

Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission

Virtual Meeting via Zoom Webinar. Full agenda, presentations, and video recordings are available at www.Michigan.gov/MICRC

Thursday, October 17, 2024
10:06 a.m.- 11:25 a.m.

MINUTES

PRESENT

Elaine Andrade (*remotely from Imlay Township, MI*)
Juanita Curry (*joined at 10:28 a.m., remotely from Detroit, MI*)
Anthony Eid (*remotely from Detroit, MI*)
Brittini Kellom (*remotely from Detroit, MI*)
Steven Terry Lett (*remotely from Grand Traverse County, MI*)
Marcus Muldoon (*remotely from Carlton, MI*)
Cynthia Orton (*remotely from Battle Creek, MI*)
Janice Vallette (*remotely from Highland Township, MI*)
Erin Wagner (*remotely from Charlotte, MI*)
Richard Weiss (*remotely from Saginaw, MI*)

ABSENT

Commissioners Donna Callaghan, Rhonda Lange, and Rebecca Szetela.

OTHERS PRESENT

Edward Woods III, Executive Director
Michigan Department of State (“MDOS”) Staff
Nate Fink, Fink Bressack

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

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

ROLL CALL

MDOS staff called roll. A quorum was met.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: Approve the agenda. Moved by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Weiss. Commissioner Eid, Chair, held a vote on the motion to approve the agenda, by show of hands. **MOTION APPROVED.**

PUBLIC COMMENT PERTAINING TO AGENDA TOPICS

Commissioner Eid, Chair, put a motion “to begin public comment pertaining to agenda topics portion of the agenda” forward without objection, which was adopted.

Two individuals provided public remote comment: Anthony Scannell and James Gallant.

A complete inventory of live and written public comment is available at:

www.Michigan.gov/MICRC.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Draft House and Senate Remedial Commission Report

Commissioner Eid, Chair, requested that Executive Director Woods facilitate this topic. Executive Director Woods indicated that he is still working on the draft report and the Commission will vote on that report at the December 19th Commission meeting. Executive Director Woods reminded Commissioners that dissenting reports are due December 1st.

b. Archives

Commissioner Eid, Chair, requested that Executive Director Woods facilitate this topic. Executive Director Woods indicated that the Archive subcommittee (Commissioners Andrade, Orton, and Vallette) has been working on archiving the mapping process including draft maps and draft proposed maps. Executive Director Woods indicated that they are also working on finishing and editing archive interviews.

c. Contract Best Practices

Commissioner Eid, Chair, requested that Executive Director Woods facilitate this topic. Executive Director Woods indicated the Contract Best Practices subcommittee (Commissioners Callaghan, Lett, and Muldoon) has been working on reviewing contracts from Baker Hostetler, Election Data Services, Federal Compliance Consulting, and Fink Bressack. They have also ensured that the Commission received the contract discount as outlined in the contracts for Election Data Services, Federal Compliance Consulting, and Fink Bressack. The subcommittee will also be recommending contract best practices for the Lessons Learned Report.

MOTION: To change all the contracts from a weekly reporting to a monthly reporting since the inception of each contract. Moved by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Orton. Commissioner Eid, Chair, held a vote on the motion to approve the agenda, by show of hands. **MOTION APPROVED.**

NEW BUSINESS

a. Dormancy Legal Review

Commissioner Eid, Chair, requested that Nate Fink facilitate this topic. Nate Fink indicated that the Commission is heading toward dormancy. The Commission will vote on entering dormancy at the December 19th Commission meeting and wrap up Commission business by January 31st, 2025. Nate Fink went on to explain that section 3.3 of the Amended Rules of Procedure indicates that the Commissioners'

appointment lasts until the next Commission is appointed for the subsequent census cycle; however, at such time that all litigation filed against the Commission and/or the members is completed, and no further action is required of the Commission or its members, the Commission will vote to move to dormant status. Nate Fink provided additional information regarding actions the Commission must take when moving into dormant status. Nate Fink also indicated that in the event of litigation being filed after going into dormancy against the Commission or its members or staff regarding Commission business, the Commission shall reactive and return to active status to address said litigation.

b. Lessons Learned

Commissioner Eid, Chair, requested that Executive Director Woods facilitate this topic. Executive Director Woods indicated that he would create a Lessons Learned Report for the remedial mapping process. Executive Director Woods indicated that this would follow a similar, but modified outlined, from the prior Lessons Learned Report. This report will include the selection of the three new Commissioners and focus solely on the remedial phase. Executive Director Woods stated that he will provide a draft for the Commission to review in November and the Commissioners will need to provide feedback to him within two weeks. The Commission will vote to approve the Lessons Learned Report at the December 19th Commission meeting.

c. September Financial Report

Commissioner Eid, Chair, requested that Executive Director Woods facilitate this topic. Executive Director Woods provided a profit and loss overview for the Commission from October 2023 through September 2024.

d. Cancel Commission Meeting – Thursday Nov. 21

Commissioner Eid, Chair, requested that Executive Director Woods facilitate this topic. Executive Director Woods recommended cancelling the Commission meeting Thursday November 21 2024.

MOTION: Cancel the Commission meeting on Thursday, November 21, 2024.

Moved by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Weiss. Commissioner Eid, Chair, held a roll call vote. Commissioner Eid, Chair, held a vote on the motion by show of hands. **MOTION APPROVED.**

MINUTES

Commissioner Eid, Chair, indicated that draft minutes for September 19th were provided to the Commission for review and approval.

MOTION: Approve the meeting minutes for September 19th. Moved by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Curry. Commissioner Eid, Chair, held a vote on motion by show of hands. **MOTION APPROVED.**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Commissioner Eid, Chair, requested that Executive Director Woods facilitate this topic.

Executive Director Woods provided updates to the Commission regarding computer updates, FY 24 closing and dormancy, remedial maps, Commission data, the Commission meeting Thursday, December 19th at the Library of Michigan, and September website statistics.

LEGAL LIAISON REPORT

Commissioner Eid, Chair, requested that Commissioner Lett facilitate this topic. Commissioner Lett indicated most legal issues are wrapped up, but he is still working through some issues with Election Data Services.

MOTION: Pay transportation/travel costs for Election Data Services and Baker Hostetler retroactive to the inception of each contract. Moved by Commission Lett. Supported by Commissioner Weiss. Commissioner Eid, Chair, held a vote on the motion by show of hands. **MOTION APPROVED.**

MDOS UPDATES

MDOS indicated that election season is in full swing and now is the time to plan for how you want to vote. You can vote early, by mail, or on Election Day, whichever way is most convenient for you. Absentee ballots are available to request online at www.Michigan.gov/vote, via mail, or in-person at your local clerk’s office. AV ballots can be returned by dropping them in the mail using the prepaid ballot envelope, bringing it to your local clerk’s office, dropping it in absentee drop box in your city or township, or at your early voting or polling site. Early voting will begin statewide on October 26, 2024; however, some jurisdictions may choose to start sooner! If you don’t yet have a plan in place, Commissioners and the public can find all of their voting information online at www.Michigan.gov/vote.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Adjourn the Meeting. Moved by Commissioner Orton. Supported by Commissioner Vallette. Commissioner Eid, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. **MOTION APPROVED.**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.