

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 13, 2021

12:01 PM – 5:12 PM

at

Michigan State University Union, Lake Huron Room

49 Abbot Road

East Lansing, MI 48824

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Douglas James Clark

Juanita Curry (attending remotely from Detroit, MI)
(joined the meeting at 12:04 PM)

Anthony Eid

Brittni Kellom *(joined the meeting at 12:39 PM)*

Rhonda Lange (attending remotely from Reed City, MI)

Steven Terry Lett

Cynthia Orton

MC Rothhorn

Rebecca Szetela

Janice Vallette

Erin Wagner (attending remotely from Charlotte, MI)

Richard Weiss

Dustin Joseph Witjes

ABSENT:

N/A

OTHERS PRESENT: Suann Hammersmith, Executive Director

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

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Commissioner Szetela, Vice-Chair, called the meeting of the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission (MICRC) to order at 12:01 PM.

ROLL CALL

MDOS staff called roll. A quorum was met.

Commission Kellom arrived at 12:39 PM.

Commissioner Kellom left the meeting at 2:10 PM, 3:15 PM, and 4:09 PM and returned to the meeting at 2:13 PM, 3:23 PM, and 4:11 PM, respectively.

Commissioner Vallette left the meeting at 12:35 PM, 2:13 PM, and 3:33 PM and returned to the meeting at 12:39 PM, 2:16 PM, and 3:36 PM, respectively.

Commissioner Clark left the meeting at 12:41 PM and returned at 12:49 PM.

Commissioner Rothhorn left the meeting at 12:50 PM and 2:17 PM and returned to the meeting at 12:52 PM and 2:19 PM, respectively.

Commissioner Wagner left the meeting at 12:54 PM and 1:29 PM and returned to the meeting at 1:09 PM and 1:52 PM, respectively.

Commissioner Szetela left the meeting at 1:37 PM and 3:46 PM and returned to the meeting at 1:41 PM and 3:58 PM, respectively.

Commissioner Orton left the meeting at 2:18 PM and returned at 2:22 PM.

Commissioner Lange left the meeting at 3:28 PM and returned at 3:33 PM.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: Commissioner Szetela, Vice-Chair, called for a motion to approve the agenda. **Motion by Commissioner Witjes. Supported by Commissioner Rothhorn. Commissioner Szetela, Vice-Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

PUBLIC COMMENT PERTAINING TO AGENDA TOPICS

Commissioner Szetela, Vice-Chair, put the motion "to begin the public comment pertaining to agenda topics portion of the agenda" which was adopted. Eight individuals provided in-person public comment: Shelly Ochodnicky, Steve Myers, Rose Hooper, Kimberly Singer, Sarah Howard, Chris Andrews, Ellen Lambright,

and Connie Kranich. Eight individuals provided remote public comment: James Gallant, Brian Vitale, Anthony Scannell, Nicholas O’Keefe, Judy Maiga, Jason Behr, Andy Shaver, and Mayor Patricia Odette.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Draft Mapping of State Senate Districts in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Saginaw, and Genesee Counties; Reconciliation with other Senate Districts.
The Commission continued to draft State Senate Districts while consulting their previous maps to reconcile lines between drafted plans.

RECESS

At 2:32 PM, Commissioner Kellom, Chair, put the motion “to recess for 18 minutes until 2:50 PM” which was adopted.

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Kellom, Chair, called the meeting of the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission back to order at 2:50 PM.

ROLL CALL

MDOS staff called roll. A quorum was met.

PRESENT:

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

ABSENT:

N/A

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

- a. Draft Mapping of State Senate Districts in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Saginaw, and Genesee Counties; Reconciliation with other Senate Districts.
The Commission continued to draft State Senate Districts while consulting their previous maps to reconcile lines between drafted plans.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair for Next Six Months. Commissioner Kellom called “for the Executive Director to facilitate the discussion and note nominations for the elections” which was adopted.

Commissioners Orton, Szetela, Lett, Lange, Witjes, and Eid were nominated for the position of MICRC Chair for the next six months. Commissioner Orton denied the nomination while all others accepted.

MOTION: Move to Vote and Close Nominations. Motion by Commissioner Szetela. Supported by Commissioner Witjes. Commissioner Kellom, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

MOTION: Each Commissioner Receives One Vote, the Top Three Candidates Proceed to a Runoff Assuming there is No Outright Winner. Motion by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Szetela. Commissioner Kellom, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

The Commission held a vote for Chairperson by roll call to determine a runoff:

Nominee Szetela: Commissioners Szetela, Weiss, Kellom, Orton, Rothhorn

Nominee Lett: Commissioners Clark, Lett

Nominee Lange: Commissioners Wagner, Lange

Nominee Witjes: Commissioners Vallette, Witjes

Nominee Eid: Commissioner Eid

BY ROLL CALL VOTE OF 5-2-2-2-1, NOMINEE EID WAS DROPPED FROM THE NEXT ROUND.

The Commission held a second vote for Chairperson by roll call to determine a runoff:

Nominee Szetela: Commissioners Szetela, Weiss, Kellom, Orton, Rothhorn, Lett

Nominee Lett: Commissioners Clark

Nominee Lange: Commissioners Wagner, Lange

Nominee Witjes: Commissioners Vallette, Witjes, Eid

BY ROLL CALL VOTE OF 6-1-2-3, NOMINEES LANGE AND LETT WERE DROPPED FROM THE NEXT ROUND.

The Commission held a third vote for Chairperson by roll call:

Nominee Szetela: Commissioners Szetela, Weiss, Kellom, Orton, Rothhorn, Lett

Nominee Witjes: Commissioners Vallette, Witjes, Eid, Wagner, Lange, Clark

BY ROLL CALL VOTE OF 6-6, THE VOTE FAILED.

The Commission held a fourth vote for Chairperson by roll call:

Nominee Szetela: Commissioners Szetela, Weiss, Kellom, Orton, Rothhorn, Lett, Curry

Nominee Witjes: Commissioners Vallette, Witjes, Eid, Wagner, Lange, Clark

BY A VOTE OF 7-6, NOMINEE SZETELA WAS ELECTED CHAIR.

Commissioners Witjes and Rothhorn were nominated for the position of MICRC Vice-Chair for the next six months. Both Nominees accepted the nomination.

MOTION: Move to Vote and Close Nominations. Motion by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Szetela. Commissioner Kellom, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

The Commission held a vote for Vice-Chairperson by roll call:

Nominee Rothhorn: Commissioners Clark, Eid, Kellom, Orton, Rothhorn, Szetela

Nominee Witjes: Commissioners Weiss, Witjes, Lange, Lett, Vallette, Wagner

AFTER A ROLL CALL VOTE OF 6-6, THE COMMISSION TOOK A SECOND VOTE.

The Commission held a second vote for Vice-Chairperson by roll call:

Nominee Rothhorn: Commissioners Clark, Eid, Kellom, Orton, Rothhorn, Szetela, Curry

Nominee Witjes: Commissioners Weiss, Witjes, Lange, Lett, Vallette, Wagner

BY A VOTE OF 7-6, COMMISSIONER ROTHORN WAS ELECTED VICE-CHAIR.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – AUGUST 31, 2021 AND SEPTEMBER 1, 2021

Commissioners discussed the review and approval of the August 31st meeting minutes and the first set of meeting minutes from the September 9th meeting. The Commission offered no edits.

MOTION: Commissioner Szetela, Chair, called for a motion to approve the meeting minutes from August 31st. Motion by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Rothhorn. Commissioner Szetela, Chair,

held a vote by show of hands. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

MOTION: Commissioner Szetela, Chair, called for a motion to approve the first set of meeting minutes from September 1st. **Motion by Commissioner Witjes. Supported by Commissioner Lett. Commissioner Szetela, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

STAFF REPORTS

There were no reports.

MDOS UPDATES

There were no updates.

CORRESPONDENCE

There were no items of correspondence. All correspondence received is included in the public comment provided to the Commission.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

No future agenda items were discussed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Lange made an announcement.

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 Kellom. Commissioner Szetela, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:12 PM.