

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

Monday, September 20, 2021

10:06 AM – 5:15 PM

at

Michigan State University Union, Lake Huron Room

49 Abbot Road

East Lansing, MI 48824

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Douglas James Clark

Anthony Eid

Brittni Kellom (attending remotely from Wayne County, MI) *(joined the meeting at 11:17 AM)*

Rhonda Lange (attending remotely from Reed City, MI)

Steven Terry Lett

Cynthia Orton

MC Rothhorn

Rebecca Szetela

Janice Vallette

Richard Weiss

Dustin Joseph Witjes

ABSENT:

Juanita Curry

Erin Wagner

OTHERS PRESENT: Suann Hammersmith, Executive Director

Julianne V. Pastula, General Counsel
Edward Woods III, Communications and Outreach Director
Michigan Department of State (“MDOS”) staff
Bruce Adelson, Federal Compliance Consulting
Election Data Services (“EDS”) staff

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Commissioner Szetela, Chair, called the meeting of the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission (MICRC) to order at 10:06 AM.

ROLL CALL

MDOS staff called roll. A quorum was met.

Commissioner Kellom joined the meeting at 11:17 AM

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: Commissioner Szetela, Chair, called for a motion to approve the agenda. **Motion by Commissioner Witjes. Supported by Commissioner Rothhorn. 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. Two individuals provided in-person public comment: Chris Andrews and Emily Kallunki-Pasternak. 22 individuals provided remote public comment: Loida Tapia, Denise, Anthony Scannell, Don, Royce Stephens, Charis Lee, Jasmine McKenney, Nayyirah Shariff, Pamela Pugh, Gerri Hall, Steve Gruener, Fonda Brewer, Art Reyes, Judy Daubenmier, Carol Heron, La Cracha Handy, Angie Miller, Isra Daraiseh, Anthony Paciorek, Susan Hendricks, Judy A Maiga, and James Gallant.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Draft Mapping for Congressional Districts. The Commission continued editing their drafted Congressional districts. Commissioner Eid made a presentation on his drafted Congressional plan.

RECESS

At 11:55 PM, Commissioner Szetela, Chair, put the motion “to recess for 60 minutes until 12:55 PM” which was adopted.

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Szetela, Chair, called the meeting of the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission back to order at 1:08 PM.

ROLL CALL

MDOS staff called roll. A quorum was met.

PRESENT:

Douglas James Clark
Anthony Eid
Brittni Kellom (attending remotely from Wayne County, MI)
Rhonda Lange (attending remotely from Reed City, MI)
Steven Terry Lett
Cynthia Orton
MC Rothhorn
Rebecca Szetela
Janice Vallette
Richard Weiss
Dustin Joseph Witjes

ABSENT:

Juanita Curry
Erin Wagner

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

- a. Draft Mapping for Congressional Districts. The Commission continued discussing Commissioner Eid’s drafted Congressional plan, then proceeded to edit the collaboratively drafted Congressional map. Mr. Adelson and the Commission discussed VRA implications on the collaboratively drafted Congressional map and Commissioner Eid’s drafted Congressional plan. Next, the Commission and Mr. Adelson discussed VRA considerations on the collaboratively drafted State Senate map.

RECESS

At 3:40 PM, Commissioner Szetela, Chair, put the motion “to recess for ten 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
Anthony Eid
Brittini Kellom (attending remotely from Wayne County, MI)
Rhonda Lange (attending remotely from Reed City, MI)
Steven Terry Lett
Cynthia Orton
MC Rothhorn
Rebecca Szetela
Janice Vallette
Richard Weiss
Dustin Joseph Witjes

ABSENT:

Juanita Curry
Erin Wagner

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

- a. Draft Mapping for Congressional Districts. The Commission continued drafting State House districts, primarily in the Metro Detroit region.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Partisan Fairness Assessment. General Counsel Pastula described a proposed addendum to the Commission’s contract with EDS.

MOTION: Expand the EDS Contract for an Amount up to \$50,000 to Include Assessments for Partisan Fairness and Voting Patterns. **Motion by Commissioner Lett. Supported**

by Commissioner Clark. Commissioner Szetela, Chair, held a vote by roll call. **MOTION APPROVED 10-0.**

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

Voting No: N/A

Abstain: Commissioner Lange due to lack of sufficient information about the issue to be decided.

- b. COVID-19 Self-Assessment for Commissioners, Staff, and Consultants. Executive Director Hammersmith proposed the Commission adopt a self-assessment in relation to COVID-19.

MOTION: Approve the COVID-19 Self-Assessment. **Motion by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Eid. Commissioner Szetela, Chair, held a vote by roll call. MOTION FAILED 5-5.**

Voting Yes: Commissioners Eid, Lett, Rothhorn, Szetela, Weiss

Voting No: Commissioners Clark, Lange, Orton, Vallette, Witjes

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioners discussed and the review and approval of the September 8th meeting minutes. The Commission offered no edits.

MOTION: Commissioner Szetela, Chair, called for a motion to approve the meeting minutes from September 8th. **Motion by Commissioner Witjes. Supported by Commissioner Lett. Commissioner Szetela, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

STAFF REPORTS

- a. Executive Director. Executive Director Hammersmith provided a report.
- b. Communication and Outreach Director. Communication and Outreach Director Edward Woods III provided a report.

MDOS UPDATES

MDOS staff provided an 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

There were no announcements.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 PM.