday, which could be held virtually through the end of June. The final option was a meeting of any length or time on Saturday. General Counsel Pastula highlighted that MDOS staff requires four hours of preparation prior to in-person meetings/hearings. In addition, staff availability, logistics, and increased costs for interpreting and translation services are all factors to be considered for Saturday meetings. The Commission engaged in a discussion

on multiple sub-topics including meeting times, public hearing start-times, and the time period for public comment sign-up.

MOTION: Conduct Regular Commission Meetings on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1 to 3 PM and move the Public Hearing starting time to 5 PM. **Motion by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Witjes. Commissioner Kellom, Chair, held a vote by roll call. MOTION APPROVED 8-5.**

Voting Yes: Commissioners Witjes, Clark, Curry, Eid, Lett, Orton, Rothhorn, Vallette

Voting No: Commissioners Weiss, Kellom, Lange, Szetela, Wagner

MOTION: Main motion, as amended, to Move the In-Person Public Comment Sign-Up Deadline “from 4 PM to 7 PM” for Public Hearings through July 1st. **Motion by Commissioner Witjes. Supported by Commissioner Lange. Commissioner Kellom, Chair, held a vote by roll call. MOTION APPROVED 11-2.**

Voting Yes: Commissioners Curry, Kellom, Lange, Lett, Orton, Rothhorn, Szetela, Vallette, Wagner, Weiss, Witjes

Voting No: Commissioners Clark and Eid

MOTION: To amend the Motion by Commissioner Witjes to have the In-Person Public Comment Sign-Up Period for the Public Hearings “from 4 PM to 8 PM”. **Motion by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Witjes. Commissioner Kellom, Chair, held a vote by roll call. MOTION FAILED 4-9.**

Voting Yes: Commissioners Witjes, Clark, Eid, Lett

Voting No: Commissioners Curry, Kellom, Lange, Orton, Rothhorn, Szetela, Vallette, Wagner, Weiss

MOTION: To amend the Motion by Commissioner Witjes to have the In-Person Public Comment Sign-Up Period for the Public Hearings Until “from 4 PM to 7 PM”. **Motion by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Witjes. Commissioner Kellom, Chair, held a vote by roll call. MOTION APPROVED 11-2.**

Voting Yes: Commissioners Curry, Kellom, Lange, Lett, Orton, Rothhorn, Szetela, Vallette, Wagner, Weiss, Witjes

Voting No: Commissioners Clark and Eid

MOTION: Authorize the New Schedule for Meetings and Public Hearings through July 1st to begin on June 10th. **Motion by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Szetela. Commissioner Kellom, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Commissioner Kellom, Chair, put the motion “to combine agenda items a.1 & a.2 where the Communication Director will provide a Communication and Outreach Report and an update on meeting locations for the July-August timeframe” which was adopted. Communication and Outreach Director Edward Woods III reported two noticeable gaps for outreach in Michigan, northwest and southwest Michigan. Director Woods indicated the meeting in southwest Michigan will take place on either July 15th, 22nd, or 29th. The tentative meeting date in the northwest is August 26th.

MOTION: Providing Director Woods Flexibility in Setting Up Future Meetings in Northwest Michigan in Grand Traverse County on August 26 and Southwest Michigan at Lake Michigan College, Benton Harbor on July 15th, 22nd, or 29th. **Motion by Commissioner Clark. Supported by Commissioner Orton. Commissioner Kellom, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION APPROVED 11-2.**

Voting Yes: Commissioners Clark, Eid, Curry, Kellom, Lett, Orton, Rothhorn, Szetela, Vallette, Weiss, Witjes

Voting No: Commissioners Lange and Wagner

MOTION: Postpone Agenda Item 7.b. to the meeting next week. **Motion by Commissioner Clark. Supported by Commissioner Wagner. Commissioner Kellom, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

MOTION: Postpone Agenda Items 8 and 9. **Motion by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Witjes. Commissioner Kellom, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Commissioner Kellom, Chair, called for a motion to adjourn.

MOTION: Adjourn the meeting. **Motion by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Szetela. Commissioner Kellom, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:04 PM.