

Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission

Virtual Meeting via Zoom Webinar because of Covid-19 pandemic,
pursuant to 2020 PA 228 (MCL 15.263)

Full agenda, presentations, transcripts, and video recordings are available at
RedistrictingMichigan.org

Thursday, December 3, 2020

12:00 PM – 3:55 PM

MINUTES

PRESENT: Douglas James Clark
Juanita Curry
Anthony Eid
Brittini Kellom
Rhonda Lange
Steven Terry Lett
Cynthia Orton
MC Rothhorn
Rebecca Szetela
Janice Vallette
Erin Wagner
Richard Weiss

ABSENT: Dustin Witjes

OTHERS PRESENT: Michigan Department of State (“MDOS”) staff

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Chair Lett called the meeting of the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission to order at 12:00 PM.

ROLL CALL

MDOS staff called roll. All commissioners were present except Commissioner Witjes and a quorum was met.

Commissioner Curry joined late at 12:17 PM.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Chair Lett called for a Motion to approve the agenda. **Motion by Commissioner Rothhorn. Supported by Commissioner Lange. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioners discussed the draft minutes. Chair Lett called for a motion to approve minutes as presented. **Motion by Commissioner Rothhorn. Supported by Commissioner Orton. Chair Lett called for a voice vote. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Lett opened the floor to public comment. There was one request for public comment to address the live commission meeting: Katie Fahey. A full inventory of live and written public comment is available at [RedistrictingMichigan.org](https://redistrictingmichigan.org).

WEBINAR PRESENTATION

1. Michigan Demographics & the Census.

Moderator: Tom Ivacko, executive director, Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy at the University of Michigan Ford School of Public Policy

Panelists:

- Lisa Neidert, former data archivist at the Population Studies Center at the University of Michigan – Ann Arbor
- Noah Durst, faculty at the Urban & Regional Planning Program at Michigan State University
- Eric Guthrie, State Demographer for the State of Michigan, DTMB and Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives

OLD BUSINESS

1. Administrative Items. MDOS staff provided an update on the Commission's administrative requests.
2. Executive Director Hire.

MOTION: Authorize Commissioners Clark and Lange to perform the ministerial duty of gathering information, research, and engaging in an initial discussion on the Executive Director contract offer with Ms. Hammersmith and bring back a written draft of the offer for consideration by the full commission. **Motion by Chair Lett.**

Supported by Commissioner Clark. Chair Lett held a show of hands vote. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

MOTION: Authorize the expenditure of funds for the purchase of laptops and phones for the commission's Executive Director, General Counsel and Communications and Outreach Director. **Motion by Commissioner Clark. Supported by Commissioner Rothhorn. Chair Lett held a show of hands vote. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

3. General Counsel Candidate Discussion. Commissioner Clark, chair of the Advisory Committee Reviewing General Counsel Candidates, shared the process behind the committee's recommendation of two General Counsel candidates from the pool of ten applicants to be interviewed by the full commission. Vice Chair Kellom led the commission's discussion of the advisory committee's recommended candidates as well as other applicants.

MOTION: Invite two candidates (Juliane Pastula and James Lancaster) to interview for the position of General Counsel position. **Motion by Commissioner Clark. Supported by Commissioner Szetela. Chair Lett held a roll call vote.**

Voting Yes: Commissioners Clark, Vallette, Curry, Rothhorn, Szetela

Voting No: Commissioners Eid, Kellom, Orton, Wagner, Lange, Weiss, Lett

Absent: Commissioner Witjes

BY A ROLL CALL VOTE OF 5-7-1, THE COMMISSION DENIED THE MOTION TO INVITE TWO CANDIDATES (JULIANE PASTULA AND JAMES LANCASTER) TO INTERVIEW FOR GENERAL COUNSEL POSITION.

MOTION: Invite four candidates (Juliane Pastula, James Lancaster, Katherine Kerwin, Monifa Gray) to interview for the position of General Counsel position. **Motion by Chair Lett. Supported by Commissioner Eid. Chair Lett held a roll call vote.**

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

Voting No: Commissioner Lange

Abstain: Vice Chair Kellom

Absent: Commissioner Witjes

BY A ROLL CALL VOTE OF 10-1-1-1, THE COMMISSION APPROVED THE MOTION TO INVITE FOUR CANDIDATES (JULIANE PASTULA, JAMES LANCASTER, KATHERINE KERWIN, MONIFA GRAY) TO INTERVIEW FOR THE GENERAL COUNSEL POSITION.

ADJOURNMENT

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

MOTION: Adjourn the meeting. **Motion by Chair Lett. Supported by Commissioner Wagner. Chair Lett held a voice vote. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 PM.