

Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission

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

Thursday, June 15, 2023

10:03 a.m. – 11:22 a.m.

MINUTES

PRESENT: Douglas James Clark (*remotely from Rochester Hills, Michigan*)
Anthony Eid (*remotely from Detroit, Michigan*)
Rhonda Lange (*remotely from Osceola County, Michigan*)
Steven Terry Lett (*remotely from Grand Traverse County, Michigan*)
Cynthia Orton (*remotely from Battle Creek, Michigan*)
MC Rothhorn (*remotely from Lansing, Michigan*)
Rebecca Szetela (*remotely Wayne County, Michigan*)
Janice Vallette (*remotely from Highland Township, Michigan*)
Erin Wagner (*remotely from Charlotte, Michigan*)
Richard Weiss (*remotely from Saginaw Township, Michigan*)
Dustin Joseph Witjes (*remotely from Cook County, Illinois*)

ABSENT: Juanita Curry
Brittni Kellom

OTHERS PRESENT: Edward Woods III, Executive Director
Michigan Department of State (“MDOS”) staff

1. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Commissioner Clark, Chair, called the meeting of the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission (MICRC) to order at 10:03 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL

MDOS staff called roll. A quorum was met.

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: Approve the agenda. Moved by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Rothhorn. Commissioner Clark, Chair, held a vote by show of hands.
MOTION APPROVED.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT PERTAINING TO AGENDA TOPICS

Commissioner Clark, Chair, put the motion "to begin the public comment pertaining to agenda topics portion of the agenda" forward without objection, which was adopted.

There was no live public comment. A complete inventory of live and written public comment is available at www.michigan.gov/micrc.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. FY 24 Budget Status.

Executive Director Woods presented on the fiscal year 2024 budget status.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Legal Rate Increases

i. Litigation Counsel

Commissioner Lett presented on a rate increase for litigation counsel.

MOTION: Move that the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission approves the rate increase for Baker Hostetler, litigation counsel, as presented retroactive to May 1, 2023. Moved by Commissioner Lett. Seconded by Commissioner Rothhorn. Commissioner Clark, Chair, held a vote by roll call. **BY A VOTE OF 8 – 3, MOTION APPROVED.**

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>
Doug Clark	Yes
Anthony Eid	Yes
Rhonda Lange	No
Steve Lett	Yes
Cynthia Orton	Yes
MC Rothhorn	Yes
Rebecca Szetela	Yes
Janice Vallette	Yes
Erin Wagner	No
Richard Weiss	Yes
Dustin Witjes	No

ii. Voting Rights Act Counsel

Commissioner Lett presented on a rate increase for VRA counsel.

MOTION: Move that the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission approves the rate increase for Federal Compliance Consulting, LLC, Voting Rights Act counsel, as presented retroactive to May 1, 2023. Moved by Commissioner Eid. Seconded by Commissioner Orton. Commissioner Clark, Chair, held a vote by roll call. **BY A VOTE OF 10 – 1, MOTION APPROVED.**

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>
Doug Clark	Yes
Anthony Eid	Yes
Rhonda Lange	No
Steve Lett	Yes
Cynthia Orton	Yes

MC Rothhorn	Yes
Rebecca Szetela	Yes
Janice Vallette	Yes
Erin Wagner	Yes
Richard Weiss	Yes
Dustin Witjes	Yes

iii. Local Counsel

Commissioner Lett presented on a rate increase for local counsel.

MOTION: Move that the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission approves the rate increase for Fink Bressack, local counsel, as presented retroactive to May 1, 2023. Moved by Commissioner Lett. Seconded by Commissioner Witjes. Commissioner Clark, Chair, held a vote by roll call. **BY A VOTE OF 10 – 1, MOTION APPROVED.**

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>
Doug Clark	Yes
Anthony Eid	Yes
Rhonda Lange	No
Steve Lett	Yes
Cynthia Orton	Yes
MC Rothhorn	Yes
Rebecca Szetela	Yes
Janice Vallette	Yes
Erin Wagner	Yes
Richard Weiss	Yes
Dustin Witjes	Yes

b. Modifying the Executive Director’s Contract

Commissioner Clark, Chair, presented on modifications the Executive Director’s contract.

MOTION: Move that the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission modifies the Executive Director’s contract to work from 30 days to 60 days after dormancy. Moved by Commissioner Clark. Supported by Commissioner Rothhorn.

MOTION TO AMEND: Move to amend the original motion that the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission modifies the Executive Director’s contract to work from 30 days to whatever time is necessary to complete the work of the Commission after dormancy. Moved by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Rothhorn. Commissioner Clark, Chair, held a vote by roll call.

BY A VOTE OF 5 – 6, MOTION TO AMEND FAILED.

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>
Doug Clark	Yes
Anthony Eid	No
Rhonda Lange	No
Steve Lett	Yes
Cynthia Orton	No
MC Rothhorn	No
Rebecca Szetela	Yes
Janice Vallette	Yes
Erin Wagner	No
Richard Weiss	Yes
Dustin Witjes	No

ORIGINAL MOTION: Move that the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission modifies the Executive Director’s contract to work from 30 days to 60 days after dormancy. Moved by Commissioner Clark. Supported by Commissioner Rothhorn.

Commissioner Clark, Chair, held a vote by roll call. **BY A VOTE OF 10 – 1, ORIGINAL MOTION APPROVED.**

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>
Doug Clark	Yes
Anthony Eid	Yes
Rhonda Lange	No
Steve Lett	Yes
Cynthia Orton	Yes
MC Rothhorn	Yes
Rebecca Szetela	Yes
Janice Vallette	Yes
Erin Wagner	Yes
Richard Weiss	Yes
Dustin Witjes	Yes

c. FY 23 Financial Report for May

Executive Director Woods presented the partial expenses for May 2023.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. May 18, 2023

MOTION: Approve the proposed minutes for the May 18, 2023, Meeting of the MICRC. Moved by Commissioner Witjes. Supported by Commissioner Rothhorn. Commissioner Lange abstained due to lacking sufficient information. **Commissioner Clark, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION APPROVED**

8. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Executive Director Woods presented updates to the Commission.

9. LEGAL LIAISON REPORT

Commissioner Lett, legal liaison, presented updates on the status of ongoing litigation.

10. MDOS REPORT

There was no MDOS report.

11. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

12. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioner Szetela requested an agenda item to evaluate the code of conduct.

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

14. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Adjourn the Meeting. Moved by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Wagner. **Commissioner Clark, Chair, held a vote by show of hands.**
MOTION APPROVED.

The Commission adjourned the meeting at 11:22 a.m.