

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

Friday, July 9, 2021

9:01 AM – 2:33 PM

at

**G. Mennen Williams Building
525 W. Ottawa St., Lansing, MI 48933**

MINUTES

PRESENT: Douglas James Clark
Anthony Eid
Steven Terry Lett
Cynthia Orton
MC Rothhorn
Rebecca Szetela (*left meeting at 1:25 PM*)
Janice Vallette
Erin Wagner (attending remotely from Charlotte, MI) (*left meeting at 2:31 PM*)
Richard Weiss
Dustin Joseph Witjes

ABSENT: Juanita Curry
Brittni Kellom
Rhonda Lange

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

Kim Brace, Dr. Lisa Handley, and Fred Hejazi, Election
Data Services

Bruce Adelson, Federal Compliance Consulting LLC

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Commissioner Szetela, Vice-Chair, called the meeting of the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission (MICRC) to order at 9:01 AM.

ROLL CALL

MDOS staff called roll. All Commissioners were present except Commissioners Curry, Kellom, and Lange. A quorum was met.

Commissioner Szetela left the meeting at 1:25 PM

Commissioner Wagner left the meeting at 2:31 PM

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MAIN MOTION: Commissioner Szetela, Vice-Chair, called for a motion to approve the agenda, as amended. **Motion by Commissioner Rothhorn. Supported by Commissioner Lett. Commissioner Szetela, Vice-Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

MOTION: Commissioner Szetela, Vice-Chair, called for a motion to amend the agenda to Add New Business Agenda Item 7(e), a Letter to be Submitted to Individuals with Respect to Submitting Maps of Communities of Interest. **Motion by Commissioner Clark. Supported by Commissioner Orton. Commissioner Szetela, Vice-Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There were no minutes to approve.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERTAINING TO AGENDA TOPICS

Commissioner Szetela, Vice-Chair, put the motion "to begin the public comment pertaining to agenda topics portion of the agenda" which was adopted. One individual provided public comment: James Gallant.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Presentation from Federal Compliance Consulting, LLC: U.S. Constitution, Michigan Constitution, Legal Cases Regarding Partisan Fairness, & Piloting Rural or Minority District Compositions. Bruce Adelson with Federal Compliance Consulting LLC gave a presentation titled “The Law of Redistricting, DOJ, and Cautionary Tales”. Mr. Adelson took questions from the Commission during and after the presentation.

RECESS

At 10:47 AM Commissioner Szetela, Vice-Chair, put the motion “to recess until 11:05 AM” which was adopted.

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Szetela, Vice-Chair, called the meeting of the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission back to order at 11:05 AM. Commissioner Szetela announced she would have to leave the meeting after the lunch break and pursuant to Section 7.4.1(F) of the Rules of Procedure designated Commissioner Eid as Acting-Chair.

PRESENT:

Douglas James Clark
Anthony Eid
Steven Terry Lett
Cynthia Orton
MC Rothhorn (*re-joined the meeting at 11:09 AM*)
Rebecca Szetela
Janice Vallette
Erin Wagner (attending remotely from Charlotte, MI)
Richard Weiss
Dustin Joseph Witjes

ABSENT: Juanita Curry
Brittni Kellom
Rhonda Lange

- b. Updated Calendar for Future Meetings. The Commission held a discussion on the updated calendar. Director Hammersmith reported that the calendar was comprised based on the feedback of Commissioners. Director Woods reported that Commissioner Lange would not be available during some upcoming weeks. Commissioner Szetela requested September meetings in Lansing to begin later. Kim Brace weighed in on the number of hours of work per week and requested he be present for the beginning of the mapping process. The Commission discussed an email drafted by MGGG and MDOS to be sent out to public commenters, encouraging them to map their communities of interest.

MAIN MOTION: Adopt Updated Calendar for Future Meetings, as amended. **Motion by Commissioner Clark. Supported by Commissioner Lett. Commissioner Szetela, Vice-Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION APPROVED.**

Voting No: Commissioners Witjes

MOTION: Amend the Calendar to Have Tuesday Meetings in September Start at 10:00 AM. **Motion by Commissioner Clark. Supported by Commissioner Orton. Commissioner Szetela, Vice-Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

MOTION: Amend the Calendar to Hold Thursday and Friday Meetings in July and August on Mondays and Tuesdays. **Motion by Commissioner Wagner. Supported by Commissioner Orton. Commissioner Szetela, Vice-Chair, held a vote by roll call. MOTION APPROVED 7-3.**

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

Voting No: Commissioners Lett, Witjes, Clark

MOTION: Adopt Email Template Drafted by MGGG and MDOS as presented. **Motion by Commissioner Witjes. Supported by**

Commissioner Eid. Commissioner Szetela, Vice-Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

- c. Presentation on Measures of Partisan Fairness. Dr. Lisa Handley with the Electronic Data Services team gave a presentation titled “Measuring Partisan Fairness”. Dr. Handley took questions from the Commission during and after the presentation. Kim Brace also answered questions after the presentation.

RECESS

At 12:10 PM Commissioner Szetela, Vice-Chair, put the motion “to recess until 1:10 PM” which was adopted.

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Eid, Acting-Chair, called the meeting of the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission back to order at 1:25 PM.

PRESENT:

Douglas James Clark
Anthony Eid
Steven Terry Lett
Cynthia Orton
MC Rothhorn
Janice Vallette
Erin Wagner (attending remotely from Charlotte, MI) (*left the meeting at 2:31 PM*)
Richard Weiss
Dustin Joseph Witjes

ABSENT:

Juanita Curry
Brittni Kellom
Rhonda Lange
Rebecca Szetela

- d. Ask the Consultants: An Opportunity to Ask Questions of Kim Brace, Bruce Adelson, and Lisa Handley. Kim Brace showed the Commission two irregularly shaped districts and the rationale for their shape. The consultants

answered questions from the Commission about gerrymandering, transparency, data sets, and automated redistricting. The Commission considered a calendar revision.

ADJOURNMENT

Due to a loss of quorum, Commissioner Eid, Acting-Chair, called for a motion to adjourn.

MOTION: Adjourn the meeting. **Motion by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Weiss. Commissioner Eid, Acting-Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

The meeting adjourned at 2:33 PM.