

May 25, 2001, 9:00 a.m.

**Public Hearing; Minutes of the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission
1400 West Washington, Basement Conference Room, Phoenix, Arizona**

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

Staff present: Executive Director Enrique Medina Ochoa; Adolfo Echeveste; Amy Rezzonico.

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; Florence Adams; LeRoy Hardy; Chris Hutchison; Marion Porch; Tim Johnson.

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

Call to the Public:

Speakers: Mark Osterloh; Ann Eschnger; Alan Stephens; David Mendoza; Chris Wagner; Rudolfo Perez.

Minutes:

MSC to approve the May 4, 2001, minutes as presented.

Agenda Item IV: Legal Counsel. No issues presented.

Agenda Item V:

NDC presented a progress report in the form of a Power Point presentation on the grid development showing their status, development of rules, and the fundamental principles guiding the township process with particular emphasis on the township aggregation process and Census tract overlays.

In response to a question as to when they felt they would have a grid to come back to the Commission with, they felt that approximately one week was the best guess.

In response to a question as to how exact equality in population can be achieved in the Congressional and Legislative Districts without dividing Census blocks, Dr. Hardy responded that he felt there must be some flexibility. Dr. Heslop indicated that he felt the hook to hang one's hat on was "as is practicable."

Ms. Hauser brought up Census splits. Dr. Adams indicated it's possible to get them, but they usually take longer than "a couple of weeks." She indicated that the Census Bureau will give you a quote and time frame but she does not recommend them if it can be managed to do it without them.

MS to direct NDC to start in the Northeast corner of the State for gridding purposes.

Discussion was had on the motion.

Motion was amended to direct NDC to start at the Salt River Gila River Base Line Meridian.

The Second to the original motion accepted the amendment.

Discussion was had on the pending amended motion.

Vote was taken. Motion carried to have NDC begin the grid at the Salt and Gila River Base Line Meridian.

NDC was asked if they had the Power Point and training ready for the Commissioners. NDC indicated they have everything ready and could stay today and train whoever was interested.

Executive Director's Report:

Mr. Ochoa indicated he had been working with his staff on the upcoming public hearings.

Mr. Echeveste passed out materials regarding the upcoming schedule and requested its approval. Discussion was had on several dates. Some changes were made in locations and dates.

MSC to adopt the public outreach hearing schedule as amended.

The Commissioners were requested to inform Mr. Echeveste of which meetings they will be able to attend.

Mr. Echeveste requested resources be allocated for hiring temporary personnel to assist with outreach efforts necessary for the public outreach meetings across the state and the logistics, travel, and items necessary to make the meetings happen.

MSC Mr. Echeveste and Mr. Ochoa work together to produce a plan and a budget, at least for the initial stages of implementing this until our next meeting, and that it be subject to approval by the Chairman.

Amy Rezzonico gave a report to the Commissioners with a draft plan of the media plan for the public meeting schedule.

She's made phone calls to the press about public participation; now that the schedule is adopted she will disseminate that statewide today, at least dates and city locations; she will target rural areas, especially Native American populations to get the word out; she's gotten promises of help from the Republic; the Tribune has indicated they will give more support once the maps come out; once the schedule is out, she will be aggressively contacting minority media; she's targeting rural and local electronic media, particularly rural radio; items of significance will be posted on the web site; she is requesting the Commissioners' schedules to try to coordinate some rural editorial boards.

As regards paid media vs. earned media, Ms. Rezzonico indicated the Commission will have to rely on earned media at this point in view of time constraints and cost factors.

Ms. Rezzonico listed the many groups willing to help in our outreach efforts.

Chairman Lynn and Ms. Rezzonico stressed that talk radio and editorial boards would be very good opportunities to get the word out if any of the Commissioners were willing to call in to stations and be interviewed.

Ms. Rezzonico also indicated, upon questioning, that she will look into the internet networks of community activists.

Upon questioning, Tim Johnson indicated that the website was not up yet but was close to being up.

Mr. Ochoa indicated that translation agency arrangements were made.

Mr. Ochoa indicated that the community college sites and facilities were going to be available to the Commission.

Lori Meeks spoke to the Commission regarding the budget reports she has been preparing under the contract with ISA. She indicated she had been providing a one-page synopsis of expenditures to date. She requested guidance on if there was a certain format requested or certain information on the reports that the Commission wanted to see and how often did the Commissioners want to receive the reports.

Commissioner Joshua Hall was asked by the Chairman, and agreed, to work with Ms. Meeks and Mr. Ochoa to prepare a draft budget format, chart of accounts, and budget for the balance of the Commission's work for the Commission to review. Commissioner Elder indicated he would like to see a budget item and year-to-date expenditure against the budget item.

It was indicated that although the State is on a fiscal year that ends June 30, that that does not have to affect the Commission. The IRC can be on a calendar year and that the AIRC appropriation doesn't end at June. At the end of December, whatever the balance is can be carried forward to next year.

Final Call to the Public:

No one indicated a desire to speak.

Agenda Item V was reopened.

NDC requested further definition of the starting point as the starting point given was an axis.

MSC to define the quadrant by drawing it by lot and determining the directing by a flip of a coin.

The Northwest quadrant was drawn by lot. Mr. Osterloh, a public member in attendance, was given the honor of making the random selection.

Counterclockwise was selected by flip of the coin.

Future Meetings:

The next meeting is scheduled for June 7, 2001, at 7:00 a.m.

Chairman Lynn and Commissioner Hall exit via their telephonic attendance.

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NDC gives the Power Point training to the three remaining Commissioners in attendance (and the remaining public).

Citizen Kits, Area Kits, and Statewide Kits were discussed.

NDC was asked when they could get the Power Point presentation to the Commission.
Mr. Hutchison indicated he would burn a copy as soon as he got to LA and Fed Ex it to Mr. Johnson.

Commissioner Elder asked of Mr. Johnson and Mr. Ochoa when will the Commissioners have operational computer systems with software? Mr. Johnson indicated the Commissioners would have them "next week" (by 5/31 to 6/4 at the outside).

Whereupon, the meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Lisa Nance