July 17, 2001, 9:30 a.m.

Public Hearing; Minutes of the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission
1700 W. Washington, 2nd Floor, Governor’s Reception Room, Phoenix, Arizona

Commissioners present: Chairman Steven W. Lynn; Commissioner James R. Huntwork; Commissioner Joshua M. Hall; Commissioner Andi Minkoff; Commissioner Daniel R. Elder. Staff present: Adolfo Echeveste, Acting Executive Director; Amy Rezzonico, Press Information Officer, Augusta Knight, Outreach Coordinator. Counsel: Lisa T. Hauser and Jose de Jesus Rivera. Auxiliary staff present: Lisa A. Nance, RPR, CCR, court reporter with Atwood Reporting. Consultants Present: Florence Adams; Alan Heslop; Marion Porch; Marion Porch; Tim Johnson.

(Note: MSC as contained herein references motion made, seconded, and carried.)

Meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

Agenda Item II: Public Comment.

Supervisor Mary Rose Wilcox, together with Aaron Kizer, made a presentation to the Commission on behalf of the Coalition for Fair Redistricting.

Bruce MacArthur spoke in support of the Coronado Historical Neighborhood Plan.

Jim Hartdegen addressed the Commission on behalf of the City of Casa Grande.

Steve Gallardo addressed the Commission of behalf of the Coalition for Latino Political Action.

Danny Ortega addressed the Commission in support of the plan submitted by Ed Pastor.

Agenda Item III: Discussion and possible approval of the minutes of the Commission’s April 5, April 13, May 10, May 18, May 25, and June 7, 2001, public meetings.

MSC to approve the minutes for 4/5, 4/13, 5/10, 5/18, 5/25 and 6/7.

Agenda Item IV: Possible Executive Session for discussion or consultation for legal advice with the Commission’s attorneys pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(3).

MSC to go into Executive Session for discussion or consultation for legal advice pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(3).

Recess was taken while the Commission was in Executive Session.

Agenda Item V: Presentation, discussion and possible decision with respect to the adoption of AURs and a deadline for citizen input.
Dr. Heslop started the presentation with an explanation of the contents of the binders supplied to the Commissioners and a detailed description of their contents.

NDC recommended that the summaries and excerpts prepared by NDC from the first-round outreach meeting transcripts go on the website in both English and Spanish.

NDC recommended that the maps received, some or all of them, be placed on the website.

Commissioner Minkoff pointed out that some of the materials in the binder were missing pages (every other page), and she would like them reviewed for completeness. NDC agreed to do this quickly.

MSC to place the summaries and excerpts prepared by NDC on the website in both English and Spanish. Discussion was had on the motion. Motion was withdrawn. Second was withdrawn.

Staff was directed to place the information received from NDC by way of summaries and excerpts from the first-round of outreach meeting transcripts on the website in both English and Spanish with an appropriate disclaimer that it was the work product of the consultant.

Dr. Heslop went through a Power Point presentation on the AUR development process and conflicts that are created through competing AURs. Dr. Heslop then went through another Power Point that showed how NDC suggests the CIFs be utilized to resolve conflicts and use a principled basis to make the necessary adjustments.

MSC to direct NDC to produce the mapping of the communities of interest and other facets of the public input process. These will be maps based on AURs of the three major communities of interest, the second criteria, county, city, and even more local governmental boundaries, including school districts.

NDC suggested August 1, 2001, as the deadline for citizen input for the draft maps.

Item IX on the Agenda:

Discussion, consideration and possible ratification of action that may have been taken in violation of the requirements for giving notice of Commission meetings. These actions are as follows:

A. June 7, 2001

1. Vote to go into Executive Session for legal advice (Transcript, pp. 5-6).
2. Vote to review the grid rules before viewing the grid (Transcript, pp. 7-9).
3. Vote to accept the grid rules (Transcript, pp. 9-24).
4. Vote to view the grid (Transcript, pp. 24-29).
5. Vote to approve the grids (Transcript, pp. 29-34).
6. Vote to exclude the grids from the citizen kits (Transcript, pp. 34-42).

B. May 25, 2001

1. Vote to approve the May 4 minutes (Transcript, pp. 11-12).

2. Vote to start creating grids from the Salt River Baseline and Meridian (Transcript, pp. 13-67).

3. Vote to adopt the schedule for Round One of the public hearings (Transcript, pp. 71-88).

4. Vote to have Echeveste and Ochoa approve a plan and budget for implementing the first round of hearings subject to approval by the Chairman (Transcript, pp. 90-91).

C. May 18, 2001

1. Vote to approve the April 30 minutes (Transcript, p. 9).

2. Vote to go into Executive Session to discuss candidates for Public Information Officer and Outreach Coordinator (Transcript, p. 63).

3. Vote to offer the position of Outreach Coordinator to Adolfo Echeveste (Transcript, pp. 64-65).

4. Vote to offer the position of Public Information Officer to Amy Tatham (Transcript, pp. 65-67).

5. Vote to go into Executive Session to obtain legal advice (Transcript, pp. 68-69).

6. Vote to adopt the township, intermediate township, super township methodology for developing the grids (Transcript, pp. 70-97).

7. Vote to authorize Executive Director to acquire equipment through the state process to the specifications indicated by Commissioner Hall (Transcript, pp. 154-158).

8. Vote to purchase three projectors (Transcript, pp. 169-172).

9. Vote to approve the purchase of office equipment (Transcript, pp. 173-175).

10. Vote to go into Executive Session to discuss the responsibilities of the Executive Director (Transcript, p. 182).

D. May 10, 2001

1. Vote to approve Round One meeting locations (Transcript, pp. 12-31).

2. Vote to give Chairman Lynn and Commissioner Elder authority to negotiate contracts with EDS and RAS to provide data to the IRC (Transcript, pp. 90-94).

3. Vote to authorize Commissioners Huntwork and Minkoff to interview candidates for Public Information Officer and Outreach Coordinator and shorten the list of candidates to be interviewed by the IRC (Transcript,
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pp. 112-122).

4. Vote to authorize Executive Director to hire other administrative personnel (Transcript, pp. 122-123).

E. May 4, 2001

1. Vote to go into Executive Session for legal advice (Transcript, pp. 5-6).

2. Vote to authorize Chairman Lynn and Commissioner Elder to conclude the IGA with Maricopa County (Transcript, pp. 8-11).

3. Vote to develop a protocol for Commissioners, staff and consultants to follow when holding private meetings or telephone calls in which citizen input is collected (Transcript, pp. 24-44).

4. Vote to authorize acquisition (by lease, if possible) of seven laptop computers (Transcript, pp. 90-100).

5. Vote to authorize Chairman Lynn to approve any purchases or leases of listed equipment (Transcript, pp. 100-101).

6. Vote to try to engage Ms. Terrazas in the position of Outreach Coordinator either on a continuing or part-time basis instead of through an RFP or until an RFP can be worked out (Transcript, pp. 117-131).

F. April 30, 2001

1. Vote to approve the contract with NDC (Transcript, pp. 8-24).

2. Vote to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with Legislative Council (Transcript, pp. 30-36).

3. Vote to authorize Executive Director to sign Memorandum of Understanding with Legislative Council (Transcript, pp. 36-37).

4. Vote to authorize Chairman Lynn and Commissioner Elder to finalize and execute the Intergovernmental Agreement with Maricopa County (Transcript, pp. 38-48).

5. Vote to go into Executive Session to receive legal advice (Transcript, pp. 88-89).

G. April 13, 2001

1. Vote to go into Executive Session to discuss or consider records exempt by law from public inspection (Transcript, pp. 72-75).

2. Vote to delegate to Chairman Lynn and Commissioner Elder to continue to work with state procurement and legal counsel to conclude negotiations with NDC as primary contractor and any other contractors and to have another meeting to approve any contracts or to further delegate approval (Transcript, pp. 76-81).

NOTICE: The public may obtain a detailed written description of the actions to be ratified, and all deliberations, consultations and decisions by members of the public body that preceded and relate to this action to be ratified from the
Motion was made by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Minkoff, and voted upon and passed unanimously to ratify the individual items as listed on the agenda item above.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Elder, and voted upon and passed unanimously to hire Adolfo Echeveste as the Commission’s new Executive Director.

Issues regarding finalizing Mr. Echeveste’s employment were delegated to Commissioner Hall as long as they stayed within the parameters and guidelines that the State allowed the Commission in terms of the position.

Agenda Item VI: Presentation of options, discussion and possible decision with respect to the process and schedule for development of draft Congressional and Legislative maps, the 30-day public comment period, and adoption of the final Congressional and Legislative maps.

Counsel presented two time lines to the Commission labeled Version A and Version B.

Motion and second was made to go with Version B to attempt to work around weekends as much as possible. Discussion was had on the motion that an attempt would be made for NDC to meet individually with Commissioners prior to the August 2-4 meeting; counsel would be present at those individual meetings; NDC to present the final report Sept. 17; counsel to meet Sept. 18 and 19; the Commission to meet in Executive Session Sept. 25 and in Public Session Sept. 26 for final adoption with that meeting to recess and reconvene at the Commission’s earliest opportunity if not completed on the 26th. And an option would be left open for the Public Session to begin on Sept. 25th if the Executive Session did not exhaust the full day. August 1, 2001, will remain the cut-off date for public input into the draft map initial phase. Vote was had on the motion. Motion carried.

Agenda Item VII: Presentation of options, discussion and possible decision with respect to plans for citizen outreach and the second round of public meetings.

Mr. Echeveste presented a draft memorandum to the Commission which has been circulated on the subject of the second round of proposed hearing schedules. The schedule was discussed by the Commission. It was emphasized that the Commissioners wish to avail the public of every possible opportunity to provide input to the Commission on the draft maps and that the Commissioners also desire to personally hear as much of the public input as possible. Discussion was had regarding providing opportunities for individuals that work during the week and might find Saturday a more convenient time to meet with the Commission as well as other options. It was decided to start the public outreach meetings on
August 25 and to conclude them on September 15. It was noted by Chairman Lynn that this schedule would basically require the Commissioners to clear their calendars from the 25th to the 15th and commit to attend as many of the meetings as practical.

MSC to adopt the second round outreach schedule ranging from August 25th to September 15th incorporating the changes that were discussed in open session by the Commissioners.

Agenda Item XI was deemed to have no relevance by virtue of adopting the schedule and was therefore skipped without objection.

Adolfo Echevest introduced all members of the staff, present and past, to the Commission and public.

Agenda Item X: Public Comment.
No one indicated a desire to speak.

Agenda Item XII: Adjournment.
Whereupon, the Commission adjourned at approximately 2:50 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Lisa Nance