

Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission
July 20th, 2023 Meeting Public Comment

Date of Submission: July 19, 2023 2:10 PM

Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>

Name: James Gallant

Subject: MICRC Public Comment_07-20-2023

MI Board of State Canvassers, Secretary Brater & Secretary Benson, (07-17-2023)

MI Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission & Secretary Benson, (07-20-2023)

Please consider scheduling a "Special Meeting" with a "Public Hearing" to formally review BSC's MICRC's currently approved "Rules of Procedure" for the conduct of the Commission's official business as a "Public Governmental Deliberative Assembly" under MI Constitution and BSC's MICRC's apparent Constitutional obligation to follow "Roberts Rules of Order" (RRNR) - according to MDOS Director of Legal Services (Mike Brady) while instructing Secretary of State (Jocelyn Benson) at the MI Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission (MICRC) meeting on Sept. 17, 2020 (attached pg. 26-27).

In my opinion, our ongoing disagreement concerning the Rules of Procedure (Roberts Rules), Due Process, your Oath of Office, and the manner in which the BSC MICRC is performing it's official duties - boils down to three (3) fundamental points (so far);

1.) Robert's Rules of Order was created as a direct interpretation of the proceedings of the U.S. House of Representatives for use in our Civil Society in order to establish a "Semblance of Order" across the multitude of public and private Deliberative Assemblies in the United States of America (USA) being consistent with the rights established in the U.S. Constitution.

2.) According to MI Director of Elections, Jonathan Brater, the MI Constitution requires all questions to be framed in the affirmative (yes means yes and no means no). This is also required under RRNR.

Yet on today's agenda (07-20-2023) the BSC MICRC has "no questions" - just "consideration of minutes & petitions other stuff" and "discussion of policies & other stuff" - so the BSC MICRC can effectively negotiate and agree to any number of amendments and "Proposals" (a.k.a. Motions) before they're even offered for formal consideration.

As we saw with the Petitions for Governor Race that were denied in 2022, the Board of State Canvassers can choose to either approve the proposals or deny them before the Motion (a.k.a. Proposal) is even offered for formal consideration and vote

3.) In the U.S.A., members of any Public Governmental Deliberative Assembly have the right to "know the questions that they are immediately discussing" and that there be only one (1) question at a time as required under the U.S. Constitution in our Legislatures and also in RRNR with over a hundred years of accepted use in our "Constitutional Democracy".

Because the BSC MICRC is clearly allowing the floor to be assigned for "all" of the discussion "before" a Motion/Second, the BSC MICRC is practicing a different form of governance known as "Deliberative Democracy" and "Consensus decision-making" (see attachments) instead of following RRNR and the requirements of our "Constitutional Democracy" under your current "Oath of Office".

Please schedule the requested Special Meeting and please start faithfully following the RRNR as required.

Also, Concerning Agenda Item 6a,

Commissioner Szetela has leveled significant allegations that may constitute a "Conflict of Interest" against Commissioner Eid pertaining to his "alleged employment" with a Left-Wing and Politically Charged Organization.

Observations from the U.P. of Michigan;

1. Commissioner Eid has suggested that he has a working knowledge of Robert's Rules of Order based on his experience as a Past President of the Student Senate for Wayne State University's - School of Medicine (WSU-SOM).

Based on Commissioner Eid's "performance" as the Chair of MICRC's 'Executive Director Search Committee' - his statements concerning RRNR are suspect at best.

It's my understanding that the WSU-SOM Student Senate has established itself as a Michigan Non-Profit Corporation that doesn't formally subscribe to RRNR as it's Parliamentary Authority Manual.

Thank you for your continued service,
James Gallant, Marquette County Suicide Prevention Coalition

Date of Submission: July 18, 2023 10:30 AM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Cathy Brabant
Subject: Updates

The SC is telling states that hurt black Americans to redraw their district lines. I think Michigan needs to do that too. Detroit has been divided up and diluted their power. Downriver has been divided up which has really hurt our area.

Date of Submission: June 24, 2023 12:46 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Lindsey Mariah
Subject: Support for Commissioner Eid

Dear MICRC,

Hello, my name is Lindsey from Detroit, and I have been diligently following the work of the MICRC since its inception. I also supported proposal 2 in 2018 and helped VNP collect signatures to get it passed.

I am writing today in support of Commissioner Eid and because I am concerned about the lack of support Commission members seem to have for each other.

I have no issues with Commissioner Eid working for a non-for-profit organization. It is well within his right to do so according to the Michigan Constitution. If Michigan citizens cared about this, we would have included it in the constitutional language and voted on it. You finished Redistricting in December 2021, over 500 days ago. I appreciate Commissioner Eid waiting so long after Redistricting was completed to accept this kind of job.

I often wonder why other Commissioners (and even State Lawmakers) aren't subject to the level of criticism Commissioner Eid is. From the outside looking in, it looks like there is a double standard. Why has no one written about the leanings of the other independents on the commission? There are independents that are more right leaning, and that's ok! I can only assume its because Commissioner Eid is the youngest on your commission, is Arab-American, or due to his diligent and outspoken work in the mapping process and defending your work in court - all of which make him an easy target.

Anyone who has been paying attention to your meetings can see a pattern of bullying, divide and conquer, and sowing distrust in your own colleagues and it's wrong! You should be defending each other, not attacking each other. All this serves to do is turn off young people and other minorities like myself from applying to this commission in future cycles.

Commissioner Eid, don't let the naysayers bring you down. The public is on your side! Thank you for you service to the State of Michigan and for your work to defend the Commission's work. You have my support.

Lindsey M

Detroit, MI
