

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

Tuesday, September 28, 2021

9:05 AM – 5:25 PM

at

**Cadillac Place, L150
3044 West Grand Blvd
Detroit, MI 48202**

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Douglas James Clark (*joined the meeting at 10:28 AM*)
Juanita Curry
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:

Anthony Eid
Brittini Kellom

OTHERS PRESENT:

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

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Commissioner Szetela, Chair, called the meeting of the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission (MICRC) to order at 9:05 AM.

ROLL CALL

MDOS staff called roll. A quorum was met.

Commissioner Szetela left the meeting at 10:26 AM and returned at 10:32 AM.

Commissioner Clark joined the meeting at 10:28 AM.

Commissioner Lett left the meeting at 3:33 PM and returned at 3:52 PM.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

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

Voting No: Commissioner Lange

MOTION: Amend the Agenda to Move Direct Mail Discussion to Staff Reports. **Motion by Commissioner Szetela. Supported by Commissioner Lett. Commissioner Szetela, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION APPROVED.**

Voting No: Commissioner Lange

MOTION: Amend the Agenda Add “Approve Fink Bressack Questions” as New Business Item A. **Motion by Commissioner Szetela. Supported by Commissioner Lett. Commissioner Szetela, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

PUBLIC COMMENT PERTAINING TO AGENDA TOPICS

Commissioner Szetela, Chair, put the motion "to begin the public comment pertaining to agenda topics portion of the agenda" which was adopted. 11 individuals provided in-person public comment: Tarun Aggarwal, Coleen Tuokkola, Kyle Stefanski, Raeann Weymouth, Christine Rogers, Andrea Hunter, Anthony Scannell, Felicia Banks, Mary Ann Fontana, Mia, and Maria Ivy. 17

individuals provided remote public comment: James Gallant, Linda Levy, Mari Rymar, Bob King, Art Reyes, Mark Payne, Wendy Sellers, Molly Sweeney, Cindy Gamboa, Nikky Becerra, Dorothy Munson, Oscar Castaneda, Mike Hewitt, Cynthia Davis, Dennis Quehl, Elizabeth Scott, and Nicholas P. Macres.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. If needed, complete Unfinished Business from the Previous Meeting – Drafting State House Districts, including Reconciliation of Previously Drafted Maps, and Consideration of Alternative Maps. The Commission continued reconciling the drafting of State House district across previous draft plans.

RECESS

At 11:07 PM, Commissioner Szetela, Chair, put the motion “to recess for 13 minutes until 11:20 AM” which was adopted.

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Szetela, Chair, called the meeting of the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission back to order at 11:24 AM.

ROLL CALL

MDOS staff called roll. A quorum was met.

PRESENT:

Douglas James Clark
Juanita Curry
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: Anthony Eid
Brittini Kellom

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

- a. If needed, complete Unfinished Business from the Previous Meeting – Drafting State House Districts, including Reconciliation of Previously Drafted Maps, and Consideration of Alternative Maps. The Commission continued reconciling the drafting of State House district across previous draft plans.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Approve Fink Bressack Interview Questions. General Counsel Pastula presented the draft interview questions for Fink Bressack. The Commission assigned questions to various Commissioners to ask.

MOTION: Adopt Interview Questions for Fink Bressack.
Motion by Commissioner Witjes. Supported by Commissioner Curry. Commissioner Szetela, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

- a. If needed, complete Unfinished Business from the Previous Meeting – Drafting State House Districts, including Reconciliation of Previously Drafted Maps, and Consideration of Alternative Maps. The Commission continued reconciling State House districts across previous draft plans.

RECESS

At 11:57 PM, Commissioner Szetela, Chair, put the motion “to recess for 63 minutes until 1:00 PM” which was adopted.

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Szetela, Chair, called the meeting of the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission back to order at 1:05 PM.

ROLL CALL

MDOS staff called roll. A quorum was met.

PRESENT: Douglas James Clark
Juanita Curry
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: Anthony Eid
Brittini Kellom

NEW BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

- b. Interview Fink Bressack for Local Counsel. The Commission interviewed Fink Bressack. The Commission then asked General Counsel Pastula questions and discussed the hiring of Fink Bressack for Local Counsel.

MOTION: Extend Local Counsel Contract to Fink Bressack. **Motion by Commissioner Witjes. Supported by Commissioner Rothhorn. Commissioner Szetela, Chair, held a vote by roll call. MOTION APPROVED 8-3.**

Voting Yes: Commissioner Lett, Orton, Rothhorn, Szetela, Vallette, Weiss, Witjes, Curry

Voting No: Commissioners Lange, Wagner, Clark

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

- a. If needed, complete Unfinished Business from the Previous Meeting – Drafting State House Districts, including Reconciliation of Previously Drafted Maps, and Consideration of Alternative Maps. The Commission continued reconciling State House districts across previous draft plans. The Commission addressed discontinuities and unassigned areas in their collaborative map.

RECESS

At 3:37 PM, Commissioner Szetela, Chair, put the motion “to recess for 13 minutes until 3:50 PM” which was adopted.

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Szetela, Chair, called the meeting of the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission back to order at 3:52 PM.

ROLL CALL

MDOS staff called roll. A quorum was met.

PRESENT:

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

ABSENT:

Anthony Eid
Brittini Kellom

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

- a. If needed, complete Unfinished Business from the Previous Meeting – Drafting State House Districts, including Reconciliation of Previously Drafted Maps, and Consideration of Alternative Maps. After a discussion on the mapping process, the Commission began reconciling Congressional districts across previously draft plans.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 15, 16 (1ST & 2ND MEETINGS), and 20, 2021

Commissioners reviewed the first and second meeting minutes from September 16th. The Commission also reviewed the meeting minutes from September 15th and 20th. The Commission offered no edits.

MOTION: Commissioner Szetela, Chair, called for a motion to approve the meeting minutes from September 15, 2021. **Motion by Commissioner Witjes. Supported by Commissioner Rothhorn. Commissioner Szetela, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

MOTION: Commissioner Szetela, Chair, called for a motion to approve the first set of meeting minutes from September 16, 2021. **Motion by Commissioner Witjes. Supported by Commissioner Vallette. Commissioner Szetela, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

MOTION: Commissioner Szetela, Chair, called for a motion to approve the second set of meeting minutes from September 16, 2021. **Motion by Commissioner Witjes. Supported by Commissioner Vallette. Commissioner Szetela, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

MOTION: Commissioner Szetela, Chair, called for a motion to approve the meeting minutes from September 20, 2021. **Motion by Commissioner Witjes. Supported by Commissioner Vallette. Commissioner Szetela, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

STAFF REPORTS

- a. Communication and Outreach Director. Communication and Outreach Director Edward Woods III provided a report. The Commission discussed the timeline for the submission of individual maps for analysis.

MOTION: Maps by Individual Commissioners to be Presented for the Second Round of Public Hearings Must be Submitted by the Beginning of the October 11th Meeting. **Motion by Commissioner Lange. Supported by Commissioner Rothhorn. Commissioner Szetela, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION APPROVED.**

Voting No: Commissioner Lett

MOTION: Effectuate a Direct Mail Campaign to Rural Areas and the Downriver Area within the State of Michigan. **Motion by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Witjes.**

Commissioner Szetela, Chair, held a vote by roll call. MOTION APPROVED 9-2.

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

Voting No: Commissioners Wagner, Lange

MOTION: Schedule a Meeting at the Detroit Marriot Troy on Friday from 9 AM to 5 PM. **Motion by Commissioner Orton. Supported by Commissioner Clark. Commissioner Szetela, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

MDOS UPDATES

There was no update.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no discussion on correspondence. All correspondence received is included in the public comment provided to the Commission.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no future agenda items to discuss.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Clark made an announcement.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 PM.