

May 18, 2001, Minutes
Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission
Public Hearing

May 18, 2001, 9:00 a.m.
Public Hearing; Minutes of the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission
15 South 15th Avenue, Fourth Floor, Phoenix, Arizona

Commissioners present: Chairman Steven W. Lynn; Commissioner James R. Huntwork (present as indicated); Commissioner Joshua M. Hall; Commissioner Andi Minkoff; Commissioner Daniel R. Elder.

Staff present: Executive Director Enrique Medina Ochoa.

Counsel: Lisa T. Hauser and Jose de Jesus Rivera.

Auxiliary staff present: Lisa A. Nance, RPR, CCR, court reporter with Atwood Reporting.

Consultants Present: Alan Heslop; Marguerite Mary Leoni; Marion Porch; Tim Johnson. John Adler with State Procurement was present as indicated.

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Call to the Public:

Jeff Martin with City of Mesa addressed the Commission speaking in support of NDC, offering his assistance and suggestions. Mesa would also request that it not be split.

Ms. Patrice Cross with City of Chandler addressed the Commission. She encouraged the Commission to meet with local elected officials.

Minutes: MSC to approve the April 30, 2001 minutes as presented.

Without objection, the Chair moved to item IX on the agenda, candidate selections for the PIO and outreach coordinator positions.

Mr. Harry Baker was interviewed for the PIO position.

Ms. Amy Rezzonico Tatham was interviewed for the PIO position.

Mr. Adolfo Echeveste was interviewed for the outreach coordinator position.

Ms. Ilia Terrazas requested that she speak to the Commission in Executive Session. Her request was denied. Ms. Terrazas withdrew her name from consideration for the position as outreach coordinator.

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Ms. Terrazas suggested a mailing be sent to all registered voters in Arizona to be sure everyone that is a registered voter is notified of the meetings and that a record of the date of the mailing be kept. She suggested the mailing information come from either the Secretary of State's Office or the County Recorder.

MSC to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussion of the candidates for the PIO and outreach coordinator.

The Commission went into Executive Session with Dr. Heslop present and Ms. Leoni present from 10:38 a.m. until 11:13 a.m.

MSC to offer the position outreach coordinator to Mr. Adolfo Echeveste subject to a check of references and salary negotiations.

MSC to acquire the services for the public information officer position with Ms. Amy Rezzonico Thathm upon the conditions of a background check and negotiation of income or salary and verifying her availability to be able to start working for the Commission next Monday or Tuesday.

Item IV on the agenda: Legal counsel, discussion or consultation for legal advice with the Commissioners' attorneys. It was determined a short Executive Session was required for this agenda item.

MSC to move into Executive Session for the purposes of obtaining legal advice.

The Commission went into Executive Session with Dr. Helop present and Ms. Leoni present from 11:21 a.m. until 11:53 a.m.

Item VI on the agenda: Presentation by NDC, discussion and possible decision on the grid map approaches.

Dr. Heslop gave a Power Point presentation on various grid map approaches and then gave NDC's recommendation of the township building block approach to grid development.

MSC to adopt the township building block approach to grid development recommended by NDC.

NDC was requested to bring printed materials when they come back next week with their update for the Commission's PIO and outreach person to use.

Agenda item VII: NDC Power Point Presentation.

Dr. Heslop gave a Power Point Presentation that was geared towards a demonstration of what would be shown to the public and groups.

The Commissioners requested a copy of the Power Point presentation to use at their meetings ASAP. It was also requested that the Power Point presentation be translated into Spanish and for it to be available in both languages on the website.

NDC commented that in the past they've found it sufficient to simply have a handout at public meetings in Spanish that followed along with the Power Point presentation and not use a dual screen presentation or, when a particular need is known, to have interpreters available. Mr. Rivera pointed out that many Spanish speaking American voters speak Spanish only and are unable to read Spanish or English.

Agenda Item V: Scheduling for the first round of public meetings and the overall redistricting schedule.

Ms. Leoni went over the entire schedule week by week. NDC, to stay on schedule, needs to receive the historical voting data from EDS in week four, which is May 25-June 1.

The information must get nailed down and out regarding the dates for the cities on the public hearings so it can be disseminated.

Agenda Item VIII: Revised Protocol. Mr. Rivera passed out to the Commissioners the revised protocol which took out things like "every" and is basically NDC's citizen input form. Commissioners, staff, and counsel are to fill them out when they have contacts and send them in to the Executive Officer. He will provide copies to legal counsel and NDC. They will be kept in a log and notebook as the Commissioners requested for review at any time.

Executive Director's Report:

Mr. Ochoa passed out a newly updated contact sheet.

Mr. Ochoa mentioned a letter from Ms. Hauser to him to be discussed later in Executive Session.

Mr. Ochoa passed out a financial spread sheet prepared by Ms. Meeks covering March through April. The Commissioners requested that Mr. Ochoa work with Ms. Meeks to get a more detailed budget.

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Mr. Ochoa indicated the Commissioners received an invitation from the Arizona Advocacy Network for June 26.

Regarding equipment, leasing has been quite problematic with the State's procedures and red tape. Mr. Ochoa again requested authorization for a obtaining a copier and suggested the RIKOH 220. He also requested authorization for a fax machine, an OKI data 540.

MSC to authorize Mr. Ochoa to obtain a copier with a feeder and two trays, 8 and a half by 11 and 8 and a half by 14, speed of 45 pages a minute for the copies. On the fax machine, it is to be a laser fax. The equipment is needed. He is to get it.

Mr. Ochoa informed the Commission that Scott Bales had informed him that they can no longer fax the 220 pages of public notices that have been required for each meeting anymore.

Motion made by Mr. Hall to get laptops ASAP.

Chairman Lynn indicated he felt that previously there had been a motion for laptops and desktops, the entire computer network, even specifying they be wireless internet accessible Dell computers to the specifications the consultations had given.

MSC Commissioner Elder work with Tim Johnson to get 3 projectors with minimum 1000 watt illumination along with the laptop computers.

Mr. Ochoa requested authorization to get the rest to the office equipment from the sheet he had presented at the last meeting so no more time is wasted.

Mr. Tim Johnson indicated the County does have a 36-inch plotter.

MSC to authorize Mr. Ochoa to obtain the equipment needed on the equipment list.

EDS SUBCONTRACT:

Mr. Adler came in and reported that things have gone well with negotiations with EDS and he expects to have everything finalized perhaps this afternoon for their providing the historical voting data. The only problem at this point is some problem with the County's computers or something. He indicated the document was lost in "cyberspace" but he expected to have it shortly if it wasn't on his desk already, probably by the end of the meeting.

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Future Meetings:

Next Meeting will be May 25 at 9:00 a.m. The primary purpose will be a presentation by NDC.

Public Comment:

A letter was read that was submitted by Mr. Steve Gallardo on behalf of the Hispanic Coalition for a Fair Redistricting Process.

Ms. Porch indicated Matt Lore had been here but had to leave.

Mr. Lynn indicated Mr. Perez had been here but had to leave.

Mr. Osterloh addressed the Commission. He indicated he agreed with the township method. He suggested taking the initial grid that comes back from NDC and putting it up for public comment so that there are two choices at the end, one that takes into consideration the items in Prop 106 and one that is the totally random, and see what is favored most.

Agenda Item C under IX, staff responsibilities with Executive Director, at the request of the Executive Director, and pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(1), was done in Executive Session after **MSC**.

Commission was in Executive Session from 3:10 p.m. until 5:01 p.m.

Commission resumed Public Session at 5:02 p.m.

Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Lisa Nance

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