

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 10, 2021

1:01 PM – 3:00 PM

at

**Auburn Hills Marriot Pontiac at Centerpoint
3600 Centerpoint Pkwy, Pontiac, MI 48341**

MINUTES

PRESENT: Douglas James Clark
Anthony Eid
Brittni Kellom (*left the meeting at 2:06 PM, returned at 2:37 PM*)
Rhonda Lange (attending remotely from Reed City, MI)
Steven Terry Lett (*left the meeting at 2:30 PM, returned at 2:33 PM*)
Cynthia Orton
MC Rothhorn
Rebecca Szetela
Janice Vallette (*left the meeting at 2:50 PM, returned at 2:54 PM*)
Erin Wagner (attending remotely from Charlotte, MI)
Richard Weiss
Dustin Joseph Witjes

ABSENT: Juanita Curry

OTHERS PRESENT: Suann Hammersmith, Executive Director (attending remotely)
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 1:01 PM.

ROLL CALL

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

Commissioner Kellom left at 2:06 PM and returned at 2:37 PM.

Commissioner Lett left at 2:30 PM and returned at 2:33 PM.

Commissioner Vallette left at 2:50 PM and returned at 2:54 PM.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: Commissioner Kellom, Chair, called for a motion to approve the agenda. **Motion by Commissioner Rothhorn. Supported by Commissioner Lett. 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 June 3rd. The Commission also discussed the June 3rd meeting minutes. The Commission offered no edits.

MOTION: Commissioner Kellom, Chair, called for a motion to approve the meeting minutes from June 3rd. **Motion by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Rothhorn. 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 3rd. **Motion by Commissioner Orton. Supported by Commissioner Weiss. 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. Executive Director Report. Commissioner Kellom, Chair, put the motions “for Executive Director Hammersmith to provide an update on Line Drawing and the VRA Counsel”, “for Executive Director Hammersmith to discuss travel reimbursement,” and “for Executive Director Hammersmith to report on the updated calendar” which were adopted. Executive Director Hammersmith reported that she and General Counsel Pastula met with consultants to discuss their needs. Electronic Data Services (EDS) requires the Center for Shared Solutions (CSS) data to build the database for the Commission, which MICRC staff is working to acquire. Kim Brace with EDS needs to connect with multiple components in order to fulfill the Commission’s mission. First, DTMB and MDOS need to get EDS software downloaded onto the commissioners’ computers. Second, EDS needs to coordinate with Racially Polarized Voting Analyst and Voting Rights Act Legal Counsel consultants Dr. Handley and Mr. Adelson, respectively. Third, EDS needs to connect with Moon Duchin, MGGG, to understand how the public comment tool data can be integrated by the mapper. The Commission should send questions they have for Kim Brace to Executive Director Hammersmith. MICRC staff has provided the relevant documents to VRA Legal Counsel Adelson and he will be meeting with the Commission next Tuesday. Commissioners should consult tutorials on the Kelly Services site for travel expense reports. Travel expense reports should be sent every week. A new calendar was added that adjusts for the new public hearing schedule and later additions for July, August, and September.
- b. Process for Working with EDS and Federal Compliance. Commissioner Kellom, Chair, put the motion “for Commissioner Clark to discuss a process for working with EDS and Federal Compliance” which was adopted. Commissioner Clark proposed the Commission develop a framework with the consultants to coordinate future business. This framework may include how to interface with consultants, which maps to draw, how to vote, and documenting decisions. Commissioner Clark suggested either MICRC staff, one commissioner, a subcommittee of commissioners, or the full

commission meet with the consultants to do so. The Commission held a discussion on the topic. Nominations for the subcommittee members were Commissioners Lange, Witjes, Weiss, and Eid.

MAIN MOTION, AS AMENDED: Form a Committee consisting of one Republican, one Democratic, and one Independent affiliating member to Put together Process for working with Consultants with the Deliverables due in mid-July. **Motion by Commissioner Clark. Supported by Commissioner Witjes. Commissioner Kellom, Chair, held a vote by a show of hands. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

MOTION: Motion to Amend Commissioner Clark’s Motion to Strike the language requiring a minimum of Two Options. **Motion by Commissioner Clark. Supported by Commissioner Lett. Commissioner Kellom, Chair, held a vote by a show of hands. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

MOTION: Motion to Amend Commissioner Clark’s Motion to Include language requiring “with the deliverables due in mid-July”. **Motion by Commissioner Clark. Supported by Commissioner Lett. Commissioner Kellom, Chair, held a vote by a show of hands. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

MOTION: Vote for Commissioners Eid or Weiss as the nominee for the Independent Affiliate on the Redistricting Process Committee. **Motion by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Witjes. Commissioner Kellom, Chair, held a vote by roll call. MOTION APPROVED 7-5 TO NOMINATE COMMISSIONER EID AS THE INDEPENDENT AFFILIATE.**

Commissioner Eid: Commissioners Eid, Kellom, Lange, Orton, Vallette, Wagner, Witjes

Commissioner Weiss: Commissioners Lett, Rothorn, Szetela, Weiss, Clark

MOTION: Approve the Composition of the Redistricting Process Committee to include Commissioners Lange, Witjes and Eid. **Motion by Commissioner Clark. Supported by Commissioner Orton. Commissioner Kellom, Chair, held a vote by a show of hands. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

MOTION: Select Commissioner Witjes as Chair of the Redistricting Process Committee **Motion by Commissioner Witjes. Supported by Commissioner Szetela. Commissioner Kellom, Chair, held a vote by a show of hands. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

ORIENTATION WITH KIM BRACE, ELECTION DATA SERVICES (EDS) – THE DATA CUBE, PART 1

Commissioner Kellom, Chair, put the motion "for Kim Brace with Election Data Services (EDS) to provide a presentation" which was adopted. Kim Brace with Election Data Services (EDS) presented on the data elements of redistricting. After introducing himself, Mr. Brace discussed the components of the "First Quadrant of the Data Cube". These included the Topologically Integrated Geographic Encoding and Reference System (TIGER) and block populations.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Commissioner Kellom, Chair, put the motion "for the Communication Director will provide a Communication and Outreach Report" which was adopted. Communication and Outreach Director Edward Woods III confirmed dates for the university tour which are September 2nd at the University of Michigan Ann-Arbor, September 9th at Ferris State University, September 16th at Grand Valley University, September 23rd at Central Michigan University, and September 30th at Oakland University. Commissioners may go to classes or engage with campus groups. In addition, the Commission will meet on July 15th at Lake Michigan College in Benton Township and the Grand Traverse Hotel on August 26th. A report on the status of the public hearing tour will be provided next week.

MOTION: Provide Director Woods Flexibility in Negotiating Start Times for Meetings at Universities to be from 1 PM to 4 PM or 4 PM to 7 PM. **Motion by Commissioner Clark. Supported by Commissioner Witjes. Commissioner Kellom, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION APPROVED.**

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

Voting No: Commissioners Lange and Wagner

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Bruce Adelson and Kim Brace will be presenting next week.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements were made.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 PM.