

Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission

In-Person Meeting at the Library of Michigan
702 W. Kalamazoo St.
Lansing, MI 48915

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

Thursday, December 19, 2024
10:08 a.m.- 12:34 a.m.

MINUTES

PRESENT

Elaine Andrade
Juanita Curry
Anthony Eid
Brittni Kellom
Steven Terry Lett (*remotely from Lee County, FL*)
Marcus Muldoon
Cynthia Orton
Janice Vallette
Richard Weiss

ABSENT

Commissioners Donna Callaghan, Rhonda Lange, Rebecca Szetela, and Erin Wagner

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 10:08 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.

Three individuals provided public remote comment: James Gallant, Anthony Scannell, and Bruce Adelson.

A complete inventory of live and written public comment is available at:
www.Michigan.gov/MICRC.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. House and Senate Remedial Commission Report

Commissioner Eid, Chair, requested that Executive Director Woods facilitate this topic. Executive Director Woods indicated that the House and Senate Remedial Commission Report is available in today’s meeting materials available on the MICRC website. Executive Director Woods indicated that the Commission Report identifies the remedial mapping process, identifies compliance with the Court order, includes the resources used, includes the dissenting report, and includes a legal review. Nate Fink provided a legal analysis of the Commission Report and the Dissenting Report.

MOTION: To consider the House and Senate Remedial Commission Report and the Dissenting Report as two unique documents for publication. Moved by Commissioner Eid. Supported by Commissioner Weiss. Commissioner Eid, Chair, held a vote, by show of hands. **MOTION APPROVED.**

MOTION: To approve the House and Senate Remedial Commission Report as presented by Executive Director Woods. Moved by Commissioner Eid. Supported by Commissioner Weiss. Commissioner Eid, Chair, held a vote, by show of hands. **MOTION APPROVED.**

b. Archives Update

Commissioner Eid, Chair, requested that Executive Director Woods facilitate this topic. Executive Director Woods provided an overview of the archival process, including where the archives will be housed. Executive Director Woods introduced Cynthia Gehring from the Department of Technology, Management, and Budget. Cynthia Gehring provided an in-person presentation about where the Commissioners and the public can find archived MICRC materials online and in-person.

MOTION: To allow the Archive Committee (Commissioners Orton, Vallette, and Andrade) to continue to assist with the archival process, despite the Commission going dormant, until the process is complete. Moved by Commissioner Orton. Supported by Commissioner Vallette.

MOTION: Amend the main motion to clarify that the continuation of work will be without pay. Moved by Commissioner Orton. Supported by Commissioner Vallette. Commissioner Eid, Chair, held a vote, by show of hands. **MOTION APPROVED.**

Commissioner Eid, Chair, held a vote on the main motion, as amended, by show of hands. **MOTION APPROVED.**

c. Contract Best Practices Review Update

Commissioner Eid, Chair, requested that Executive Director Woods facilitate this topic. Executive Director Woods indicated there are still outstanding contract corrections that need to be made with regards to the Election Data Services contract.

MOTION: To allow the Contract Best Practices Review Committee (Commissioners Callaghan, Lett, and Muldoon) to continue to assist with the contract review process, without pay and despite the Commission going dormant, until the review process is complete. Moved by Commissioner Eid. Supported by Commissioner Muldoon. Commissioner Eid, Chair, held a vote on the motion, by show of hands. **MOTION APPROVED.**

NEW BUSINESS

a. 2024 Map Performance

Commissioner Eid, Chair, requested that Executive Director Woods facilitate this topic. Executive Director Woods introduced Matt Grossman, from Michigan State University. Matt Grossman provided an in-person presentation on how the 2024 maps performed.

b. Lessons Learned Report

Commissioner Eid, Chair, requested that Executive Director Woods facilitate this topic. Executive Director Woods indicated that he distributed the Lessons Learned Report for the Commission to review and did not receive any requests for changes.

MOTION: To accept and publish the Lessons Learned Report as presented by Executive Director Woods. Moved by Commissioner Orton. Supported by Commissioner Weiss. Commissioner Eid, Chair, held a vote on the motion, by show of hands. **MOTION APPROVED.**

c. September/FY 24 Financial Report

Commissioner Eid, Chair, requested that Executive Director Woods facilitate this topic. Executive Director Woods indicated that he has closed out the FY 24 books and provided a profit and loss overview for the Commission to review.

MOTION: To accept the September and FY 24 financial reports as presented by Executive Director Woods. Moved by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Muldoon. Commissioner Eid, Chair, held a vote on the motion, by show of hands. **MOTION APPROVED.**

d. October 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 for October 2024.

MOTION: To accept the October financial report as presented by Executive Director Woods. Moved by Commissioner Orton. Supported by Commissioner Weiss. Commissioner Eid, Chair, held a vote on the motion, by show of hands. **MOTION APPROVED.**

e. November 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 November 2024.

MOTION: To accept the November financial report as presented by Executive Director Woods. Moved by Commissioner Orton. Supported by Commissioner Kellom. Commissioner Eid, Chair, held a vote on the motion, by show of hands. **MOTION APPROVED.**

f. Dormancy

Commissioner Eid, Chair, requested that Nate Fink facilitate this topic. Nate Fink indicated 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.

MOTION: Designate the Chair (Commissioner Eid) and Vice Chair (Commissioner Orton) to be contact persons for the Commission when they enter dormancy. Moved by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Weiss. Commissioner Eid, Chair, held a vote on the motion by show of hands. **MOTION APPROVED.**

MOTION: To extend the 30-day wrap up period for the Commission to last until the end of February 2025. Moved by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Weiss. Commissioner Eid, Chair, held a vote on the motion by show of hands.

MOTION APPROVED.

MOTION: To pay Executive Director Woods for work done to wrap up the Commission through January 31, 2025. Additionally, approve an advance payment to Executive Director Woods for work done in February 2025, to be paid on the last pay date of January 2025. Moved by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Weiss. Commissioner Eid, Chair, held a vote on the motion by show of hands.

MOTION APPROVED.

MOTION: Pay for all Commissioners will cease after the week ending December 22, 2024. Moved by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Orton.

Commissioner Eid, Chair, held a vote on the motion by show of hands. **MOTION APPROVED.**

MOTION: To authorize Commissioner Eid (Chair) and Commissioner Orton (Vice Chair) to continue to approve and sign necessary documentation or expenditures that are required during the dormancy period, without additional compensation. Moved by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Orton. Commissioner Eid, Chair, held a vote on the motion by show of hands. **MOTION APPROVED.**

MOTION: For the MICRC to enter dormancy at the conclusion of the December 19th Commission meeting. Moved by Commissioner Orton. Supported by Commissioner Muldoon. Commissioner Eid, Chair, held a vote on the motion by show of hands.

MOTION APPROVED.

MINUTES

Commissioner Eid, Chair, indicated that draft minutes for October 17th were provided to the Commission for review and approval.

MOTION: Approve the meeting minutes for October 17th. Moved by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Weiss. Commissioner Eid, Chair, held a vote on motion by show of hands. **MOTION APPROVED.**

MOTION: Authorize the Chair and or Vice Chair approve any necessary meeting minutes, without pay. Moved by Commissioner Eid. Supported by Commissioner Orton. 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 commission attendance and highlights regarding the website statistics. Executive Director Woods also expressed the Commission's appreciation to the Michigan Department of State, including the Honorable Jocelyn Benson, Mike Brady, Meghan Schaar, Sarah Reinhardt, Nelson Lawens, Sally Marsh, Yvonne Young, Jeanette Sawyer, Kim Metzger, Erin Lillie, Chad Bassett, Michael Doyle and others. Executive Director Woods also expressed appreciation to Regional Interpreting Network, QA Captions, Chase Creative, 98 Forward, McConnell Communications, Culturit Public Relations and Design Co., Legislative Service Bureau, Insights3, and the Center for Local, State, and urban Policy at the University of Michigan. Executive Director Woods also expressed appreciation to Bake Hostetler, Fink Bressack, Election Data Services, Suann Hammersmith, Julliane Pastula, Sara Martinez, and Kristen Taylor. Executive Director Woods also expressed appreciation to Voters Not Politicians for their work on the ballot proposal that created the Commission. Executive Director Woods also expressed appreciation to all the Commissioners for their work.

LEGAL LIAISON REPORT

Commissioner Eid, Chair, requested that Commissioner Lett facilitate this topic. Commissioner Lett wished everyone Happy Holidays.

MDOS UPDATES

Meghan Schaar expressed the Department's appreciation to all the Commissioners for their dedication and work.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Commission presented an unofficial resolution to Executive Director Woods for his service to the Commission.

Resolution of Appreciation for Edward Woods III

LET IT BE KNOWN that the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission honors the contributions of Edward Woods III to the great state of Michigan, recognizing him as a master of meticulous coordination, tireless communicator, champion of unity, and an unapologetic Dallas Cowboys fan.

WHEREAS Edward Woods III has served with distinction as the Communications Director and Executive Director of the inaugural Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission, playing an instrumental role in upholding the core principles of FATE – Fairness, Awareness, Transparency, and Engagement – with steadfast commitment and grace.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission hereby recognizes and celebrates the exemplary leadership, unwavering dedication, and profound impact of Edward Woods III. His service has not only supported the Commission

in community outreach and the creation of fair maps but has also enriched the Commission with his authentic spirit, his ability to bridge divides, and of course, his incomparable dedication to the Dallas Cowboys!

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that the Commission acknowledges Edward Woods III as a role model in civic engagement, a champion for fairness, and a reminder to us all that true leadership is measured not just by what one accomplishes, but by how one leads with integrity, heart, and a little bit of humor along the way.

Issued by former and current commissioners of the MICHIGAN INDEPENDENT CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION this 18th day of December 2024.

MOTION: Make the unofficial resolution for Executive Director Woods an official resolution of the Commission. Moved by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Eid. Commissioner Eid, Chair, held a vote on motion by show of hands. **MOTION APPROVED.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MDOS presented proposed meeting minutes for today's, December 19th, meeting for the Commission to consider.

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

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Adjourn the Meeting and have the Commission enter dormancy. Moved by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Kellom. Commissioner Eid, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. **MOTION APPROVED.**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:34 pm.