

DISCLAIMER: This is NOT a certified or verbatim transcript, but rather represents only the context of the class or meeting, subject to the inherent limitations of realtime captioning. The primary focus of realtime captioning is general communication access and as such this document is not suitable, acceptable, nor is it intended for use in any type of legal proceeding.

MICRC

08/24/21 9:00 pm Meeting

Captioned by Q&A Reporting, Inc., www.qacaptions.com

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: As Vice Chair of the Commission, I call this meeting of the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission to order at 9:06 a.m. This Zoom webinar is live streamed on YouTube at www.YouTube.com/MICHOS office/videos.

For anyone in the public watching who would prefer to watch via a different platform than they are currently using, please visit our social media at Redistricting MI to find the link for viewing on YouTube.

Our live stream today includes closed captioning. Closed captioning, ASL interpretation, and Spanish and Bengali and Arabic translation services will be provided for effective participation in this meeting.

E-mail us at Redistricting@Michigan.Gov for additional viewing options or details on accessing language translation services for this meeting.

People with disabilities or needing other specific accommodations should also contact Redistricting at Michigan.gov.

This meeting is also being recorded and will be available at www.Michigan.gov/MICRC for viewing at a later date and this meeting is being transcribed and those transcriptions will be made available and posted on Michigan.gov/MICRC along with the written public comment submissions.

There is also a comment portal that may be accessed by visiting Michigan.gov/MICRC, this portal can be utilized to post maps and comments which can be viewed by both the Commission and the public.

Members of the media who may have questions before, during or after the meeting should direct those questions to Edward Woods III, our Communications and Outreach Director for the Commission. WoodsE3@Michigan.gov. 517-331-6309.

For the purpose of the public watching and the public record, I will now turn the Michigan Department of State Staff to take note of the Commissioners present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Good morning, Commissioners.

Please say present when I call your name. If you are attending the meeting remotely state and unless absence is due to military duty, please disclose your physical location by stating the county, city, township, or village where you are attending the meeting remotely.

I'll start with Doug Clark.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Juanita Curry.

DISCLAIMER: This is NOT a certified or verbatim transcript, but rather represents only the context of the class or meeting, subject to the inherent limitations of realtime captioning. The primary focus of realtime captioning is general communication access and as such this document is not suitable, acceptable, nor is it intended for use in any type of legal proceeding.

- >> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Present.
- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Anthony Eid?
- >> COMMISSIONER EID: Present.

Brittini Kellom?

Rhonda Lange?

- >> COMMISSIONER LANGE: Present; attending from Reed City, Michigan.
- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Steve Lett?
- >> COMMISSIONER LETT: Present.
- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Cynthia Orton?
- >> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Present.
- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: MC Rothhorn?
- >> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Present.
- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Rebecca Szetela?
- >> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Present.
- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Janice Vallette?
- >> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Present.
- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Erin Wagner?
- >> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Present.
- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Dustin Witjes?
- >> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Present.
- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: 10 Commissioners are present and there is a quorum.
- >> CHAIR KELLOM: Thank you, Ms. Reinhardt. You can view The agenda at www.Michigan.gov/MICRC.
- I will now entertain a motion to approve the meeting agenda.
- >> COMMISSIONER WITJES: So moved.
- >> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Motion made by Commissioner Witjes. Seconded by Commissioner Clark. Is there any discussion or debate on the motion? Yes, Commissioner Clark?
- >> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Since we have the room until five, I say we extend the agenda out to 5:00 p.m.
- >> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I can't do that today. I already have things in the evening, but if everyone wants to do that, I can designate as acting Chair. I would want to hear from Department of State staff if we have audio and visual.
- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: The meeting is noticed until 5:00.
- >> I second.
- >> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Okay, Commissioner Lange?
- >> COMMISSIONER LANGE: Just for full disclosure, I'm not feeling good today. And I'm here just to make sure we have a quorum. So I don't know if I can make it until 5:00.

Just.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I noticed you sounded sick when you said you were here. So thank you for your diligence and your persistence in attending, Commissioner Lange.

Okay, so at this point we have -- I need clarification from Commissioner Clark. So when I thought you were seconding Commissioner Witjes to adopt the agenda, and you were making a motion to amend, just to clarify.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Correct.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: At this point we still need someone to second the motion of the adoption before we can consider an Amendment to that motion.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Second.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you, Commissioner Lett. So at this point we have a motion to extend the meeting agenda and, yes, motion to amend the meeting agenda to extend to 5:00, that was motioned by Commissioner Clark and seconded by Commissioner Orton. Is there any debate or discussion on the motion? I already know that Commissioner Lange provided her opinion. And Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: So I guess if we don't have a quorum we can't continue. But I think we should continue as long as we can and get ahead because we should use the building and the personnel that we have while we can do a public meeting because we are short on time.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Witjes, did you have a comment?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I was just going to say you can extend it tentatively out until 5:00 and play it by ear. And if you want to adjourn it early, you can always do that.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I would also indicate that speaking to our Executive Director this morning because, based on where we are on our agenda, it was her perception that based on how quickly we moved through things yesterday we were likely to actually complete the items on our agenda early. And at that point we would actually recess early for the afternoon, so that people can work on their homework for working on the next region, which is the Upper Peninsula and what was the other region, I'm sorry? I'm so sorry. I know you have food in your mouth.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Northeast and northwest.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: So the actual thought process is we were probably going to finish earlier and to break for homework because people are traveling to Traverse City tomorrow so people have the afternoon to spend more time so making everybody aware of that go ahead Commissioner Rothorn?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: We do have people who can leave at 3:00 and still do the homework and be in the building together. We won't have a constructive forum. We won't be able to make decisions, but we can at least sort of continue our work in the spirit of our homework.

DISCLAIMER: This is NOT a certified or verbatim transcript, but rather represents only the context of the class or meeting, subject to the inherent limitations of realtime captioning. The primary focus of realtime captioning is general communication access and as such this document is not suitable, acceptable, nor is it intended for use in any type of legal proceeding.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Right, right, okay, so in light of all of that, let's go ahead, unless there is more comments, let's go ahead and vote on the motion to amend to extend the adjournment time until 5:00 p.m.

All in favor of that amendment, and, again, we are voting on the amendment, not the actual agenda, please raise your hand and say aye.

Why don't we do a roll call on this one just because I have a feeling, we are going to need it. So, Department of State, can you do a roll call, please?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Absolutely. Please indicate your vote with your support of the motion with a yes or a no.

I will call on Commissions' names in alphabetical order starting with Rhonda Lange?

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: No.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Steve Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Some of us have further to drive than others so mine is a no.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Cynthia Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Yes.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: MC Rothhorn?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Yes.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Rebecca Szetela?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: No.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Janice Vallette?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Yes.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Richard Weiss?

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: No.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Dustin Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: No.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Doug Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yes.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Anthony Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Yes.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT:

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: We have a tie of five no's and five yeses, guys, so it does not pass.

All right. So at this point we are going to move on to adopting the agenda which has not been amended.

So we have a motion by Commission Witjes. Seconded by Commissioner Orton. Was that correct? Commissioner Lett, sorry, Commissioner Witjes, Commissioner Lett to adopt the meeting agenda. All in favor of adopting the meeting agenda, please raise your hand and say aye.

Opposed raise your hand and say Nay.

DISCLAIMER: This is NOT a certified or verbatim transcript, but rather represents only the context of the class or meeting, subject to the inherent limitations of realtime captioning. The primary focus of realtime captioning is general communication access and as such this document is not suitable, acceptable, nor is it intended for use in any type of legal proceeding.

So it passes and we will move on to public topics portion of the meeting unless there is objection to doing so.

Hearing no objections, we will now proceed with the public comment pertaining to agenda topics.

I believe we have one person in person.

Okay. So individuals who have signed up and indicated they would like to provide in-person public commentary to the Commission will now be allowed to do so. Please step to the nearest microphone when I call your number. You will have two minutes to address the Commission. And please conclude your remarks when you hear the timer. You can step to the microphone, sir.

And first in line to provide public comment is number one. And you are now invited to address the Commission.

>> My name Mike, the president of UAW602 in Lansing. And, first off, thank you for the work you are doing.

Again, I don't envy you.

It's got to be very difficult. And I'm here to stand in favor of fairness, equity. 61% of the population of the State of Michigan who voted, voted in favor of you guys doing this, of everyone coming and making it a more democratic process, not having safe districts, not having lifetime ability to just sit there and do whatever you choose without any oversight.

Our elected officials need to have an opportunity to be voted out should they not represent their districts.

This is what democracy is about.

I urge you to do -- to make the maps with fairness in mind, with equity in mind, with accountability in mind.

Don't be afraid to break up a City.

Don't be afraid to do what you have to.

In my opinion you are probably have people unhappy no matter what you do. But if you let your conscious be your guide, I think you will do great.

Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

We will now move on to our remote public comments. So individuals who have signed up and indicated they would like to provide live remote public comment to the Commission will now be allowed to do so. I will call on your name and our staff will unmute you. If you are on a computer, you will be prompted but I the Zoom app to unmute your microphone and speak.

If you are on the phone, a voice will say that the host would like you to speak and prompt you to press star six to unmute.

I will call on you by your name or your last four digits of your phone number. Also please note if you experience technical difficulties or audio issues and we do not hear

from you for 3-5 seconds, we will move on to the next person in line and return to you after they are done speaking.

If your audio still does not work, you can e-mail us at www.Michigan.gov and we will troubleshoot so you can participate during the next public comment period at a later hearing or meeting.

You will have two minutes to address the Commission.

Please conclude your remarks when you hear the timer.

The first in line to provide remote public comment is Mr. James Galant.

>> Can you hear me, Madam Chair?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Good morning, Mr. Galant. Please proceed.

>> Hello, my name is James Galant. I'm with the Marquette Suicide Prevention Coalition and these are my opinions. And I think that we are coming right along in our debate, in our debate about the rules and the fundamental principles of parliamentary law in America. As we saw yesterday in your proceedings, when, you know, you had resolutions come to the board or the Commission.

It's already prepared.

It's an agenda item. It's an action item.

There is a motion to entertain, to approve the next item.

That is what this is supposed to be about.

And I think what happened here was very clearly Commissioner Lett was the one. He is the one that remember at the beginning he was the temporary Chair. And then all of a sudden, he was suggesting at the beginning that you not do a committee as a whole structure, which is exactly what you are doing.

This is the criticisms of the deliberative democracy. We are going to do consensus building and all of the collaborative, collaborative, yes; but within the framework that was provided to you, you know.

And everybody has a right to know what you're talking about first.

And, you know, Mr. Brace, you know, he is a smart chap. He is. But, you know, there is real chaps. There is smart chaps and then there is real smart chaps. And real smart chaps follow the rules. And, you know, they take a little bit less and, you know, they give and take. That is the give and take part. But you follow the rules. And, you know, I believe that your vendors are interfering with your proceedings. And they are directly feeding and facilitating your answers.

You always -- you are continually what do we do, what do we do. And so they are making answers for you.

And the deliberative process and consensus building, everybody is supposed to have to speak. That is one of the criticisms. It takes so long because everybody has to give their opinion.

You only have four or five people right here, right now dominating the discussion. Mr., you know, Commissioner Clark; Commissioner Witjes; and Commissioner Ms. Szetela

are the bullies. It's bullying because the Chair does not have the authority to assign the floor before there is a motion and it has been properly seconded. So this is bullying. And it's too personal. You are getting on a first name basis. You are not supposed to do that. You are not supposed be on a first name basis. And that is why this is wrong. Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. We will now move on to Callie-Bruley.

>> Hi, everyone. My name is Callie-Bruley and I live in Wayne County. And I wanted to thank the Commission for the work so far to make sure the redistricting process is fair.

As a Wayne County resident, I wanted to highlight two areas of concern. My first concern is that in the mapping schedule that the Commission approved last week, there is the same amount of time allotted for drafting maps in the Detroit Metro Region as you drew it, as there are in much less populous regions.

The Detroit Metro Region contains the three most populous counties in our state or at least a third of the population.

So I ask that you please plan to spend more time in the Detroit Metro Region where it will take you longer based on the need to draw more districts.

My second concern is that Commissioner Brittini Kellom has been missing a lot the last couple weeks.

Being a fellow Wayne County resident, I see her as, you know, the best representation for me on the Commission.

And have been concerned by her absence.

My concern isn't necessarily regarding her absence directly.

I'm sure she has her reasons why she can't attend. And I don't need to know them. But more about the schedule itself.

If there is a reason that one Commissioner consistently cannot make meetings, the Commission should be having a more variety in meeting schedule times so that everyone has the opportunity to attend.

I've always appreciated Kellom's presence and participation in the meetings and ask that the Commission make necessary scheduling updates to make sure all Commissioners have the same opportunity to participate.

Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

That concludes our first round of in-person and remote public commentary.

We will now, without objection, we will hear from individuals seeking to provide a second two-minute public comment.

Hearing no objection, we will now proceed with individuals seeking to provide a second two-minute public comment.

DISCLAIMER: This is NOT a certified or verbatim transcript, but rather represents only the context of the class or meeting, subject to the inherent limitations of realtime captioning. The primary focus of realtime captioning is general communication access and as such this document is not suitable, acceptable, nor is it intended for use in any type of legal proceeding.

Individuals who have signed up and indicated that they would like to provide a second live, remote public comment to the Commission will now be allowed to do so. We will use the same process as the first round, which includes the time limit of two minutes.

First in line to provide public comment is Mr. James Galant.

>> Can you hear me now?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, sir.

>> All right. James Galant, again, Marquette County Suicide Prevention Coalition still. And these are still my opinions. And, you know, as we were discussing there, I consider this, what you think it's collaborative, this is great and this is experimental democracy. You know, you will do it a brand new way.

That's wrong because you did not get to do it a brand new way.

This Commission is not to be changing the democracy.

Part of it, of the way that we do it.

And I was going to bring up absolutely that the Chair has not been here.

Commissioner Kellom has not been here and she should be replaced.

Absolutely.

It's not Commissioner Kellom's excuse, the lead [inaudible] excused absences. And, no, she should be replaced. She should begin with the secretary of state today with voting.

Contact the Secretary of State and get her replace. Unless she is going to show up and be here. And because then is now, happening now. It's going to become, oh, sorry, and adjust the schedule, that is not good. And I don't know what the Wayne County resident was talking about. She is a perfect, perfect example of Wayne County representation.

I don't think so.

Because, no, because there are rules.

Wayne County, go to Wayne County Board of Commissioners, at the first meeting every year, the clerk presides over the meeting to elect a Chair.

That is what is supposed to happen here.

And why is the Secretary of State not here? You know, you had questions yesterday about what was the motion again? Well, Madam Clerk, Madam Chair, and Madam Secretary is going to have to get together and figure that out because the secretary is the officer who is the keeper of the records and she is not here.

And nobody is doing it.

And I think I'm going to be pursuing a recall election petition for -- because Secretary of State is simply not participating here. She is not doing her constitutional duty.

To be the secretary without a vote, you have to be at the meeting.

Every meeting under parliamentary law in America has to have two officers, a Chair and a secretary, not cochairs, not the Vice Chair, not that, no.

DISCLAIMER: This is NOT a certified or verbatim transcript, but rather represents only the context of the class or meeting, subject to the inherent limitations of realtime captioning. The primary focus of realtime captioning is general communication access and as such this document is not suitable, acceptable, nor is it intended for use in any type of legal proceeding.

A Chair and a secretary, keeper of the records.

And she is simply not doing it. And then just hearing no objection it becomes, oh, apparently, they agree. And if she agrees then she is going to have to explain.

So thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission, Mr. Galant. That concludes our public comment this morning.

I'd like to mention that all e-mailed and mailed public comment is provided to the Commission before each meeting. And the Commissions also review the public comment portal on our www.Michigan.gov/MICRC website on a regular basis.

We appreciate everyone who provides public comment in whatever way that they choose to do so. And we invite you to keep sharing your thoughts, community of interest and proposed maps.

Without objection, I would like to go to unfinished business, Agenda Item 5A, continuation of mapping of the State House Districts in the southeast region. The region includes Monroe, Lenawee and Hillsdale Counties, along the southeast border with Ohio as well as Jackson, Washington and Livingston Counties.

The regions in which the Commission is working today provide a starting point so we are not mapping the entire state at one time.

Regions are not districts.

So District lines will be drawn across regions as the Commission meets the criteria listed in the Michigan Constitution. The criteria in rank order, one, equal population in compliance with the Voting Rights Act and Federal law.

Two, geographically contiguous.

Three, reflect the State's diverse population and community of interest.

Four, not provide a disproportionate advantage to any political party.

Five, not favor or disfavor any incumbent elected official or candidate.

Six, reflect consideration of County, City and Township boundaries.

Seven, be reasonably compact.

Without objection, I'd like to ask, I'm sorry, one second. So we are going to pick up and facilitate the House -- I'm sorry, facilitate the drawing of the House District drafting in the southeast region. We are going to proceed in the same order that we began with yesterday.

I believe we left off with Commissioner Eid as the last person who did mapping yesterday. So we are going to pick up where we left off.

Is that correct or was it you, Commissioner Lett? I thought we were with Commissioner Eid? Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I think that is correct.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Next in line, and I appreciate you are sick, Commissioner Lange, so if you would be so kind as to do the next House District if you are up to it.

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: Does the Commission mind if I pass today?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I don't have a problem with that.

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: Okay, I'm going to pass.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Okay, so let's move on to Commissioner Lett then. And, Mr. Morgan, I believe you're the one who is going to be assisting with mapping today, so if you could --

>> I may need help connecting the video and we will see if this works.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: We will open up the map we worked on yesterday and share your screen so the public can see what we are working on.

>> MR. MORGAN: Can you see my screen on the monitors?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> MR. MORGAN: On the Zoom feed as well.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> MR. MORGAN: One thing I'm going to do as before, I'm just going to bring the regional layers up as a reference if you like.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Okay, that will be helpful.

And to clarify for the record, I received a copy of the work you did yesterday and this is the same information and I've loaded it up and saved it as another plan with today's date.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Okay.

>> MR. MORGAN: I will copy the information from today so I can send it to EDS. Okay. So the area that is not filled in with a color is unassigned territory is my understanding.

So portion of Jackson County and Washtenaw and a portion of Livingston are unassigned in this area.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: So, Commissioner Lett, where would you like to focus in on?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Well, I guess go back to the east.

And a little south to the Ann Arbor area.

I was reading the comments last night and there was some discussion about separating Ypsilanti from Ann Arbor.

And they seem to say that Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti ought to be together in one District. So I guess there is some discussion that we might take up. Do we really want to split those out?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I think for a House District that would not be possible because of the population.

I think the population of Ann Arbor is over 200 and some odd thousand.

>> MR. MORGAN: 125,000.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: That is over a House District for itself for the Senate it might be possible but for the House District it would not be possible because of the numbers.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Let's look at the northeast.

You're in what?

>> MR. MORGAN: I'm in Washtenaw here.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: I know where you are. Are you looking at Townships Counties?

>> MR. MORGAN: Townships around Ann Arbor.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Where your arrow is highlight that.

>> MR. MORGAN: You would like to highlight the balance of Ann Arbor as a District?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Yes.

>> MR. MORGAN: All right so I'm going to select District ten which is the next available number in the matrix.

And in this case because some of the City of Ann Arbor is already assigned, I'm going to select the portions by voting precinct.

And then you can tell me what you want me to select.

And the long string of numbers are the precinct numbers which I don't know I don't think we have a name other than the numbers on this part of the area.

Unless is there a name for the precincts?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Not that I'm aware of.

>> KIM BRACE: The last four digits of that long number is the precinct number.

>> MR. MORGAN: Where would you like to start along the border with the proposed District nine?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Yes.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay, there is one voting precinct.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Okay, just keep going to the east.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

Following the border with the District to the south?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Yes.

>> MR. MORGAN: Continue?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Yes.

Keep going.

>> MR. MORGAN: As a reference these blue outlines are the City and Township boundaries.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Okay thank you.

Let's move up north.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay, yeah, that particular voting precinct appears to be part of the Township.

Would you like to continue or stay in the City?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: No, continue.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Move over to the west where you have that right below Ann Arbor up there, through there.

>> MR. MORGAN: Here to far west?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: No at the end of Arbor.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: In other words fill that in.

>> MR. MORGAN: I can take several at once.

Then to the west.

You can take several of those at a time.

>> MR. MORGAN: All right.

Would you like me to undo that last one?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: It's a little weird out there.

>> MR. MORGAN: It appears to be part of the Township in the City.

>> KIM BRACE: What you ended up doing John is you ended up selecting a polygon that is inside the City.

Part of the problem with annexation and therefore it selected the remainder of that Township that is outside the City.

That little piece right there.

>> MR. MORGAN: I see what you're saying, Kim.

>> KIM BRACE: Yes.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay, the population is 50,000, 54,000, about 60% of the District at this point.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: The blue number is the population number, right?

>> MR. MORGAN: The blue numbers on the voting precinct are population this is 5900 fairly large for a voting precinct others 1500, 1200.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Go over to the east, just north of what you have picked already and let's take it back to the west, picking those up as we go, please.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay do you want this one to the north?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: We will see what it looks like.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

The remainder over here on the east side, these two or three?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Yes.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay, that is 71,000.

About 22% under.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Right keep going.

>> MR. MORGAN:

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Pick those to the north.

>> MR. MORGAN: This next one here?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Uh-huh.

>> MR. MORGAN: So now it's negative 4.3 population and 87,000 out of 91.

Do you want to take the one to the north or stop?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: See what that.

>> MR. MORGAN: Population is 291.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: See the unassigned area in the middle of 11010.

>> MR. MORGAN: Yes.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: What does that do for us.

>> MR. MORGAN: That should be 2000 so now the deviation is negative two, 89 almost 90,000 out of 91612 is the ideal.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: You have two unassigned areas from the bottom left.

>> MR. MORGAN: Yes, in order to select those, you would potentially have to look by block.

I can select them as a voting precinct and see what that looks like if you like.

>> KIM BRACE: That voting precinct goes down below so you will have to do it by block.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: See what it looks like.

>> MR. MORGAN: By block or select the voting precinct?

>> KIM BRACE: By block.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Can we run analysis and cleanup these other little unassigned areas and see what that does for us?

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay in this case it would be dis-contiguities is what you are looking for, the areas that are dis-contiguous.

This is the larger group and the individual will be in the same District, but not contiguous.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Assign them.

>> MR. MORGAN: In this case we would be assigning this to District nine which is a previously drafted District is that what you would like to do?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Got to put it somewhere.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: It probably doesn't have enough people to make it one District, does it?

>> KIM BRACE: There we go.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Just a clarifying question areas of Ann Arbor where we have these little kind of pockets it's okay to just reassign them into the area that surrounds them?

>> MR. MORGAN: Well, that is one way you can resolve this.

Another possibility would be to assign whatever the noncontiguous portion is, if you wanted to that would resolve it without using these small blocks.

However, as you can see by this block, the population is zero.

The only thing I would point out it may be a different municipality if that is something to consider.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Which means potentially you've got election officials having to do like a different ballot for this precinct or this little block.

So it's more complicated for the election officials.

>> MR. MORGAN: It is and again as we discussed before there is plenty of opportunity to make revisions if you wanted to consider that at a later point.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Okay.

>> MR. MORGAN: For the moment if Commissioner Lett want to assign those it's appropriate.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: There are to options you can include the outside areas so you are catching that or you can kind of go back in and reassign things.

>> MR. MORGAN: That is a very good way to consider it, Kim go ahead.

>> KIM BRACE: Basically if indeed from an election authority's standpoint if for example these blocks have zero population, then, yes, it's territory but it's not within the City.

But it's not affecting any voters.

So that is certainly one consideration if you see these blocks of unpopulated then you can go ahead and assign them to the surrounding area and they are not really impacting anybody from the election side.

Now, if indeed you know over the next decade these this little area suddenly has people that move into that, then they become separate ballots.

But you know that is up to the election official in terms of how they deal with that.

But that would be the circumstance.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Okay thank you.

>> MR. MORGAN: The only other point I would add to that is when we come to the point of creating a legal description of the document, it would just say I think it's Ann Arbor Township and it would say population zero for this particular area.

Okay, so putting this in nine, yep.

Okay so this one I could unassign that.

It's currently part of ten.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: It was zero so unassign it.

>> KIM BRACE: But you've got it looks like, well, that whole area it looks like the precinct may end up going there.

So they have got both.

That goes there.

>> MR. MORGAN: I'm backing up to the one that it appeared it did not assign. Okay, so Kim were you saying that you thought the yellow bounded precinct is a precinct.

>> KIM BRACE: Right.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Pull back, Zoom out.

>> MR. MORGAN: I'm going to put the Township label on for a moment so we can see what Township we are in here.

Scio.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: It's too big.

>> MR. MORGAN: As a full Township, yes, I think Kim was saying this voting precinct may only be this area or it may be larger or we can just unassign that block.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Well sign in and see what happens.

>> MR. MORGAN: The voting precinct?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Yes.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay, it's okay let's Zoom out and see what it looks like and we will meet up with our friend undo.

So it's that whole portion including this area here and this area here.

This small block appears to be part of the City of Ann Arbor and I think this is part of the Township.

It would be indicated by the yellow boundary so I will undo this, is that what you would like?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Yes.

>> KIM BRACE: The other option would be down at the block level to fill in the portion of the precinct without getting all the way across.

But at the block level then you can assign that and create a smooth edge.

You notice you have 31 people in one block.

Nine, 75 is already assigned to it, 22 is already assigned to it.

So you are really picking up the 31 and given the building portions that you see underneath you can have the aerial photographs to see really where you are underneath.

But I would think that that's probably picking up a bunch of territory that probably makes some sense to keep together.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: I'm assuming the other lines.

>> MR. MORGAN: This looks like highway 14 here.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: So probably a lot of that is easement, highway easement.

>> KIM BRACE: To the left and it's this stuff to the right the block that has 31 people in it, that's close enough to the City boundary just but this side of the highway. So conceivably one might consider that part of that community to the east.

>> MR. MORGAN: So one thing to consider here and the choice of whether to unassign that block therefore putting it into a different District or to do as Kim was suggesting which was include this small portion of the Township is if you were to include the small portion of the Township, you're probably putting all of the municipal boundary

DISCLAIMER: This is NOT a certified or verbatim transcript, but rather represents only the context of the class or meeting, subject to the inherent limitations of realtime captioning. The primary focus of realtime captioning is general communication access and as such this document is not suitable, acceptable, nor is it intended for use in any type of legal proceeding.

of Ann Arbor primarily in this District and then the other portion of Ann Arbor City is in the proposed District nine.

So Ann Arbor which we discussed is greater than one House District would have to be split between two.

But if you, again, one possibility would be to keep the municipal boundary of the City together in two districts as opposed to having a zero population block in the third District.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Commissioner Lett brought up a point earlier for the house as regards to the House District of Ypsilanti wanting to be with Ann Arbor.

But as we know it's too big and we have to split it.

But while it's being split, is there a way to have the part that we split up with Ypsilanti? Like could we have the northern part of Ann Arbor with Ypsilanti and then the southern part of Ann Arbor on its own? Because that way at least some of the City is with Ypsilanti and it might work with population.

That might be, I don't know if that is what you wanted to do but it's an idea.

>> MR. MORGAN: So to answer the question based on the population at this point it appears that the City of Ann Arbor is split entirely into District nine and District ten and District ten is within the population deviation and District nine is, so I guess what I'd say is the term I would say is District ten is already full and there isn't enough population from Ypsilanti or anywhere else that you would add to it.

It would be too much population.

You could along your lines of thinking you could take a third portion of Ann Arbor and pair it with part of Ypsilanti, which would be a different draw.

But you could do that.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Let's take that triangle and square it off.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> KIM BRACE: Pick up the nine and the zero.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON:

>> MR. MORGAN: Commissioner Lett do you want me to take those islands?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Yes

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Orton did you have a comment?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Anthony just looking at the population I just looked up it looks like that would be possible if you wanted to create an alternative it could be two.

>> MR. MORGAN: Should I run the dis-contiguity check again?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Sure.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay found no dis-contiguities.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: What about unassigned?

>> MR. MORGAN: There are plenty the entire state is unassigned.

>> KIM BRACE: It's not constrained.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Don't be cute.

[Laughter]

>> KIM BRACE: It's not constrained, yes.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: All right so where are we now? 1700 people.

>> MR. MORGAN: Yes.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: 1.94.

>> MR. MORGAN: That's right and from what it appears it's taking the balance of Ann Arbor that was not in the proposed District nine then it looks like a portion of the Ann Arbor Township or it looks like the entirety of Ann Arbor Township if that is the way I'm reading it.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: It looks good to me.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Commissioner Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: I yield, yes, I will have an explanation.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Yes, can you explain why you started where you started? And also why the District took the shape that it did? Thank you.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Well, I started where I started because we did Section nine yesterday.

District nine as we are calling it.

And so I continued up from there in order to have a District that looked somewhat regular and that would contain significant population to form a House District without losing my regularity and compactness on the District.

And it appeared to me at least at this stage of our mapping that that would be a District that would be contiguous, would be regular, compact and contain sufficient numbers.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Thank you.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: You're welcome.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Next is Commissioner Orton?

>> MR. MORGAN: Can I point out one thing? Sorry to bring this up but there are some areas that would appear to be dis-contiguous but because they are not assigned to another District the software doesn't consider them dis-contiguities so they are just unassigned.

So this would be something as soon as someone says take this portion of Scio Township then this would become a dis-contiguity but that could be the next Commissioner's problem to deal with or we can fix it now, okay.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: No, my idea was to clean all of that up.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> KIM BRACE: You need to go to the block level in order to do that.

>> MR. MORGAN: Do you want me to -- Kim was suggested to assign just that one precinct or Township to the other District so we can see the contrast but we can also just do by block.

Yeah, there is a bunch up here as well.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Here is my concern the ones up here put them in.

I mean they are in the middle.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: The ones here on the west side.

>> MR. MORGAN: On the fringe.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: They may be in a subdivision, it looks like they are, and whatever well Scio Township.

>> MR. MORGAN: Yes.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I was thinking when you do the next area you assign the whole Township and then fix a few blocks as opposed to fix a few blocks now and then have to assign a whole Township block at a time, just efficiency.

Everyone.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: That is her problem.

[Laughter]

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I agree absolutely.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: I would pick up what appears to be A Street and if I was to guess I would think it is it might be phase two of whatever subdivision is going in there.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: But you got to assign it somewhere so I would assign it to ten.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: 407.

>> MR. MORGAN: Let me Zoom if on this and because this is corner to corner, I believe this would be considered not contiguous and we will click this one and leave it as an open question.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Cynthia may have to come back to that assuming she goes that way to take a look at that.

>> MR. MORGAN: That is a Township number.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: I would leave that white.

>> MR. MORGAN: The unassigned area.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: So we don't forget it.

>> MR. MORGAN: Up to the north we have these other Township islands.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Yes, I would put those in.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay, okay so those are the ones that we observed by looking around.

We could look more carefully at every area of the District or we could hand it off and then they will become apparent as other geography is selected, okay?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: I would not want other people not to have something to do.

>> MR. MORGAN: All right.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: If we undo down on the west, we had one that we clicked on, yeah, that 4007, undo that.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: So that we don't forget it.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay I guess we are going to Scio Township.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay so starting a new District, and District 11 is the next number, do you want to use that number?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Yes, thank you.

>> MR. MORGAN: That took some things from the other District so as Kim pointed out quietly, I heard him say we could lock the District ten and then would that Township selection work or do I have to select by precinct?

>> KIM BRACE: That would work.

>> MR. MORGAN: Would you like me to undo that?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Yes, undo that so it goes back to nine.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Then I want the rest of the Township.

I had trouble with that.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay so I go to the District properties, manage districts.

>> KIM BRACE: Right.

>> MR. MORGAN: Go to District ten and we are going to lock that.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: And nine.

>> MR. MORGAN: Sorry yes good point, nine.

Locking nine and locking ten.

Theoretically when we click the Township it will -- and if it does not work, we may have to select by precinct or block but the results should be roughly the same.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Yes, that is the problem I have run in to is that it won't select.

>> MR. MORGAN: That is right and I don't know if I would call it a safety feature but it's either a feature, I would not call it a bug but it's how the software resolves that. So in this case what I would suggest is we look at the precinct or block level and select.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Yeah, whatever you have to do to get Scio Township.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay so I Zoom in to the blocks.

And what basically I think I can do is I can select the equivalent of the balance of that voting District that's been split here because I think it will be the same issue if you select by the single voting District it will just fail because it's already split.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Right.

>> MR. MORGAN: I'm going to make the District a little more visible so I'm going to change the color.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I was going to suggest that so thank you very much.

>> MR. MORGAN: Changing color doesn't have any impact on the process here.

>> KIM BRACE: I think John you can go back to the precinct level and assign at the precinct level.

You have got precinct ten locked, so you can capture a lot more territory.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay we will see if that works.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Can you make that color darker?

>> MR. MORGAN: Yes.

>> KIM BRACE: Yeah, I think that is what our problem was before because it looked like you were getting a 11 showing up.

In that once it caught up with you.

>> MR. MORGAN: Trying to do this District it may or may not accept that.

>> KIM BRACE: Yes.

>> MR. MORGAN: It's not going to accept that because it's already split.

So in this case if we try to confine ourselves to just finishing that single voting District, we can probably click the rest of the Township in by voting precinct, okay.

So why don't I do that.

I'm going to click in the balance of the Township and then we will focus on those areas that are unassigned.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: So I think for speed for efficiency it's a good idea to not go down to the block level until we are going back through and fine tuning.

>> MR. MORGAN: And I guess this is one way to check to figure out which voting precincts are split because essentially if the software puts that in, then it's not split. And if the software doesn't put it in then it's an indication that it is split.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Yeah.

>> MR. MORGAN: So this voting precinct to the south is probably, it probably is going to be split.

No, yeah, because there is an island in there but see.

>> KIM BRACE: Right.

>> MR. MORGAN: So now we will go in and select by block.

Okay we will see if I stray into the locked area what happens.

Okay, it works.

So in that case, since we are doing this at the block level, it just it doesn't take the blocks in the locked District so that is exactly what we want.

And then here is that fringe area that Commissioner Lett was showing before.

So we will take a look at that after we finish this.

So it appears that the Township is in.

I think this is another municipality there.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Right, Dexter.

We can cleanup along the edge if you want before we go on.

>> MR. MORGAN: Sure and to facilitate that if I use the dis-contiguity check it will highlight any areas that are dis-contiguous.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: But we will have to unlock ten before we can.

>> MR. MORGAN: That is right.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: You taught me well.

>> MR. MORGAN: That is, in fact, the area that Commissioner Lett left for you.

>> KIM BRACE: Yes.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Put that in ten.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay, okay so.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Before we move away from there can we change the map to aerial view?

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: I want to look at that and see what that whole area is.

>> MR. MORGAN: Sure.

>> KIM BRACE: It actually was in the edit tools as I recall.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> KIM BRACE: Down at the bottom.

>> KIM BRACE: Okay.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay so let's try okay where would you like me to Zoom in?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: 4007.

>> MR. MORGAN: The 4007 so again this legally appears to be part of Scio Township and there doesn't well it appears to be maybe one structure. It's a little it looks like the structure is in the City and perhaps another parcel is in the Township.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Select the aerial.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Can I speak to this? These protruding pieces are your District boundaries so when you run your compactness the little jagged edge will decrease your compactness scores.

At the same time it can make the voter registrars or election officials happier because it's in the correct Township that the block is.

But those little pieces like that will impact your compactness scores yet there is no people living there.

It's just something to keep in mind.

When you are starting to get wiggly lines and people start wondering why did you do that.

>> MR. MORGAN: I think you provided a reason Kent and others we saw there was a Township boundary there.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: I just wanted to see what it looked like.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: I feel it bears talking about because I think we the people have said when we have been told hey when it's gerrymandering when one side of the street is you know, the you know one voting District and the other side of the street isn't.

I guess I'm thinking about how it's rather it's, yeah, like it feels right to do it this way. But the shape is still funny.

It's not gerrymandering it's what we are doing respecting the Township boundaries even though the shape is funny.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Even though it's appearance it's not gerrymandering and that is frequent and this is just the way it is.

There is no population.

That's the Township boundary.

You can make one good sense either way.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Madam Chair.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, General Counsel.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Again just to up lift what Commissioner Rothorn is saying, right now the Commission is just looking at equal population.

So, again, how once the deeper analysis of the other criteria and the other data is up lifted and you start working through the Voting Rights Act, you start working through the overlays of the community of interest, you start looking at the partisan fairness modeling on the statewide maps and you start kind of going through all those different steps, again, right now the Commission is painting with a very broad brush just based on equal population of the districts.

So I just wanted to highlight that again for the record.

>> KIM BRACE: But you are reflecting the other constraint that you have in your provisions in terms of the Township and City boundaries.

So it's the conflict there that is happening, what we are seeing here.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: I think that is like the sixth criteria.

>> KIM BRACE: Yeah.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay John if you would choose the City of Dexter.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Or village probably.

Okay or 11.

>> MR. MORGAN: I think the undo button should require a toll.

So looking at the Township populations here, there is about 20 some thousand for the balance of Washtenaw County.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: So this is going to be very large.

So okay I guess choose those.

>> MR. MORGAN: The northern tier of the Townships?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Yes.

>> MR. MORGAN: And the District should be able to accommodate that.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay, then choose the Township of Hamburg

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Just north.

Yes, please.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: You're getting into Livingston County.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Go ahead.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: If I were you, I would tend to head into Oakland and Wayne excuse me not Wayne whatever that is Southfield, I'm not sure that is and Oakland I guess it is Oakland and Wayne.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: But I'm boxed in.

You are saying that long tail.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: And again I don't know that there is a better choice or a good choice I'm just saying it does feel like and I do believe that you know, Commissioner Witjes had some ideas that may be useful.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: So at this time I would just like to say I think this is a useful exercise because we are seeing how we are getting boxed in and these are not looking like I think they should look.

I think we all kind of feel that way.

But we should move forward because we are learning.

So and this will all change.

So, yes, Steve.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: I'm just looking at some of the comments.

And none of them are going east.

They are going north and west.

>> Excuse me I'm sorry whoever is speaking right now I can't hear you.

This is the interpreter.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Sorry I will do better.

Thank you.

None are going east.

They are going into Scio, Hamburg up that way, in other words they are not headed towards Detroit.

Just to let you know.

I mean I'm just looking at them.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Thank you.

Can you Zoom out so I can see?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Any thoughts from the Commission?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Since we are learning why don't you take the balance to get to your population.

Is it about 22000?

>> MR. MORGAN: Genoa is 20,000 and then Brighton, which is next door, is 7,000. And if you took those two you would be over, but probably close to the tolerance.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I feel Brighton and Howell need to be together. Do you agree Dustin? I think we have seen that in comments. So I'm going to go but yeah that would make more sense.

Can you take Green Oak Township from whatever, from seven.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: For the public record this is Commissioner Witjes I suggested she can take Green Oak Township and add it to her District 11.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay from the draft District seven?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Yes, please.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: And Lion Township.

>> MR. MORGAN: Lion is 23,000 with the addition of Green Oak.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I didn't.

>> MR. MORGAN: There was smaller Lion village.

Which you could do.

That's in Oakland.

Here you're negative 2.9.

It's within the tolerance.

There are additional Townships as well.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Well eventually I think we should be closer than that but I think for right now that's good.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay and I will point out just for the record and I'm sure people are aware of this by doing that you unbalanced District seven which again but you completing your District then it leaves seven unreceived if you want to revisit that or let it be.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Like Steve says that is the next person's problem.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Commissioner Orton before we move on could you provide explanation as to why you went the areas you went for this District?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Yes.

So I was not wanting us to leave a hole.

So I chose Scio Township first.

And I was trying to keep it in proximity with each other.

That's the direction that was available.

And population always.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Thank you.

Next is Commissioner Rothhorn?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Thank you so I would like to try to fix number seven. And, Dustin, I believe you have some thoughts on this or maybe even some work, if you have any suggestions how to balance 7 because I'm looking at Genoa and

Brighton so if you have any thoughts, I would appreciate your input or anyone for that matter but I would like to focus on fixing seven and then draw the rest of it.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Let me update my map here real quick so I can see.

>> MR. MORGAN: To point out since we took Green Oak out, that was 19,500 out of 7 and shows 19,500 in the negative.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I would suggest maybe try Milford Township.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: All right I'm hesitant to move into the next County.

Yes, and I'm looking at between Handy and Howell there is about 15,000.

And then counties excuse me those are Townships, those are Townships I apologize.

Yeah, and then we need another, yeah, so Howell would put us over but let's try that for now.

Handy and Howell.

>> MR. MORGAN: You're suggesting both Howells together?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: In seven and 17 that would be, yeah, we would be significant over.

>> MR. MORGAN: Yes, and then you could potentially look at removing one of the others to balance that out if you wanted to.

So I'm going to take Howell and the Township and Village into District seven.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Uh-huh okay.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Now we are missing 16.

>> MR. MORGAN: 1600 but again it's within the tolerance and you have fairly large Township so you would have to split if you wanted to.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Cynthia go ahead.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Dustin may have more opinion on this but I'm thinking Fowlerville really associates with Howell so maybe you could add handy Township but take out Conway.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: I like that.

Can we try that? We can unselect or unassign Conway.

>> MR. MORGAN: So that will be taking out 3600 and adding 8600.

So the it will be a 5,000 difference.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: And it will leave a hole for Conway.

>> MR. MORGAN: But you can also look at the Township up above if you wanted to, that would be closer to the quality.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Maybe I don't need to stay within the county boundaries.

I do like the idea for the moment let's try District 12 and create a 12 with Genoa and Brighton.

Then we are heading we want to get into southeast.

We want to get to south central so the Tri-county area too so we are not painting ourselves in a corner if we head that way so I'm okay with what we have got for seven right now.

So let's leave seven.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: I guess I was cleaning that up, does that mean the next person has to go or do I get to continue? I'd like to continue if I may, all right. So yeah, John, would you select, I guess we are in 12, and Genoa and Brighton. Genoa Township and the City of Brighton, please.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay, so that was 28,000.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Interesting I thought Brighton had 74,000, yeah, I guess that would be a pretty big Brighton.

And I see Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I have a suggestion for you on this particular point. I did not add Howell into it but you can get close.

Brighton Township, City of Brighton, Genoa and then the four above, Deerfield, Tyrone, Osceola and Hart gets you to 93,313.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: So that is a doughnut shaped District you are suggesting.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Take what you have right now and take out Conway, Cohoctah, Howell and Howell Township.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Can you do that, John.

>> MR. MORGAN: Out of District 7 and putting it into District 12.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Remove it completely right now so make seven into a population.

>> MR. MORGAN: Unassigning Osceola or no.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Conway, handy Howell and the City of Howell and Cohoctah.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay, okay so if I follow your logic here it looks like Genoa and Brighton are about the right amount for a District 7 is that what you like?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Affirmative.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: It was just a suggestion, this is Commissioner Witjes again.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Love it, love that suggestion, thank you. You were over but I think we will leave it there.

And, yeah, we will move on to the next ones and I do like we are heading into the south central District but I think oh, and I got to justify this so I think the reason I'm looking at this is because of the trying to stay within the county boundaries which is something that Livingston many voices of Livingston County said and keeping the cities together because there are two major I don't know I guess they are maybe villages I'm not sure

but yeah and appreciating that there is a Commissioner who lived there and can help create some understanding of how to divide it up so those are the reasons that it's there.

Primarily population and county borders.

And Township borders.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Thank you next is Commissioner Szetela?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: So can you back out of this map a little bit like Zoom out so I can see kind of what we have in this region?

>> MR. MORGAN: I put the counties on just as a reference.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Okay so we have this big kind of gap area between I think that is 6 and 5, right?

>> MR. MORGAN: Yes, it's the balance of Jackson county including the City of Jackson.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Including the City of Jackson.

>> MR. MORGAN: That's right District 6 goes around it and also just pointing this out this would be contiguous if you did want to do the combination in any way.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Okay.

>> MR. MORGAN: And then I will select Township so you can see the Township populations.

Do you want the Jackson area or the Livingston area?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I think I will go down and try to do Jackson area.

I'm just looking at my own numbers here on this map.

So let me see.

So let's grab, I can't tell the name on that Northville I think that is what it is start with Northville and grab up and Jackson and grab Northville I think it's Napoleon Township next to that.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay so this should grab the four Townships.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: The four Townships and then Jackson.

>> MR. MORGAN: Then the City of Jackson.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: And I'm showing that put us about 68 is that what you are seeing?

>> MR. MORGAN: That will be what I'm seeing as soon as it updates.

I see it as 60.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: 60 what am I grabbing that you are not grabbing.

>> MR. MORGAN: I did not get the two Townships to the north or did you grab that you grabbed Columbia.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I grabbed Brooklyn so you are 60 and we need 10,000 more so if we go up, we grab the next two Townships that will give us seven more I'm sorry you are at 60 and trying to get to 90 so we need 30,000 more.

All right so now what do we have?

>> MR. MORGAN: 68,000.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: 23 more.

That is going to be challenging.

All right so let me just look at some numbers here.

So I need 20,000 more.

So I think if we grab Stockbridge all the way across to Pinckney so Stockbridge, grab those three and that is going to give us 15,000.

And I need 30,000 more, is that right?

>> MR. MORGAN: It will be less than that.

You did need 30 but you just are taking in I'm sorry, 14, 15, so now you need 8,000.

So for example Marion.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Let's grab Marion Township.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay that will be over, there you go.

It's 3.5 but that does work.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Let's grab I think it's Iosco too so we will be a little over but we will be closer.

I'm over by 3,000.

Take that back off, I'm thinking the other way.

I don't like that.

>> MR. MORGAN: So if you were to take out Marion it would take several rural Townships if you were looking over here.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, that is kind of what I'm thinking is to take out Marion but you are really going to have to grab so that is three so that would be taking off 11 but we are over by three so we really need seven, eight.

>> MR. MORGAN: Two depending which way you go, two, three.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: So let's try to take off Marion then I want you to add on white oak Township, Dansville, and north Leslie within the town of Leslie.

So if you go just to the, yeah, other side of Stockbridge.

>> MR. MORGAN: You also said white oak?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yep, and I think that should get us pretty close.

>> MR. MORGAN: There you go.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: There we go.

I'm happy with that.

And again for the record I was focusing on population when putting this together.

So I think can we back out a little bit to see where we are left in this? So we just have that small region of the south central left to do and Janice I think we are heading to you at this point.

>> MR. MORGAN: This is showing the Township population for the balance here of Livingston County.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: I'm sorry let's do Marion and actually let's just do that fourth Section there, the Howell, the Handy, the Osceola.

>> MR. MORGAN: So the balance of Livingston County and also, I used the next number in the numerical order is that what you want?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: That is fine.

>> MR. MORGAN: So with half of Livingston County that is 48,000 people.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: So this would put me in another county.

>> MR. MORGAN: Either way you go you would either be into Ingham or Shiawassee.

And you need looks like you need about 43,000.

So.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: That is too much.

>> MR. MORGAN: That is too much but you have a portion of Ingham if you want to go that way or you can take a portion of Shiawassee.

You can also look at other areas.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: What if we took this Section here?

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay, putting the Township populations on here, so you have Williamston 5200, Williamston Village of 3800, so those four are what you are looking at?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Yes, and I still need another 30,000.

If I took white oak and Ingham, how much would that mess up for us?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Commissioner Vallette I apologize can you speak more directly in the microphone.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Sorry I'm saying let's take Ingham and white oak.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: So can I see up a little? No, the other way.

I want to see this County right there, I want to see this County right there so if we take that or this one is that going to put us over?

>> MR. MORGAN: Mason is 8,000. 3600, so that is about 12000, yeah. And Kent is saying about halfway.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Okay, take those.

Okay, now reverse that.

>> MR. MORGAN: No.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Take them out. Didn't that put me way over?

>> MR. MORGAN: No, you are 11,000 under still.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: I'm still under, okay.

So can I see what's north?

>> MR. MORGAN: Sure.

So this is the Ingham County border here.

And then this is inside Ingham and this is Shiawassee.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: What about this Section right there.

>> MR. MORGAN: This one Township here Alaiedon.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Way too much.

>> MR. MORGAN: No it's 2900.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Thanks for doing my arithmetic.

>> MR. MORGAN: Sure, at this point you will be about 8,000 under.

Delhi is not 2700 it's 27,000 so that is quite large.

These two are smaller if you are looking for smaller Townships.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Take this what is that? Aurelius.

>> MR. MORGAN: And Onondaga.

Sorry I was close.

Sometimes it's Milan and depending where you are.

That is how it is in Indiana.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Saline.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I was going to mention the little piece that is unselected, yeah, right there that is going to highlight a lot of Lansing if you were to add it in.

We were running into that problem yesterday.

>> MR. MORGAN: If we were to do that you would select just those blocks and put them in here or you take the Township in with the Lansing District potentially.

If you were to take that Township out, you would be under population.

This is 2900 and then you're currently under, you can see what that does or you could leave it in and make adjustments.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: See what that does.

>> MR. MORGAN: That is towards the very lower end of the deviation.

To Commissioner Witjes' point it sounds you were suggesting you could go either way with that or were you suggesting this.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Something we were running into yesterday when we were working with the Senate in this particular area.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay so do you want to include that and resolve it later? Or keep that out and then be low on the deviation? Or do something different?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: So what do you guys think? I mean I don't really know.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: That Alaiedon is Jackson national life insurance company and a few houses.

It really moves into Meridian which is Okemos so I would suggest not putting it in there because it really will flow up it's only 2900 and logically go with Meridian which is at 43.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: We will leave it at that.

I know it's.

>> MR. MORGAN: You have the balance of Livingston and a portion of Ingham here staying as Commission Lett said away from the closer in Metro area.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: So I think that's good. I know it's off a lot, but I don't know how else to resolve it.

Any suggestions?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I was just thinking of something instead of going so far down into Ingham County with those three that are on the left there.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Wonder what the top four of Shiawassee will do to make it more rectangular but I'm just curious to see what that would do if those four were added and those other three were taken.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Wood hall to burns.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Wood hall to burns.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Let's try that and we are taking out those two at the bottom that come over to the side.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Those three.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Three.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay so this is 12,016 just under 20.

Maybe 19, 20 and then up here you would be looking at 5, 9, 11, 15 so it's close.

But at this point we were under populated.

So you probably would have to leave something in.

Or take a different Township.

But we will try that.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I was just looking at the numbers.

I don't have those up so that's all.

I was just curious.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Well, are you saying take out this, what is it Onondaga.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I was just trying to get the totals to see what they were at the very top.

My suggestion would be instead of going so far into Ingham try going north a little bit as opposed to going all the way into Ingham but that is just my opinion and suggestion.

You were going to be under any way so it's going to part of that is probably still going to be needed or we are going to have to get creative in Shiawassee but if I had to take a guess.

>> MR. MORGAN: You may want to end up taking Mason and Debray or something like that.

As you discuss we will take the lower tier of Townships in Shiawassee.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: You will go from wood hall to burns.

>> MR. MORGAN: Now you are under about 7,000.

If you took these two that is 11 or 12 so.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: What about Argentine back up where you were at.

>> MR. MORGAN: So this is part of Genesee, Argentine is about the right population.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Okay take that.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Or if you want to stay in the same County, you could do Shiawassee.

>> MR. MORGAN: You could do Vernon and Durant.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Vernon and Durant that is what I was going to suggest.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Yes.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay that should be right on.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I think unless I'm missing something I think that completes the region we were trying to finish this morning.

I would have to look.

But I think that's all of it.

>> MR. MORGAN: Would you like me to run a sorry.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: You want to run the dis-continuities.

>> MR. MORGAN: Would that be a good idea since this is the endpoint of the region.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: If you can go ahead and do that and at this point unless there is objection, we will take a 15 minute recess so everybody can take care of personal needs and we can discuss that when we come back.

Hearing no objections we are going to recess it's 10:45 and we will come back at 11:00.

Thank you very much everyone.

[Recess]

Could you state your location.

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: Present attending remotely from Reed City, Michigan.

>> Commissioner Lett, present. Commissioner Orton, present. Commissioner Rothhorn, present. Commissioner Szetela, present. Commissioner Vallette, present. Commissioner Wagner? Commissioner Weiss? Present.

Commissioner Witjes, present.

We have a quorum thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Mr. Morgan is going to do analysis of dis-contiguities and at that point we will move on to the next item on our agenda.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay I will share the screen and the Zoom.

One moment.

Okay so just using the checking for errors specifically for the dis-contiguity, which is our word of the day, dis-contiguity.

Okay so it shows no dis-contiguities.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: John, this is Commissioner Clark.

Can you take a look at the aggregate plus, minus? My assumption just glancing at it is that we are really under.

>> MR. MORGAN: Sure I will do that.

Give me a moment to do that and then the other thing I would suggest since I believe you're moving on to another region.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> MR. MORGAN: So if you like I can show you the population of those counties so you have an idea of about how much population you're dealing with in that area if you like.

Sorry so for the over, under I believe what I can do is I can grab this and bring it into an excel spreadsheet and you know, oops, did the copy instead of the paste.

And then we will just sum this up.

That's not what I was expecting.

Just a moment.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Is that your battery that is low or someone else's? Look on the screen.

He is still working so that must not be yours.

>> MR. MORGAN: I was expecting this to give me what I wanted but it didn't.

That is okay I can subtract and from the ideal.

I got it.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I was going to say sum up one column and the other and do subtract shun and that will give you the same thing.

>> MR. MORGAN: Population wise so it should be the opposite of that, right? Yes.

So this is under.

So equals this minus that.

Yep, so it's the flip of that so it's 5,000 and then you want to do over 13 districts.

The average deviation is 422 over those districts, which is pretty low.

Yes.

So I think you're okay because you're over, over, and then under, under so you are under by 5,000, over a population of a million -- 1.2 million. So I think you are fine on that. But it's a good idea to check that occasionally.

Now, in that vein, as I said, this is just the population of the counties, in the three counties in the south central region, Clinton, Eaton and Ingham. So that is 473,000, which is 5.2 almost house seats.

So we just keep the figure in mind you will be drawing approximately five house seats and just getting back to concept we talked about earlier where you're kind of borrowing population. So we've already borrowed some population from that region that you're about to draw in the same way that we borrowed population from Shiawassee as well. So this is probably a little more than the 20% of a District but not much.

DISCLAIMER: This is NOT a certified or verbatim transcript, but rather represents only the context of the class or meeting, subject to the inherent limitations of realtime captioning. The primary focus of realtime captioning is general communication access and as such this document is not suitable, acceptable, nor is it intended for use in any type of legal proceeding.

So you're probably going to find your five districts could fit within those county boundaries and the region boundary if you want.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: At this point we have completed our draft maps again just clarifying for the record that these are drafts and they are subject to adjustments for the southeast region that we had designated.

We will be moving on in a little bit to the south central but for right now we do have another item on our agenda that I would like to move on to first new business item 6 so without objection I would like to ask our General Counsel to cover item 6A and the General Counsel action items hearing no objections please proceed.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Thank you Madam Chair.

The item before the Commission for consideration is the proposed resolution 2021.08.18.

It would establish the total cost of local counsel for that RFP.

And extend the formal invitations to bid.

A list, a proposed list of potential vendors to extend the formal invitation to bid was circulated pursuant to Section C5D of the revised procurement review procedures guidelines.

The recommendation and identified vendors are first the vendors that replied to the VRA, RFP with a presence in Michigan.

And then there are six identified vendors based on Internet research and their work in the Government law or public sector practice that they have public sector practice groups excuse me.

So that would be the recommendation.

Again, these would just be the potential vendors that the RFP is directly sent to.

The identified individuals and listing their role within those firms.

The RFP will also be pushed out through the Sigma system.

The State of Michigan's procurement system.

It will also be posted on the MICRC website with the option for any interested entity, any interested law firm again with a presence in Michigan we are looking for Michigan local counsel specific to the State of Michigan in this RFP.

They would also have the opportunity to bid.

So the proposed vendor list is not restrictive in any manner and I'm happy to answer any questions.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yes, Julianne, could you review the purpose of the RFP? Just briefly.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: General Counsel?

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Thank you through the Chair to Commissioner Clark the purpose of the local counsel RFP we elected to retain out of state litigation counsel

so the local counsel would serve to fill the Commission's needs for in state legal service specific to Michigan law.

I anticipate those would be in the areas of Freedom of Information Act, open meeting act or other matters that may arise where we do not need the expertise of your redistricting litigation counsel.

That it would make more efficient sense and more economical sense to use a local counsel.

And the local counsel would also serve on matters that they are requested to address. They could also serve as a liaison between the litigation counsel and the Michigan courts if needed.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah, I want to continue the question.

So the primary purpose is to work with Baker Hostetler.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: No their primary purpose is to work with me to achieve the legal goals of the Commission.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: So Commissioner Clark, as an attorney you are licensed on a state by state basis.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Correct.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: So you have to have a license in the State of Michigan to work in the State of Michigan someone like Baker Hostetler and don't have local counsel would have local Kellom coordinating in Michigan and to the extent we have things that do not require an expensive Washington firm for a local firm can handle. It's easier and simpler and more efficient to have someone here to handle those things like responding to subpoenas.

I mean that is kind of the purpose is to have local counsel and outside out of state counsel.

I think is the thought process.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: That is normally the way it works in business.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Typically you don't have one law firm that represents every single thing you want to do, you have multiple for different purposes.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: The way I was looking at it is Baker Hostetler was the primary and because I won't even continue then.

You are shaking your head, no.

Okay.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: I would view it as that they are equal parts of would be equal parts of your legal team that would arise as needed based on the legal issue that arises.

So a challenge to the maps, to your redistricting plans, your maps, that would most likely be Baker Hostetler based on their experience and the reasons for which they were engaged.

DISCLAIMER: This is NOT a certified or verbatim transcript, but rather represents only the context of the class or meeting, subject to the inherent limitations of realtime captioning. The primary focus of realtime captioning is general communication access and as such this document is not suitable, acceptable, nor is it intended for use in any type of legal proceeding.

For local counsel, as Commissioner Szetela said it could be for issuing subpoenas, assisting with discovery.

Again I anticipate Michigan specific issues to arise in the near future that would make local counsel very beneficial for the Commission to have.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Okay thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Any additional questions? So Julianne, you don't have an action item for us on this, do you? Or there is a resolution.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Yes, Madam Chair there is a resolution so the total cost was not set forth in our initial proposal for the RFP.

So that's listed here.

And also the Commission voted to undertake the hybrid RFP process.

Which reminded me that I believe Commissioner Lange had her hand up when we were doing questions.

Did you want me to pause?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah, Commissioner Lange, did you have a question?

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: I was just going to ask about the budget.

I'm assuming this is for the next fiscal year, the majority of what you have on there?

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: That is correct.

So the Commission selected the hybrid RFP process so it is a shortened timeframe.

So the items that will be posted for a response only consist of seven of the eight items that are normally posted.

The standard contract terms, the full breath of it will not be listed.

There will be the vendor work sheets schedules A and B and so on and so forth but not the larger RFP responses that need the extended timeframe.

So Madam Chair that is what is before Commission.

Again, the procurement guidelines for hybrid RFP indicate that the formal invitations to bid need to be approved by majority vote of the Commission sed.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: At this point we have resolution for consideration resolution 20210818 which is to establish the total cost of local counsel RFP and extend formal invitation to bid.

I would entertain a motion to adopt that resolution at this time.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: So moved.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Motion made by Commissioner Rothhorn and seconded by Commissioner Witjes.

Is there any debate or discussion on the motion? Hearing none at this time we will vote on approving resolution 20210818, which is establish total cost of local counsel RFP and extend formal bid invitation.

All in favor please raise your hand and say aye.

All opposed please raise your hand and say nay.

Okay, by a vote over 10-1 the ayes prevail and it's adopted. Thank you.

6D, mapping of the State House districts in the, yes Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Our normal procedure is we always create a subcommittee to deal with these RFPs. Are we going to do the same here?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner or General Counsel?

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Madam Chair, certainly that is standard practice for the Commission to do.

Certainly that can be done at this time or in a future meeting.

They have until September 3rd to respond and then we start the evaluation process.

And the staff evaluation again is forwarded to the entire Commission.

So it would be at the discretion of the Commission whether to create the committee now or at a future meeting.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: We have a Commission subcommittee set up already doing that did Baker Hostetler that was not disbanded pending their signing of a contract, I would suggest, in fact, move that we continue with that committee for this purpose.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I'll second that.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Motion made by Commissioner Lett and seconded by Commissioner Witjes to assign this task of evaluating these RFPs to the same subcommittee that handled our outside counsel RFP.

Any debate or discussion on that motion? All right and General Counsel can you just confirm who is on that subcommittee again? I believe it was Commissioner Lett, Commissioner Clark and Curry and wasn't there one more.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Commissioner Witjes was the fourth Madam Chair.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Seeing no debate or discussion on the motion let's vote on it all in favor please raise your hand and say aye.

All opposed please raise your hand and say nay.

Okay by a vote of 9-1 the ayes prevail and the subcommittee will handle the processing of this RFP.

All right moving on, new business item 6B mapping of the State House districts in the south central region for the benefit this is Ingham Clinton and Eaton counties the region which the Commission will be working at this time provide a starting point so we are not mapping the entire state at one time and the regions are not districts so direction lines will be drawn across the region line as the Commission meets the criteria listed in the Michigan Constitution starting with equal population.

So Commissioner Vallette I believe we left off with you which means we would be moving on to Commissioner Weiss to start with our new region.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Before we move on apologies Commissioner Vallette are you able to provide any additional explanation about why your District went where it went?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Just continuing with trying to keep the population in order and to keep them contiguous.

That was all I did.

And the fellow Commissioners who knew the area better helped.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Commissioner Witjes I believe.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: No Weiss.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: No sorry Commissioner Witjes I believe you made the recommendation to go to the north instead of the west.

Can you provide any explanation for why you proposed that?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Sure.

Let's see I got to think about that for a second.

So Livingston County they do tend to align with some of Ingham County beliefs.

However, that was getting pushed a little too far to the west.

As far as population densities go and belief systems, they are going to align with Shiawassee a little bit more than the further aspects of Ingham County to the west.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Thank you, Commissioner Weiss?

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Okay, I believe I'd like you to go up to Clinton County.

>> MR. MORGAN: I'm putting the population of the counties on for you.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Yes, and take the whole County if you would.

>> MR. MORGAN: All right so we are and just to be clear I did not create a new plan for this region.

We are continuing with the existing plan is that what you like?

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Yes, that would work.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay, so that is 79,000.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: And if you would to the left of Clinton County go straight down and take in Grand Ledge.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay which county? Grand Ledge there you go.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Right there.

Yes, Grand Ledge.

And, yeah, the whole County or Township.

>> MR. MORGAN: The City of Grand Ledge.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: And the rest of it.

Okay, so that is population of 90,898.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: I think we are done and Mr. MC.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: I was just going to offer that the airport, taking the airport out and those two portions of east Lansing, it helps keep it more rural and less urban with I think maybe that is the heart of what you try to get at when you have Clinton County and Grand Ledge so I wanted to offer Lansing where there is four at the top and 2477 in Lansing that is a student housing more or less student housing area

and very much associated with the City of east Lansing so I was going to select you deselect those and unassign those.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: I guess I can understand it but where do I go to pick up what I'm losing? I would like to keep it 91598 is a nice number and it's nine us 15.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Feel free to keep it the way you want it to.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: I would like to keep it and see where we go from there and let's see what happens.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Commissioner Weiss, can you provide explanation why your District is shaped and where you went?

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Well I thought it worked out.

The population is good.

It's nice and square which is what we keep hearing and they want square and looks pretty square except for the bump out at the bottom and the population is close to what we are supposed to have.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Thank you Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Okay, I will stay in Eaton County.

Wait a minute that is going to change things for me.

Commissioner Weiss, did you want to take the whole section of Grand Ledge that Grand Ledge is in or the City of Grand Ledge?

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: I wanted to keep it.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: As close to the population as possible.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Yes, but I'm open to suggestions.

>> MR. MORGAN: Do you want to see what the balance of the county population is.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Yes, select the entire rest of the County.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Eaton County.

>> MR. MORGAN: Sorry one moment I have to change the District number.

So 109 minus how much? I think it's less so this creating a new District and taking the balance of the county population, just to see what it is.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: So Dustin if you are going from that direction, we are painted like we have a doughnut hole in the middle.

That is a concern because we will have nowhere to go.

>> MR. MORGAN: There is approximately the right amount of population but you will see how it resolves I think but you are right it potentially would create a doughnut hole. But it may resolve.

Like there may be the right number in there or close to it.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I'm just looking at something here.

Okay.

>> MR. MORGAN: Sorry one moment and I'll get the balance in okay so that is 97,000.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Could you take out the bottom left two Townships, Bellevue and Kalamo.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay, okay, that is 92,440.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Can you scroll back into the population for the Townships?

>> MR. MORGAN: Sure.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: All right.

>> MR. MORGAN: This might add to the doughnut hole issue because they're not being put into the interior.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Right.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: So I think it's important for this area of Lansing that we are purposeful in why we're assigning these districts in the manner that we are.

It presents a unique challenge because the City itself is in three counties.

And that means that going by county lines like how we have done for a lot of these areas so far might not be the best way to go for the City.

Because as it looks right now, I mean, we have enough people in Lansing for two or three seats.

But we have on this District 15 that's displayed right now in purple we have the west side of what would be considered central Lansing you know where all the Government stuff are.

Along with you know, the rest of that county, which definitely is not what we heard in the public comment.

And I think Commissioner Rothhorn made a great point earlier as in regards to the Township of east Lansing especially in regards to student housing because that 2400 or so people even though they are across the county boundary they would associate themselves much more with the rest of the Township of east Lansing than with the County of Clinton.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Anyone more familiar in the area want to critique this? Because of one thing that I do also remember is that Delhi Township wanted to basically consider itself part of Lansing and that is a pretty large Township.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I personally, if this were me, I would be starting with I feel like you are boxing yourself in significantly.

So to me I would start with Lansing and east Lansing and is it Meridian and frankly I agree about pulling east Lansing together.

I just pull from the other side of those more rural areas to make up your population if you need to.

And then start down there and then we can figure out where these other counties around go.

Because I just think you are by trying to do what you are doing, you're going to box in that area of Lansing which may or may not have enough population and then we are either going to have to add it to other districts surrounding or figure out what to do with that population or maybe steal.

Mr. Morgan?

>> MR. MORGAN: I was just going to point out we know going into this we have approximately five seats so that doughnut hole if you have a consolidated it should be about four seats.

And you know again you can adjust it but it's about the right amount.

But sorry and Commissioner Witjes by taking the two Townships on the west of the Eaton county out then that takes away from that ideal four seat.

But, again, as you will.

So I guess if you took a Township in here and put these in 15 you would consolidate all the rest of the population in the doughnut hole which would be approximately four seats and to Commissioner Eid and Szetela point you could adjust the boundaries to accommodate the Lansing Metro area in a different way as you suggest.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Dustin you would be much better off starting in Lansing and working your way out.

While Lansing on the west side is Waverly which is the line there of the purpose, that is Waverly road.

That is Eaton County and historically Waverly and the school District have gone west towards Eaton County, the majority of the population is east, Okemos and Haslett, out that way.

East Lansing.

And then work your way back.

So my suggestion would be to make 15, get rid of 15 and start over with Lansing.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Mr. Morgan?

>> MR. MORGAN: Sometimes in a situation like this what you may consider doing is creating a pair of districts.

So again to Commissioner Eid's point if you're going to take areas into the Lansing Metro area, you're going to end up with some rural District that is not Lansing so you could start another District and pair those two districts and trade the population back and forth based on your urban, rural balance that you were discussing.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: The right hand top Township, which is Delta, this is Delta, Delta Township.

>> MR. MORGAN: Yes.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Is mostly suburban urban because it goes to Grand Ledge so all of that is filling in with urban.

>> MR. MORGAN: That is what I was saying if you were to create sort of the next District almost simultaneously with this District you could trade them in such a way that you get to the place you're describing.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Okay, well, let's get rid of what is in 15 now and just keep Delta.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay and we will go east into Lansing okay so that is your 30,000 did you also want the Lansing Township and Eaton?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Why not.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay so that is 38,000 for those two areas.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: So now in Ingham County we will take the top part of Lansing there, the 8143.

>> MR. MORGAN: Again that is the full Township of Lansing with the dis-contiguities.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Let's take the dis-contiguities out.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay one moment sorry if this were a radio station, they would have gone to commercial with all the silence.

So, yeah, I'm taking those out by the block assignment level.

Yeah, it didn't process it.

Just give it a moment.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Well we can keep that in.

>> MR. MORGAN: You are going to connect it to that is fine so I will change to the voting precinct layers because that seems appropriate for this point.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Just connect the top, I don't know, 2148, which is directly north of the left pieces.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I'll start filling in the Lansing area at this particular point.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay I'll Zoom in a little bit.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: 2910.

The two south of that.

>> MR. MORGAN: I believe this is the state capitol.

And this one down below.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: And to the left.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: We were just discussing that you just selected my house, where I live.

Thank you.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: And we will take the NG of Lansing there you go yep and the one above that as well.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Below it and one below that as well.

2014 to the right.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Dustin may I offer a suggestion.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Please do.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Since we are starting on the west side of Lansing, the river tends to be a you know I don't think it's an official sort of east-west divide but it's useful.

So the further you go into east there is a great sort of I'd say rationale for sort of an east side of Lansing and a west side of Lansing and then a south side.

So almost three districts.

I think we could even go north but I guess what I want to caution you as you go further east you may want to head further west and in general look for the river in general.

>> MR. MORGAN: So this is the river right here is that right I believe?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Yes, the Grand River.

>> MR. MORGAN: I was on the bike path there last week.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Did you get mugged?

>> MR. MORGAN: No I had a nice bike ride.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I just want to say I think Commissioner Rothorn just made a great point about the east versus central Lansing and the eastern side of Delta County that is to the right of I believe it's I-96.

I'd also like to direct my colleagues to one of the submissions on the public comment portal.

It's ID number C1739.

It's not a District map.

It doesn't include any population or anything like that.

What it does include are a lot of different communities of interest.

And if you open it in District R, they have identifiers for what those are.

For example, for southern Lansing, which MC was just talking about it says and I'll quote lower income part of town, much more ethnically diverse than many other neighborhoods.

Some areas are in decline but many living here often take pride in themselves and their culture.

That's differ from the central part of Lansing which Commissioner Witjes excuse me I can't speak today which Commissioner Witjes is mapping now that includes Lansing as well as the Lansing City Centre.

What I wanted to ask Commissioner Rothorn was how do you think that southern part of Lansing, do you think it identifies with the eastern part of Lansing? Which is where we are today, where MSU is? Or do you think they see themselves as pretty different?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: I think there are many professionals who live in the south and also like work in the capitol or work on the east side so I don't know there is an identity.

I can't speak to that but it's worth asking to get public comment please share.

And that is what I got.

Commissioner Lett has something too.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: I grew up in Lansing and lived on the south side.

South side I disagree with the comments.

There certainly are pockets which you could consider lower income.

But for the most part the south side is middle class, middle income.

The east side is primarily well not primarily moving into east Lansing, it's always kind of been considered the north and the northeast is where the Spanish, Mexican Americans kind of congregated up there.

But not totally.

Again, middle income people, all spread throughout there.

The thing that I would caution when we are doing this one right now is and if you look at the what the current District is you got Lansing Township and there are four separate parts that are in the City of Lansing surrounded by the City of Lansing and you need to be careful not to separate these into two districts.

And that they go into basically Lansing Township on the west side and gross Beck on the east side which is close to east point and 127.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: So where would you suggest I go? Because I don't really know too much about this at all.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: See if it will show the townships Lansing townships.

>> MR. MORGAN: The blue ones are townships and I will make them a Starker contrast so you can see them a little better.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: It's on the bottom left there.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay sorry can't do that.

So, yeah, they are default layers so we can't adjust them as is.

So I think that the Township areas were the areas we removed when we selected the whole Township so they were the dis-contiguous areas.

Okay, one moment.

Let's see, so this is okay so that is.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: The flash looked about right for Lansing Township.

>> MR. MORGAN: That is the Township boundary that flashed and most of the 8100 has already been accounted for I think on the west side for the area you took near the County border with 80.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: So let's add those back in.

>> MR. MORGAN: Into this District?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Uh-huh.

>> MR. MORGAN: The ease way to do this is I will reselect the entire Township which will grab those areas is that agreeable?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Uh-huh.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay and so as drawn at the moment it's 83,000 people.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: So that little Section now that was carved out, yep, right there if you add that in now.

>> MR. MORGAN: I will select it by voting precinct.

It will probably you know take in areas that might not be apparent from the map. But let's take a look.

There you do.

That was what you were expecting.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Yes.

>> MR. MORGAN: And also to the south you wanted.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Correct.

>> MR. MORGAN: So you are about 4,000 off, I think.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Okay now is there anything to the south that we could add in?

>> MR. MORGAN: Here is the river boundary.

This is where the river forks, I think.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Let's add that.

>> MR. MORGAN: So the voting precinct that we selected does cross the river so that is how that is defined and you will see there is a little portion of the river here. If you intended to use the river boundary this goes a little over but the voting District is the first level to consider.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Yes.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: What about.

>> MR. MORGAN: Here is the population it's 90,000.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: So what about the one that's 1682?

>> MR. MORGAN: Here.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Yes.

>> MR. MORGAN: South of the river.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Yes.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Thoughts?

>> MR. MORGAN: We did pick up this one down here which is part of the Township. It was not visible when we did that.

Did you want to take that out or connect to it?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: I mean that is part of the Township.

It's a screwy Township.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Correct.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: The way that it's set up right now, in its current House District that District comes down to pick up that part of Lansing Township and goes up.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Would you suggest taking part of Eaton Township out on the west side to connect to Lansing Township? I guess where would you suggest reigning from the area where would you suggest we take?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: I would take it from the west side because I would put more of that back into Eaton county and go east to keep more of Lansing together.

>> MR. MORGAN: And again supporting that idea you're kind of pairing those districts a little bit.

It's a one step ahead, but that may be what you end up doing.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Okay so let's do that take some west side of Eaton.

>> MR. MORGAN: First connect these.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Connect them.

>> MR. MORGAN: Do that first.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: So 2703.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: You could start doing 16 up there because you are alienating the east side of Lansing and you will have to fit them in there somehow.

>> MR. MORGAN: Do you want this larger one?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Uh-huh.

>> MR. MORGAN: All right so that will take you to about 99, I think.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Now we got another piece that got added in.

>> MR. MORGAN: So now it's 99.

So in thinking about what you did your previous move you took this one to the south of the river, I don't know if you want to take it out.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Do you want to take that out.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID:

>> MR. MORGAN: There is another one that was added.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I think the problem doing that is you are boxing yourself in with east Lansing.

If you wanted to then pair a District with east Lansing and the rest of southern Lansing together, you can't do that now because you crossed off that trail that would be there if it wasn't there otherwise.

What is in that? Does anyone know what is in that dis-contiguous box?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: I'm pretty sure there is a development that's a -- the board of water and light.

I think I'm looking to try to make sure I'm saying this accurately.

Yeah, it's a development with I think the board of water and light, the City of Lansing has a municipal utility and they provide the water for that development.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Approximately 600 plus people in the area.

>> MR. MORGAN: Kent was talking about the block numbers in the area.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I was speaking of the previous dis-contiguous one.

>> MR. MORGAN: This one.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: I think east Lansing and Meridian the east side is sort of a unit.

That doesn't have to be paired with the south of Lansing.

I mean in order to sort of create.

>> MR. MORGAN: Population is about right is what you are saying you think.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: I'm not sure about the population but I just know it's an affinity within the east Lansing and Meridian and Haslett up in that area up to Meridian road.

>> MR. MORGAN: If those two communities together had 45 and 43 are close to a District if you were looking at that.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I can keep going.

>> MR. MORGAN: Remember we talked about this Township earlier here, Alaiedon, yeah, appreciate it.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: All right guys I feel like we probably need some time to think about this and we are scheduled to take lunch right now any way and hearing no objections why don't we take our lunch break starting at Noon and we will come back at 1:15.

All right since I am hearing no objections we will go ahead and take that lunch break.

It's 11:58 right now and we will be back at 1:15.

Thank you everybody.

[Lunch recess]

That doesn't mean that you have to hold on if you're not feeling well so I can tell from the look on your face you're not feeling well.

We have one person who is out of the room and when that person comes back in it will be okay if you have to leave so I don't want you to feel you have to sit there if you are not feeling well.

All right I call this meeting back to order at 1:25 p.m., meeting of the MICRC.

For the purpose of the public watching and the public record, I will now turn the Michigan Department of State Staff to take the roll.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Thank you Madam Chair.

Please say present when I call your name. If you are attending the meeting remotely state and unless absence is due to military duty, please disclose your physical location by stating the county, city, township, or village where you are attending the meeting remotely.

I'll start with Doug Clark.

- >> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Present.
- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Juanita Curry.
- >> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Present.
- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Anthony Eid?
- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Brittini Kellom?

Rhonda Lange?

- >> COMMISSIONER LANGE: Present attending remotely from Reed City, Michigan.
- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Steve Lett?
- >> COMMISSIONER LETT: Present.
- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Cynthia Orton?
- >> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Present.
- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: MC Rothhorn?
- >> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Present.
- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Rebecca Szetela?
- >> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: present.
- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Janice Vallette?
- >> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE:
- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Erin Wagner?

Richard Weiss?

- >> COMMISSIONER WEISS: present.
- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Dustin Witjes?
- >> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Present.
- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: I will return in one motion to Janice Vallette?
- >> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Present.
- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: 10 Commissioners are present and

there is a quorum.

>> MS. SZETELA: All right. We will return to the business we were working on to draft State Senate maps for the south central region, which is composed of Ingham, Eaton, and Clinton Counties.

Again, for the public watching, these regions are not districts but are instead starter geographical reasons for drafting which will not be bound by the regional areas.

So we left off with Janice, correct? You finished. Actually we were with Dustin working in the Lansing area. So we will turn this back over to Dustin again.

- >> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Exciting.

All right, so I guess we can bring up the map again.

>> MR. MORGAN: This is a continuation of the same map we were working on earlier just for the record.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Okay, so will you Zoom in a little bit for me, please? I was thinking about natural bound doctor I and I'm thinking the Grand River might be a natural one to follow.

So let's add it in the south piece and should be removed at this particular point in time.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay so this portion here where I'm circling?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Correct.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay, okay, and again this is part of the Township.

Take this portion out.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Uh-huh.

>> MR. MORGAN: That took the Township portion out or sorry took this portion out here.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: We should add those back on the block level.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay, so most of those are in and there are a couple more up here.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Uh-huh, a little sliver.

Where are we at 80, 15, can you go up to the top for a second? That big piece that's at the very north, over to the right a little bit, what is the population of that?

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay let me bring up the voting districts.
3500.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: There we go.

Let's add that.

And then this would allow for two other districts to be drawn in Lansing I would imagine. One doing east Lansing and Okemos and south and one taking Delhi south I would imagine.

So I think that should be good for me at this particular point in time.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Looks good.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: You going to give your rationale for Sarah?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Rationale, I was following a natural boundary as best I could, the Grand River in Lansing so that we can have three different districts in Ingham County encompassing the greater Lansing area.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: All right at this point we will move back to the beginning of our rotation which is Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I would like to take the rest of Ingham County starting with the northern part by east Lansing and move south.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay one moment, please.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Sure.

Do we have enough population for one or two districts, John?

>> MR. MORGAN: Let's see one, two, I think you will have enough for three approximately.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Okay, I'm just adding the regions in for a reference.

So which part are you saying?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Just the east of the purpose so east Lansing.

- >> MR. MORGAN: East Lansing and Meridian Township.
- >> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Correct.
- >> MR. MORGAN: I will select the next numerical District, 16?
- >> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Uh-huh.
- >> MR. MORGAN: All right.

And the Township just to the left of that.

That precinct.

Yep.

- >> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Commissioner Clark may I make a suggestion?
 - >> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Go ahead.
 - >> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Thank you Madam Chair if you head south to the Township the third District that might comprise Lansing is Delhi and south Lansing and that may be a nice third District.
 - >> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Let's try that.
 - >> MR. MORGAN: We will see if it attaches to this piece.
 - >> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I would attach that on to this District.
 - >> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: That is the Lansing Township piece.
 - >> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I would attach all those.
 - >> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Witjes?
 - >> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Commissioner Clark, I just noted something, if the District 16 butts up against District 15 there is that one tiny little white piece right there.
 - >> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yes.
 - >> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I can't tell if that is better suited on 15 or 16, by eying it I would imagine it would be 15.
 - >> MR. MORGAN: Here is the highway boundary you can see here that makes it.
 - >> COMMISSIONER WITJES: That we should probably put into 15.
 - >> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I believe so too.
- Yeah, John could you put that this 15?
- >> MR. MORGAN: Sure.
 - >> COMMISSIONER CLARK: We can always back it out if we need to.
 - >> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Go ahead Commissioner Witjes?
 - >> COMMISSIONER WITJES: The second one I noticed is what appears to be the Grand River over to the left or the green lines.
- That Section that butts up to the green lines should probably be included in 15 as well if I were to take a guess.
- >> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah.
- Your input is well respected.
- >> MR. MORGAN: Okay so in the stack do I have one more in there? Thanks Kent.
- Okay then I will go out and get.
- >> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Go south on the green.

DISCLAIMER: This is NOT a certified or verbatim transcript, but rather represents only the context of the class or meeting, subject to the inherent limitations of realtime captioning. The primary focus of realtime captioning is general communication access and as such this document is not suitable, acceptable, nor is it intended for use in any type of legal proceeding.

>> MR. MORGAN: I will come back to the Grand River question in a moment.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Okay.

>> MR. MORGAN: You intended to get these islands here?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yes, let's do those.

We have to make that contiguous.

>> MR. MORGAN: I'll Zoom out and take a look at that Grand River piece if you would like.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah, where are we on population at this point?

>> MR. MORGAN: So District 16 is 92 out of 91.

And District 15 is slightly under populated.

88, 5.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: So 16 we already exceeded our target.

>> MR. MORGAN: Correct.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: And because we were in the previous this morning in the previous stuff, we did we were short people, adding people would be a good thing at this point.

>> MR. MORGAN: Generally that's okay although in this case as we discussed we may have painted ourselves into a corner.

You might end up revisiting that.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Okay all right I'd like to leave it like it is.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: So there is just that one area of east Lansing with the 2400 or so people that I really think should be with east Lansing.

It crosses the County boundary but it's still part of east Lansing.

So is there something we can maybe do with that?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Are you talking about going north?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Can we Zoom in?

>> MR. MORGAN: The east Lansing portion that's in Clinton County here.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: And the portion I believe right directly to the left of that as well.

I'm thinking those might be better suited in 16 than 14 but I'm not sure what that does to the numbers.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 3100, 3200 short of it.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: If we Zoom out on 14, is there any room to, oh, no, it's square.

There is not much room to add anything.

Hum.

What do y'all think? What do you think of that area up there?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I think it belongs, would you leave it? The only alternative I would see is to go west with the green area and then move that in east Lansing but I'm going to defer to Steve and MC since they live in this area.

So you're saying Steve it's best to leave it and MC.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: A lot of that is commercial up there. There is a lot of student housing and there is not like it's a big deal.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Let's leave it like it is.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Keep in mind this is not final, final by any stretch of the imagination so if we want to move it around later and we might need to we can do that.

>> MR. MORGAN: Also I just changed the color of 16 so you can see the contrast between 14 and 16.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: All right so Doug are you satisfied with this, what you have drawn?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yes, I'm good.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Let's move on to the next person.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Let me make a comment for Sarah, I took the high population area in east Lansing which I needed to do because it would have got us in a corner then I moved south to satisfy the population requirement.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: All right so moving on to Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Let's Zoom out a little bit so we can see what we have left in this area.

Is what is left enough for one District? Or what do we have as far as population?

>> MR. MORGAN: I can test that for you.

But by taking Delta out from the previous one we were looking at.

Let's see so Eaton was 109 with Delta out about 79 and this out here is I think it's probably about 70.

So I don't know though because this is fairly populous here.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I got to say originally what I was thinking for this area was actually starting with the east Lansing area and then building west from there.

I was thinking about combining east Lansing with southern Lansing but having a District 15 that looked pretty similar to that.

So that's just something to keep in mind, it might be a different way to think about doing it.

But I'll defer to my colleagues that are from the area on that.

For this next District so we will call it 17 and let's start directly under 15.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Go ahead Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: MC, I just have a question.

With Mason being the county seat, of Ingham County, would it make more sense to put them in with Lansing or east Lansing? If you had to take a guess.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: I don't have a mic.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Sorry.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Honestly that is a good question.

I think we should take out the comment.

I don't know that there is one that makes more sense than the other frankly.

But it's a seat of Government so I would tend to say with the Lansing area because that is a seat of Government as well but again it's not contiguous at this point.

>> MR. MORGAN: So along the border here Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: It would make more sense to put it with Lansing than east Lansing even though it's the county seat, most of the county offices are really in Lansing and closer in.

The natural progression is Lansing, Holt, Mason.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Is that in 15?

>> MR. MORGAN: Unassigned and Mason is to the south.

It's here so it's available for inclusion in the Lansing seat that you are drawing now.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Yeah, I would agree with Commissioner Lett.

You know I don't really think Lansing and east Lansing have a whole lot in common.

I mean you know, they have different populations of people.

They are I think they are different.

But would putting it in 17, which is more southern Lansing like we heard earlier, is what do y'all think about that? The Mason okay let's do that as you are doing right now.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay so I just need to go to the block level because I think these are voting precincts were a portion of it is in the other District which I did lock before we did these changes.

Okay almost there you are 81,000 and we will go south after we finish this.

Do you want the balance of Delhi Township?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: We still need 8700 people.

>> MR. MORGAN: Right.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: That will give us another how many?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: .91% low, 829.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Looks pretty good. That leaves us with a Lansing that is split up in three areas. But considering we had to do it like that because of the population, I think it looks pretty good to me.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Now since I was doing 15 now and since 15 is now 3,000 short, would this be beneficial to move directly south and east of Eaton County at this particular point or should we try to merge them together in some weird shape to get the 3,000 to be closer to zero and difference MC?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: I was wrestling with that question myself Dustin and I don't have a good answer but, yeah, I do think that picking up the east Lansing

population above and taking it out of Clinton County is where I went but I don't think that is a good choice here.

I don't have a good answer I'm sorry.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: All right so Anthony you are done with your District?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I think so.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: So Dustin your District is now under; is that right? By how much 3,000? 3% is pretty high though, isn't it?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Yeah, it's the highest out of everything that we have done.

So I just I don't know how we should go about doing it whether it's more south or try to morph what we have to get that to be closer to zero.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Let's look into the western suburbs in Delta Township on the Eaton County side, so west of Lansing or the southwest.

There are some suburban areas there that might fit better.

I would not go all the way down south to Dimondale. I think that is a different region. Maybe that precinct just left west of Packard.

Yeah.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay, you want that precinct into 15?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Who is mapping at this point?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Witjes do you want to address your District or we are just going to move on.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: We can try.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Before we move back Commissioner Eid can I have you provide think additional explanation about what's currently numbered 17?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Yes, can we go back to it?

>> MR. MORGAN: Just put it in 17, one moment, please.

>> COMMISSIONER EID:

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: That is better I will keep 15 as it is then and for you Sarah, grabbing additional population to get it closer to the ideal population for District 15.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: That is closer but how would that because we are going to have to draw one more District.

That has the rest of that County in it.

Is making it that much more close worth putting just a small portion of that District with number 15?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Go ahead Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Keep in mind we can pull from other areas too.

We are not bound by those lines so if we need to move out of it to grab population we can.

And either way we slice it we are trying to work in with Lansing here and fine population, if there is not enough, we will have to go outside.

That is just what we are going to have to do.

Depending how off we are I would imagine.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I think closer is better than farther apart because these Districts are not going to be nice little compact little boxes unfortunately because we just have to meet the population requirements.

So all right any other comments about districts 15 and 17? And I think we have 16 in there too.

Are we ready to move on to another Commissioner? All right, Commissioner Lange? Did you want to pass again or do you want to try to draw a District?

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: Pass.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Apologies for the interruption.

Commissioner Eid could you provide any additional explanation about why you drew in the areas you did for number 17?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: We had central Lansing and eastern Lansing already made into districts.

So southern Lansing is what was left.

And they made a District.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: All right I believe we are with Commissioner Lett at this point for District 18.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT:

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Let's take the rest of Eaton County and see what it looks like.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay, so 57,000 there.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Keep going.

>> MR. MORGAN: Into Ingham County?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Uh-huh.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay, okay, 76,000.

So short by about 15,000.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Here is a problem I'm having with this we have Eaton county out on the western side is definitely rural.

And Mason while there is rural around it is between Lansing and Mason is pretty urban and suburban.

So for a House District it to me doesn't make a lot of sense.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Is that are there two districts there? Can we change the color on that one?

>> MR. MORGAN: No problem, the two districts 13, 18 I'll change the color of one of them.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Even my old eyes can tell the difference.

That is right.

And we are still short.

And my preference would be we need to adjust something to bring more of Ingham County in from Eaton and then take Eaton out towards the west into Barry which Barry and Eaton County are connected in some instances.

There used to be a joint circuit Court District so they have and Barry is more rural. Hastings is the biggest town.

But that still leaves us a problem with the rest of Ingham County and Mason.

We don't have enough, if you are looking at Ingham, I don't know what the Townships are but straight down from 15.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Can you pull some off of 13 and shift the eastern most into 13 and then take off that top row that is going in the other County do you see what I'm saying? Would that solve the problem? So take off where Mr. Morgan is currently has his cursor take that off of 13, steal some of the yellow counties in 18 and then stretch 18 out to the west more.

Would that kind of accomplish?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Dustin has his hand up.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Dustin go ahead.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: That is how it was drawn before that it will align more with the top portion of Shiawassee County than moving over into Ingham to the far right. Yes, it would potentially be a solution but you are bringing Livingston County way to far west at that particular point.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: We are under in the Lansing District so adding Mason for one of those may be where we want to go but I know it will be a lot of reworking but it's just a, yeah, a thought.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Can we split Mason between 16 and 12? It will throw them both over a little bit.

>> MR. MORGAN: That is 11,000 people, 8,000 and closer to 12000.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: You are waiting for me? I want you to put Mason and I think it's Evay or Alaiedon into 12.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay now 12 is over by about 10,000.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: What do we take out of there.

>> MR. MORGAN: Then you wouldn't be connected here.

You might through a little gap here.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Right we don't want to do that.

Pull it back out.

Yeah.

I'm open for suggestions but I mean the problem is that Mason, you know, can go with Leslie and Aurelius and Onondaga but further west and they really don't go that way. You got the current one, districts.

>> MR. MORGAN: Sounds like you are contemplating adding population on the west to District 18 so at this point you have District 12 is overpopulated.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Right.

We got rid of the 56th House District which is completely gerrymandered and that is causing us a problem now.

If we stall long enough it will be 3:00 and we will quit.

>> MR. MORGAN: So 12 is overpopulated at this point.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Pull back out so I can see it.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: See we don't need to go that way.

How much is over there in Pickney?

>> MR. MORGAN: About 11,000.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Does it make sense to put one county seat in a House District with another county seat? Jackson, that seems a little odd to me.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Odd and yet they have potentially common interests.

Different populations but.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: They didn't seem to think so in 2010.

Well, I'm looking at taking Putnam and Unadilla out and putting Mason and Leslie.

>> MR. MORGAN: So those would go to 13 if you took them out of 12.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Take them out period and figure out what to do with them later.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: What did that do to 12?

>> MR. MORGAN: 12 is going to be on the money on population, just slightly under.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 1.3%.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: 13 is on the money now too.

>> MR. MORGAN: Yes, if you put it in 13 or some other place you would have to make an adjustment somewhere else.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: We could put those two into 13 and take out of Shiawassee.

That would be fine.

That would be perfectly fine.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay, so now 13 will be over roughly the same, 11,000.

And you said remove from Shiawassee.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Let's start with Vernon and Durand.

>> MR. MORGAN: Oops sorry, one moment.

So 13 is over by 1300.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Burns.

>> MR. MORGAN: Now it's not over by 1300.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: That should be good.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Where are we on 18?

>> MR. MORGAN: 18 is 64,000 out of 90,000. It's down 30% and you had contemplated going into Barry County.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Yes. And you will see what the Townships look like. 26,000.

Probably going to have to take.

>> MR. MORGAN: Probably go almost up to Hastings.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Townships directly west of the county line.

And Hastings.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Unless somebody has some great objection, I'm done. And if they do then they can do it.

And to form my explanation, I, well, number one we are trying to get the population within the limits for House Districts.

We made adjustments on the east side so that we could bring in what I considered at least to be a more logical arrangement, configuration with Mason and Ingham County. And then took the west side of Ingham County, Eaton county and into Barry County which historically have been more logically put together.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Something that you might want to consider is that if we combine the population of Allegan County, which is west of Barry county the population of both of them combine is exactly enough for two House Districts.

So I think we might be facing a question on is Barry County more associated with Eaton or more associated with Allegan County?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: You're getting a little too far west for me to say.

I know that Barry and Eaton on the west of Barry, east of Eaton or excuse me east of Barry, west of Eaton have been pretty closely tied together.

If you are looking at the rural, a lot of the farmers are going into the Eaton County for hauling their corn and beans et cetera unless they are hauling to Detroit which a lot of them do now so, yeah.

I guess that is I'm not that familiar with west of Hastings.

[Off mic]

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Already any additional comments T or concerns? Go ahead Mr. Morgan.

>> MR. MORGAN: Since you are finishing up the region it's a great time to check for contiguity.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: That sounds like a great idea.

>> MR. MORGAN: I think it's okay but let's check.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: While we are doing that Commission Lett can you provide any additional explanation on why you chose these areas for a District?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: You didn't like my first one? I did that.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Got it, thank you.

>> MR. MORGAN: I did not see any dis-contiguities.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Okay fantastic all right so it looks like we have completed the south central region, which was what we were had tasks to do today.

Go ahead Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Once this is saved can I get the shape file for it again? And I think I got the updated one for the Senate as well.

Thanks.

>> I would like that as well.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Lange?

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: I don't know if my eyes are playing tricks on me but for where it shows Clinton and Clinton on the screen am I seeing like white spaces where there is nothing oh, it was the number 14.

Never mind it was my eyes.

>> MR. MORGAN: That is correct.

Good catch though.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Okay guys so I think we have completed what we intended to do today are there any more comments or concerns? All right so moving on to our next agenda item next item on our agenda is approval of the meeting minutes which we have none to approve.

Let's see where I'm at here.

We also have no staff reports today.

Does MDOS have any updates?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: No.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: No updates. So we have no updates.

Moving on to correspondence. Correspondence received in advance of today's meeting was provided along with written public comments to the Commissioners in out meeting materials.

Without objection, I will move on to further agenda items and I will ask our Executive Director Hammersmith to share about future agenda items including homework for the Commissioners.

Hearing no objection, please proceed, Director Hammersmith.

>> MS. SUANN HAMMERSMITH: Thank you, Chair Szetela.

Well, we are moving into a new area on Thursday.

So the assignment for the Commissioners will be to review the public comment for the Upper Peninsula, for the northwest and the northeast regions of the state.

So an expansive geographic area for sure.

There is lots of public comment.

I sent you a spreadsheet this morning of the public comments that have been provided in meetings including the first round of public hearings that have anything to do with geography.

So you have those comments.

You -- it is in excel so you can sort it or find things in there.

I also forwarded Mr. Brace's spreadsheet that was updated overnight.

So that also has the MGGG shape files that were provided.

So there is over 400 of those.

You will want to search that spreadsheet also for any areas of the map that would apply in these regions.

So you have plenty of homework to do.

I realize we are ending a little early here today but there is a lot of work to do between now and Thursday to make sure that you are ready for those regions.

So that would be it for now.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you very much Executive Director Hammersmith. Mr. Brace?

>> KIM BRACE: Yes, the spreadsheet that the Executive Director sent out to everyone that we created, it is sortable for all of you to look at where there are all the COIs so far.

And you can look at the populations on them.

You can rank them.

What you will find is some of the things on the COIs there are very large COIs that really probably wouldn't really direct you as much.

So keep that in mind as you sort.

You can sort by the regions that they are in.

Sort by the populations.

All of that sort of thing.

So it will give you a good capability of looking at a lot of different things.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you very much Mr. Brace.

All right are there any announcements? Okay, having no announcements, as the items on our agenda are completed and the Commission has no further business a motion to adjourn is in order.

May I have a motion to adjourn.

So moved.

Second.

Motion made by Commissioner Witjes seconded by Commissioner Lett is there any debate or discussion on the motion, hearing none let's vote all in favor please raise your hand and say aye.

Opposed raise your hand and say nay.

DISCLAIMER: This is NOT a certified or verbatim transcript, but rather represents only the context of the class or meeting, subject to the inherent limitations of realtime captioning. The primary focus of realtime captioning is general communication access and as such this document is not suitable, acceptable, nor is it intended for use in any type of legal proceeding.

The ayes prevail and the meeting is adjourned at 2:16 p.m.

Thank you very much everybody.

And Rhonda feel better.

>> Feel better.