

ARIZONA INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

October 17, 2011
6:10 p.m.

Location

Prescott Valley Public Library
7401 East Civic Circle
Prescott Valley, Arizona 86314

Attending

Colleen C. Mathis, Chair
Linda C. McNulty, Commissioner

Kristina Gomez, Deputy Executive Director
Joe Kanefield, Counsel, Ballard Spahr

PREPARED BY:

AZ Litigation Support, LLC
Michelle D. Elam, CR
Certified Reporter
CR No. 50637

1 Prescott Valley, Arizona
2 October 17, 2011
3 6:10 p.m.

4 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Good evening.

5 This hearing of the Arizona Independent
6 Redistricting Commission will now come to order.

7 Today is Monday, October 17th, and the
8 time is 6:10 p.m.

9 And if you could all please rise, we'll
10 start with the Pledge of Allegiance.

11 (Pledge of Allegiance was recited.)

12 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Well, it's amazing
13 to see this kind of turnout on a Monday evening. We
14 saw all of the cars in the parking lot and then saw
15 that the library is closed tonight, so figured,
16 wow, this must be for the hearing. And here you all
17 are.

18 Thank you for coming. It's wonderful to
19 be here in Prescott Valley this evening.

20 Our purpose tonight is to hear from you.
21 That's the primary reason we're all here, is to
22 obtain input.

23 And we'll be doing that shortly. I'll be
24 going through a whole public comment phase later in
25 the meeting.

1 I first wanted to, though, go through
2 roll call and introduce some people around the room
3 and then also I believe Mayor Skoog is going to come
4 up and give a few words of welcome to all of us.

5 So for roll call, Vice Chair Freeman.

6 Vice Chair Herrera.

7 Commissioner McNulty.

8 COMMISSIONER MCNULTY: Here.

9 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Commissioner Stertz.

10 And other folks -- and just so -- I
11 should say first, all of the commissioners don't
12 attend all of the meetings. We're kind of dividing
13 up the state and attending different hearings at
14 different times.

15 So I'm sure the other commissioners are
16 watching this online. We're streaming this over the
17 Internet. Or if they are not available to do that,
18 they will be sure to watch this hearing because it's
19 all recorded, and you can even pull it up online at
20 home at a later time.

21 Other folks at the table include our
22 legal counsel, Joe Kanefield; our mapping
23 consultant, Andrew Drechsler.

24 We have a court reporter, Michelle, who
25 is taking an accurate transcript of tonight's

1 proceeding.

2 Our public information officer is Stu
3 Robinson, raising his hand over there.

4 Our public outreach coordinators, Kristy
5 Olson and Lisa Schmelling.

6 And then Kristina Gomez, our deputy
7 executive director is here in the back.

8 And feel free to contact any of these
9 folks tonight if you need anything or have any
10 questions or want to give us anything. They will be
11 happy to accept it.

12 So with that, I think we'll bring the
13 mayor of Prescott Valley up, Harvey Skoog.

14 And if you would like to just say a few
15 words of welcome, that would be great.

16 HARVEY SKOOG: Well, thank you.

17 Good to see you all.

18 And welcome to you, Colleen, and all of
19 the Commission. Good to see you all.

20 I would like to take a few seconds, if I
21 may, and introduce some of the VIPs that are here.

22 Let's start with Mayor Kuykendall. Can
23 you believe it? He made it.

24 Mayor Terry Nolan from Dewey-Humboldt.

25 Right now I'm not sure if there's any

1 other mayors here.

2 Rick Anderson, council member, Prescott
3 Valley.

4 Lora Lee Nye, councilwoman, Prescott
5 Valley.

6 Mike Flannery, retired council member
7 from Prescott Valley.

8 Tom Thurman, county supervisor.

9 State Representative Karen Fann, I saw
10 her. I don't know where -- oh, there she is.

11 Tim Emster, Sedona city manager.

12 Tim, where are you? Oh, there he is.

13 Jesse Dowling from Cottonwood, council
14 member.

15 Carm Staker, one of our early mayors in
16 Prescott Valley, and I don't know where -- there she
17 is.

18 Carm was mayor back in the mid-'80s when
19 I was -- the first time I was sworn into office on a
20 council. So if I've done okay, she taught me -- if
21 I'm not, I don't know who to blame. Myself, I
22 guess.

23 Cliff Hamilton, vice mayor of Sedona.

24 Where is -- there he is.

25 And Pam Pearsall, our county assessor.

1 I know -- I hope I didn't miss anybody.
2 If I did, I apologize.

3 If I did, raise your hand so we can get
4 you introduced.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Mary Mallory.

6 Mary Mallory -- I'm sorry. Mary Mallory
7 is here.

8 Where is Mary at?

9 Oh, there she is, way in the back.

10 Tonight we're going to have a little bit
11 of fun with the subject known as redistricting. It
12 does two things: Makes some people real happy, some
13 people kind of frustrated.

14 And I think that our Commission -- I
15 would like to say, boy, do they have a tough job.
16 There's going to be some people that are going to be
17 unhappy with it, others that I hope are going to be
18 very happy. I hope the end result is it's going to
19 make everyone happy.

20 Of course, here in Yavapai County we have
21 a county -- a community of interest. So our hope is
22 that we can see us intact as possible.

23 Oh, there's Dave Mauer from the Prescott
24 Chamber of Commerce. There he is. Sorry I didn't
25 see you there.

1 I hope I didn't miss somebody. If I did,
2 I surely apologize.

3 I understand that you're going to have
4 your chance to speak tonight. I'm going to sure
5 encourage it because we need to -- and the
6 Commission wants to hear your opinions. And we want
7 the result -- end result to be something that's
8 going to be very satisfactory. So express yourself;
9 let us know what you want.

10 Again, thank you all for coming and
11 welcome to this meeting. I hope you're enjoying our
12 fairly new library facilities.

13 I see a bunch of you standing and I also
14 see several empty chairs. Why don't you kind of
15 move in and find a chair and make yourself
16 comfortable. There is places to sit. You might
17 have to come down the middle row to get to the
18 chairs.

19 Anyway, thank you and welcome.

20 And, Colleen, you're back on.

21 Thank you so much.

22 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you, Mayor.

23 Federal law requires us to offer
24 translation and interpretive services to those who
25 don't have -- don't use English as their primary

1 language, and tonight we have two interpreters who I
2 would like to call up to give a few words of welcome
3 in their native tongues and to see if anybody needs
4 any assistance.

5 Beatrice Critas, for Spanish. If you
6 could come up and say a few words, that would be
7 great.

8 BEATRICE CRITAS: Chair Mathis,
9 Commissioners, ladies and gentlemen, in accordance
10 with the Voting Rights Act, an interpreter will be
11 available at all public hearings in order to provide
12 interpretive services that might be needed for those
13 citizens that need interpreting services.

14 Please contact the interpreter present at
15 this meeting so that he or she can assist you.

16 Will the interpreters please raise his or
17 her hand so that you might be identified.

18 I have to read this in Spanish also.
19 (Speaking in native tongue.)

20 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you very much.
21 Our second interpreter is Nora Jim for
22 Navajo.

23 NORA JIM: (Speaking in native tongue.)

24 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Can you speak
25 directly -- Ms. Jim. Thank you.

1 NORA JIM: (Speaking in native tongue.)

2 My name is Nora Jim. I'm from the Navajo
3 Tribe, and I'm here to assist any Navajo who might
4 not understand what is going on with the
5 redistricting.

6 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you very much.

7 Before we have a presentation on the
8 redistricting process from Mr. Drechsler, I just
9 want to remind everyone that if you would like to
10 address the Commission tonight, be sure to fill out
11 a request to speak form that's found on the table
12 over there and we'll be sure to add you to the stack
13 that I've got right here.

14 If you do not wish to address the
15 Commission but still have input that you would like
16 to provide, there's a blue sheet in the packets and
17 it's on the tables over there that you can fill out
18 and that testimony will be entered into the record
19 just the same as if you stood here at the microphone
20 or the podium tonight.

21 So just to let you know about those. So
22 be thinking about what you want to say in your
23 public input that will be coming shortly, and with
24 that, I think we'll turn it over to Mr. Drechsler
25 for a presentation.

1 ANDREW DRECHSLER: Good evening.

2 We're here to do to discuss the draft
3 maps presented by the Arizona Independent
4 Redistricting Commission.

5 The draft maps are currently under a
6 30-day review, which is the main reason that we are
7 here today, is to hear your opinions on the maps.
8 We do want to hear what you like about the maps,
9 what changes you would make, and any other -- any
10 other input that you may have.

11 Before we display the maps, we want to
12 give you a quick overview of the process.

13 Arizona's redistricting process is
14 governed by the State Constitution as amended by
15 voters in 2000 with the passage of Proposition 106.

16 It stipulates Arizona's Independent
17 Redistricting Commission redraw Arizona's
18 congressional and legislative districts to reflect
19 the results of the most recent census.

20 Due to the 2010 census, Arizona gained a
21 congressional seat. So we'll be going from eight
22 congressional seats to nine congressional seats.

23 The 30 legislative seats -- senate seats
24 and the 60 house seats will stay the same.

25 What are the requirements of the State

1 Constitution via Proposition 106?

2 The new district boundaries must, A,
3 comply with the U.S. Constitution and the Voting
4 Rights Act.

5 B, have equal population.

6 Criteria A and B are federally mandated.

7 To the extent practicable, the districts
8 must be, C, compact and contiguous; D, respect
9 communities of interest; E, use physical geographic
10 features, city, town, and county boundaries and
11 undivided census tracts; F, favor competitive
12 districts where no significant detriment to other
13 goals.

14 We just wanted to go over the Voting
15 Rights Act for the presentation.

16 Arizona's congressional and legislative
17 districts must receive preclearance or approval from
18 the Department of Justice or a federal court under
19 Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act before they can
20 take effect.

21 To get preclearance, Arizona must
22 demonstrate that the new districts do not
23 discriminate against minority voters in purpose or
24 effect, which means there can be no intentional or
25 accidental discrimination.

1 Under Section 5, Arizona's redistricting
2 plans cannot be retrogressive. The plans cannot
3 weaken or reduce minority voters' rights.

4 The presence of discrimination can be
5 determined by analyzing population data and election
6 results.

7 We wanted to go over sort of the six
8 steps that are involved in the timeline of the
9 Commission.

10 Step 1 was setting up the Commission.

11 Earlier this year the commissioners were
12 appointed following a thorough screening process and
13 each of the commissioners serve as volunteers to the
14 Commission.

15 The commissioners are Scott Freeman, vice
16 chair; Jose Herrera, vice chair; today with us is
17 Chairwoman Colleen Mathis; also today with us is
18 Commissioner Linda McNulty; and Richard Stertz is
19 the fifth commissioner.

20 Step 1 was the first round -- step 2 was
21 the first round hearings.

22 Before drawing a single line, the
23 Commission held 23 public hearings around the state
24 in July and August to get input from members of the
25 public about issues relevant to redistricting such

1 as geography, communities of interest, minority
2 voting rights, and competitiveness.

3 Step 3 was mapping.

4 Per Proposition 106, we started with a
5 clean slate. The next step was we then divided the
6 state into equal population and compact grid-like
7 districts.

8 The grid map is also a requirement of
9 Proposition 106 and it's to show that we're starting
10 off fresh and not taking in the last lines into
11 consideration.

12 The grid map was approved on August 18th.
13 Since adopting the grid maps, the Commission has met
14 more than 25 times to consider adjustments to the
15 grid and accommodate all of the State constitutional
16 criteria.

17 During this time, they received
18 additional public comments and draft maps.

19 Approval of the draft maps.

20 On October 3rd, the Commission approved
21 the draft congressional map that was incorporated --
22 that incorporated the changes based on all of the
23 constitutional criteria.

24 It approved the draft legislative map on
25 October 10th, just one week ago.

1 Step 4, second round of hearings.

2 We're currently in the process of
3 visiting 25 towns and cities to share the draft maps
4 and receive additional public comment during the
5 months of October and November.

6 Step 5, final maps.

7 Upon completion of the public comment
8 period, the Independent Redistricting Commission
9 will adopt final maps.

10 The final, step 6, is preclearance.

11 Because Arizona is subject to Section 5
12 of the Voting Rights Act, the district maps must be
13 approved by the federal Department of Justice or the
14 federal court in Washington, D.C., before they can
15 be used for Arizona's elections.

16 Before we show you the draft map, we just
17 wanted to go through the process and show you the
18 evolution of the maps.

19 This was the congressional map used in
20 the 2010 election and this was the map that was
21 approved by the last Commission.

22 Per Proposition 106, we started with a
23 blank slate and then we moved to the grid map.

24 Again, the grid map, which was approved
25 on August 18th, took into account two of the

1 criteria, equal population and compactness.

2 After more than 25 meetings, the
3 commissioners voted to approve the draft map that
4 you see here.

5 Besides taking into consideration the six
6 criteria, the Commission took into consideration
7 public comment provided via public meetings, round
8 one of public hearings, comments mailed to the
9 Commission, e-mailed, hand-delivered, faxed, and
10 telephoned in. Over 5,000 comments helped to
11 develop this map.

12 As you can see, some of the highlights of
13 this map include two predominantly rural districts,
14 three border districts, two districts in the city of
15 Tucson, five districts that are entirely in Maricopa
16 County, it avoids splitting Arizona's Indian
17 reservations, and two districts where minority
18 voters have the opportunity to elect a candidate of
19 their choice.

20 The legislative map process followed a
21 very similar process.

22 This is the map that was most recently
23 used in the 2010 elections. This also is the map
24 that was approved by the last Commission.

25 Like the congressional map, it started

1 off with a blank slate and then moved to the grid
2 map.

3 Again, the grid map was approved on
4 August 18th and took into account two
5 considerations, equal population and compactness.

6 From there, they moved on to the
7 legislative map which was approved just last week.

8 Some of the features of the legislative
9 map include it takes in to reflect the population
10 growth and reduction.

11 Under the old map, the one that was used
12 in the 2010 elections, the old districts ranged in
13 population from 155,000 to 378,000. The districts
14 in the draft map range from 207,000 to 215,000.

15 To comply with the Voting Rights Act the
16 draft map includes ten districts which minority
17 voters have the opportunity to elect a candidate of
18 their choice. The draft includes three districts
19 wholly within Pima County and three additional
20 Southern Arizona districts, seventeen districts that
21 are within Maricopa County, and nine districts
22 primarily rural.

23 The Commission wants to hear your input.
24 You can fill out a request to speak form at today's
25 hearing and provide the Commission your input.

1 Examples of input include your thoughts
2 on any of the constitutional criteria, thoughts on
3 the draft congressional map and thoughts on the
4 draft legislative map.

5 You can submit your input by speaking at
6 today's hearing. At the back of your packet of
7 information that was handed out you would have seen
8 one of these blue sheets. You can either fill it
9 out and leave it with us today, otherwise the
10 address is on it and you can mail that in to the
11 Commission.

12 The other option is to call the
13 Commission. The phone number is on here or you can
14 visit us at www.azredistricting.org and there's a
15 place where you can submit public comment there or
16 call us at 602-542-5221 or toll free at
17 855-737-7478.

18 We just want to give a quick overview of
19 our website and point out some features that you
20 might find helpful in looking at the maps.

21 This is the home page of the Commission's
22 website and you'll see on the top left an arrow for
23 maps.

24 There you can find the grid maps and all
25 of the maps that were taken under consideration in

1 developing the final draft maps.

2 You'll see a link for meetings. If you
3 wanted to watch any of the past meetings, there's a
4 video of all of the past meetings online. So you
5 can see how the draft map came to what we have
6 today.

7 If you submit public input and click
8 there, it will take you to a screen where you can
9 fill out your thoughts.

10 And down below you'll see another arrow
11 that has maps. If you click on either of these two
12 options down below, it will take you to a screen
13 that looks like this, and this is where you can find
14 the draft maps.

15 Besides the draft maps that you have
16 received in your packets, we have a couple maps up
17 today on the walls.

18 And so if you click -- one of the
19 features that people liked is the Google map
20 feature, and that's what was on display when you
21 first came in the room.

22 And if you click on the Google maps, it
23 will take you to a screen that looks like this. And
24 this is where -- this gives the ability to scroll
25 and zoom in so you can see the exact boundaries of

1 your district and see the surrounding districts.

2 When you zoom in, it gives you some great
3 detail in terms of the exact neighborhood's
4 boundaries that are drawn.

5 And finally, we want you to stay
6 connected. We want you to visit our website,
7 azredistricting.org, and there's a feature on there
8 that allows you to draw your own maps that you can
9 submit to the commissioners.

10 You can watch current meetings on there.
11 We're going to be on the road for, I think, 20 more
12 days and you can watch all of them streamed live on
13 the Internet or you can get caught up on past
14 meetings and you can get updates on future meetings
15 there as well.

16 You can follow us at Twitter at #AIRC or
17 friend us at Facebook.

18 Again, thank you very much. If you have
19 any questions, I will be around afterwards and would
20 be happy to answer any questions that you may have.

21 Thank you.

22 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you,
23 Mr. Drechsler.

24 Great. Well, we're now at the public
25 comment portion of the meeting, and I've got about

1 40 request to speak forms.

2 So if you wouldn't mind, we would like to
3 limit comment tonight to three minutes per person.
4 And if you hear the timer go off and you're still --
5 you still have some things to say, just try to wrap
6 it up as soon as we can. We won't cut you off
7 instantly or anything like that, but it's just so
8 that we can give everybody a chance to speak
9 tonight.

10 It's, again, really wonderful that this
11 many of you came out to our hearing. That's what
12 this is all about.

13 And to the extent you can give us
14 specific direction on the map, we'll take it. We
15 want to hear what you like about the map or what you
16 don't like about the map. They are both helpful
17 comments.

18 And if you don't like it, if you've
19 thought about ways to modify it, please feel free to
20 let us know about those because that's very helpful.

21 So our first person -- just to remind
22 everyone about public comment, if they could come up
23 to the microphone and speak directly into it so that
24 we can all hear you really well and please spell
25 your name for the court reporter so we get an

1 accurate spelling and if you could also just say
2 where you're from, if I don't say it. Most of you
3 filled out the form and let me know that. So you
4 don't need to, if I say it. But if you didn't,
5 please let us all know just a city, town, or county
6 where you reside.

7 So with that, our first speaker is Cliff
8 Hamilton, vice mayor for the City of Sedona.

9 CLIFF HAMILTON: Good evening, Madame
10 Chairman and Commissioner McNulty and staff members.

11 My name is Cliff Hamilton. I am the vice
12 mayor of Sedona. I'm here tonight speaking on
13 behalf of the Sedona City Council and the City of
14 Sedona.

15 I can't think of a more thankless job
16 than the one you folks have and probably more so
17 than being a small-town city council member.

18 But rather than pick on various kinds of
19 things, we do have very specific requests for you
20 tonight and that involves the greater Sedona area.

21 One of the important things about
22 Sedona -- I want to speak about the Congressional
23 District 1 that we're currently allocated in.

24 It carves the city limits of Sedona out
25 of the greater Sedona area. That break in Sedona

1 area shares a post office, they all have a similar
2 address. And we talk about the Red Rock loop area
3 up Oak Creek Canyon, our Village of Oak Creek which
4 is just south of us, we are all really one unit
5 sharing a post office and Sedona address and common
6 fire district, a common school district, common
7 voting precincts.

8 So in terms of administrative issues, I
9 think my request tonight is really not about
10 politics or those kinds of thing, it's first about
11 these administrative issues that would be very
12 helpful to have us all included in the same area.

13 I know with the congressional district
14 you have about 700,000 folks you're dealing with, so
15 a few thousand one way or another is probably not
16 going to make a lot of difference in this particular
17 issue.

18 So I first wanted to note please leave
19 the greater Sedona area together.

20 Our second fundamental that the council
21 would like to request tonight is we very much
22 believe that the Verde Valley is also very much a
23 community. We share great common work force.
24 Probably half of our work force comes from outside
25 of Sedona, coming in from Cottonwood, Camp Verde,

1 and other sorts of areas.

2 We share a common transit system, we
3 share water, economic development interests that are
4 all participating together.

5 So keeping the Verde Valley together in a
6 common area is also very important to us, especially
7 out here in rural Arizona.

8 Legislative District 6 is the one that we
9 are currently assigned to in the current map. We're
10 generally quite happy with that because it meets
11 those two principles of keeping the greater Sedona
12 area together and it also keeps most of Verde Valley
13 together as well. So we really don't have much
14 comment on that other than we generally support it
15 because it meets our fundamentals.

16 And I think with that, I thank you very
17 much for the chance to speak tonight and certainly
18 wish you well in this endeavor.

19 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you very much.

20 Our next is Representative Karen Fann,
21 from current LD 1.

22 KAREN FANN: Thank you.

23 First of all, welcome to Yavapai County.
24 We appreciate you coming up and having these
25 hearings.

1 We know that you have put in a lot of
2 effort. We know this is not easy, and we do thank
3 you for the effort you are putting in.

4 My concern tonight is -- I will be
5 addressing the legislative district map with regards
6 to communities of interest.

7 I am speaking on behalf of many of our
8 constituents.

9 First of all, let me state that one of
10 the biggest concerns that we have is that fact that
11 the Verde Valley communities were separated away
12 from residents of Yavapai County.

13 We understand that the city of Sedona
14 would like to be more with the northern communities;
15 however, when we talk about communities of interest,
16 please believe me that all of us who live along the
17 Verde River, for all of us that depend on the Verde
18 River, its ecosystem, its water availability, we
19 have worked for generations, we have worked for
20 decades together to make sure that we stay -- we
21 keep that Verde River as precious as it possibly is
22 and make sure that we provide for the downriver
23 users.

24 If that were to be split away from the
25 rest of Yavapai County, it would be very difficult

1 for us to work together because consequently, the
2 city of Flagstaff and the population that comes from
3 there would end up controlling much of what goes on
4 in that whole Verde Valley area instead of someone
5 from Yavapai County addressing to keep our
6 communities together.

7 It is interesting that the majority of
8 the Verde Valley mayors signed on wanting to be part
9 of Legislative, what we know, as District 1. They
10 do not want to be separated.

11 We find it interesting that an effort,
12 with all due respect to our tribal neighbors, in an
13 effort to keep all of the tribes together, in an
14 effort to appease the city of Flagstaff because they
15 didn't want to be with the Navajo Nation, in
16 essence, the rest of the state ended up getting the
17 short end of the stick on some issues.

18 When it comes to Yavapai County, we have
19 communities of interest that not only entail the
20 Verde River, but our infrastructure, our road
21 transportation system that we have all worked so
22 hard together, our economic development as well as
23 community health.

24 One of the most frustrating things about
25 the map as is existing, which does not show fully on

1 this one map, but to the south, if the rest of the
2 citizens don't understand, if left the way it is, we
3 will also be taking in Wickenburg, Morristown, north
4 of -- the north side of Surprise, the north side of
5 Buckeye, Gila, and a number of other communities in
6 Maricopa County.

7 While we all love our neighboring
8 communities, part of our problem here is that it is
9 not an unforeseeable thing that in the future, that
10 Yavapai County could end up having their
11 representatives and their senator elected from
12 either Coconino County or Maricopa County, which
13 means that Yavapai County could end up with no
14 representation whatsoever.

15 And one little side note, for history, we
16 have always been Legislative District 1 because we
17 were the first territorial capital and it's a part
18 of Arizona history. And if at all possible, we
19 would like to keep our history and we would like to
20 stay LD 1.

21 Thank you.

22 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

23 Our next speaker is Tom Thurman, Yavapai
24 County Supervisor.

25 TOM THURMAN: And, again, welcome to

1 Yavapai County.

2 I can't hardly beat -- I agree with
3 everything that Representative Fann said.

4 I just -- so you guys understand the
5 history of the Verde Valley and the Prescott side.
6 We have this mountain range that seems to be more
7 than a mountain range. For some reason it's always
8 split this county for years and years and years.
9 Even when Jerome was a little town, a mining town
10 and Prescott was a little town, they always would
11 fight.

12 There's always something going on. We
13 have turf wars between them and us. But you know
14 what, we're still home; they are still home to us.

15 There's been a period where they've
16 talked about in the Verde Valley of going off and
17 creating their own county because they believe they
18 had different interests.

19 But they have complete different
20 interests from Coconino County. They have much more
21 in kind with us.

22 Many of the things that we have on here,
23 compactness is under one of them. That would keep
24 Yavapai County more whole.

25 Respect for communities of interest. We

1 have much more in common with them than they do with
2 Flagstaff or points south.

3 And, of course, the geographic feature of
4 the Mingus Mountain.

5 What you got to understand is this could
6 tear up this county for future ability to get along
7 with the folks in the Verde Valley and us on this
8 side of the mountain.

9 We as Yavapai County's Board of
10 Supervisors, when we did our redistricting, we made
11 sure that there was one of the districts that was
12 literally half on that side of the mountain and half
13 on this side. So we have this olive branch that we
14 all are one county, not separated by Mingus
15 Mountain.

16 And this just exacerbates a problem that
17 we've had in the past, and I don't want to see that
18 happen again, both in legislative and congressional
19 maps. So I'll leave it at that.

20 Thank you very much.

21 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

22 Our next speaker is Terry Nolan, town of
23 Dewey-Humboldt.

24 TERRY NOLAN: Thank you very much.

25 And, again, welcome to Yavapai County.

1 We have a representative who has been
2 attending your meetings continuously from the start
3 and he will present a resolution later on when he
4 speaks, but just to emphasize what has already been
5 said, to keep Yavapai County whole and also the
6 historic part of being in District 1.

7 So again, thank you, and I'm not going to
8 say too much more because there's a lot of people
9 that have a lot to say.

10 Thank you.

11 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

12 I like your hat.

13 Our next speaker is Lou Smith,
14 representing self from Williamson Valley in Yavapai
15 County.

16 LOU SMITH: Madame Chairman, Madame
17 single commissioner, my name is Lou, L-o-u, Smith,
18 S-m-i-t-h. I noticed nobody else could remember to
19 spell their names as instructed.

20 Anyway, Yavapai County is and of itself
21 complete and whole. We have people representing
22 both sides of the mountains and we have issues which
23 are basically resolved within ourselves.

24 You go splitting us up so that part of
25 us, as was mentioned earlier, has the potential to

1 be represented by, good heavens, Maricopa County, we
2 should be by ourselves.

3 We have sufficient population. Just a
4 smidgen more brought down and we're at the average.

5 So please don't tear us up. Leave us
6 alone.

7 Thank you.

8 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

9 Our next speaker is Malcolm Barrett, Jr.,
10 representing self from Prescott.

11 MALCOLM BARRETT, JR.: Good evening,
12 Madame Chair and Commissioner McNulty.

13 My name is Malcolm Barrett, Jr. I'll
14 spell the first because that's more of a challenge
15 than the last name usually. M-a-l-c-o-l-m, last
16 name Barrett, B-a-r-r-e-t-t.

17 I'm addressing you tonight primarily on
18 the subject of the legislative district.

19 In an earlier meeting when we talked
20 about the target population of 215,000, Yavapai
21 County in itself is just over 212,000. And yet in
22 the proposed legislative district before us tonight,
23 including Prescott and most of Yavapai County, you
24 have a population figure, in fact, of 212,000
25 people.

1 We have the same population as that in
2 Yavapai County right now. To expand that district
3 to the west and south by carving population of
4 40,000 citizens, basically representing the Verde
5 Valley, we have to go to the west and clear down to
6 Interstate 10 to the northern boundaries of Buckeye
7 to make up that 40,000 population that has been
8 carved out by the gerrymandering of the Verde Valley
9 into the other district.

10 I think we have a much better solution in
11 just keeping Yavapai County whole. If you look at
12 compactness, if you draw a straight line on the map
13 on the northern side of Yavapai County clear down to
14 Interstate 10, it's not really compact because
15 driving -- you're talking an over two-hour drive.
16 And having a two-hour drive within one legislative
17 district does not meet any definition of compact
18 that I know of.

19 In terms of community of interest, we as
20 an entire county share those in terms of law
21 enforcement, in terms of hospital districts, in
22 terms of water, in terms of everything you can think
23 of across the border. We really don't have anything
24 in interest with western Maricopa and Interstate 10
25 corridor.

1 Now, one thing that bothers me from the
2 beginning with the proposal of this legislative map
3 is that this is virtually the same boundaries carved
4 out on a proposal submitted by the City of Flagstaff
5 who hired a Democrat lobbyist who, in fact, is the
6 chair -- the vice chair of the Democrat commit- --
7 state committee and here we have -- and the proposal
8 before us today does, in fact, virtually carves out
9 the entire Verde Valley to meet the needs of the
10 City of Flagstaff, and that is not in anybody's best
11 interest.

12 And I would also like -- I would also
13 like to note that Yavapai County, as the Mother
14 County, representing since statehood, two-thirds of
15 the state of Arizona, I would like to maintain that
16 designation of CD and Legislative District 1.

17 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is
18 Steve Rutherford, Prescott Valley Economic
19 Development Foundation.

20 Is he here?

21 No.

22 I'll call his name later if he stepped
23 out.

24 Sharon Egan, from Prescott.

25 SHARON EGAN: My name is Sharon Egan,

1 E-g-a-n, and my purpose for being here this evening
2 is to express my concern with regards to the company
3 that helped you map out the votes in our county.

4 I know that you helped Obama with some of
5 his redistricting and voting situations, and I don't
6 believe in my own heart that you can be independent
7 and fair, and I'm wondering if this Commission is
8 going to try to do the same thing that Obama did and
9 the Democrats did when they forced the health care
10 plan down our throats.

11 I'm hoping that you're not trying to
12 force this down our throats.

13 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

14 Our next speaker is Matthew Perry,
15 representing Prescott.

16 MATTHEW PERRY: My name is spelled
17 M-a-t-t-h-e-w, P-e-r-r-y, and I'm from Prescott in
18 Yavapai County.

19 I have spoken here previously at the last
20 meeting, but my public comments haven't been
21 incorporated in the map so I figured I'd come here
22 and repeat myself.

23 But I think that there's a big difference
24 from Prescott and places like Surprise and Buckeye
25 and Fountain Hills. And I think we have a lot more

1 in common with other rural areas like Williams and
2 Mohave County, and I think that we should be
3 incorporated in a completely, not predominantly,
4 rural district.

5 And I also think when it comes to our
6 legislative district, Yavapai County is a community
7 of interest, period. We're not -- we don't share
8 the same fire, in education, in water districts.

9 I'm not going to not be friends with
10 someone at Yavapai College because they come from
11 Cottonwood or Camp Verde, and I don't think our
12 political representation should be divided that way.

13 And not to sound like a broken record,
14 but please keep our community and our home together.

15 Thank you.

16 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

17 I'll read the next speaker name and
18 then -- just so that you know who is coming up so
19 that they can get ready to speak, just so we move it
20 through because this is such a big room.

21 Our next speaker will be Tom Steele.
22 After Tom will be Peggy Magee and then Rose Sperry,
23 just so you know.

24 So Tom Steele, representing self from
25 Prescott Valley.

1 TOM STEELE: Good evening, Madame Chair,
2 council members, and fellow citizens.

3 As a young man I remember being made
4 aware of Elbridge Gerry, the politician from
5 Massachusetts that created a district that looked
6 like a salamander to benefit his own party. Now, I
7 resented it then and I resent it now.

8 Now, while you're using a computer
9 program to make these gyrations, we know that
10 computer programs can predict what some people want
11 them to predict.

12 And I go back to the global-warming scam,
13 as I refer to it, that predicted that we were going
14 to have massive increases in temperature in the last
15 ten years, which has proven to be fraud.

16 So computer programs I don't think are
17 the answer.

18 I've been here eight years as a retired
19 man, and I appreciate Yavapai County east and west
20 of the Mingus Mountains. I appreciate the fact that
21 this once was a territorial capital right in
22 Prescott, thanks to Sharlot Hall.

23 And I think to keep us united with our
24 existing boundaries that we're comfortable with, as
25 was mentioned, our college district, our systems of

1 government, our water issues, that it would be
2 sparingly popular to keep us all in one.

3 And to see this most recent map where we
4 are referred to as Number 14 with a lump taken out,
5 removing Sedona and that portion of the Verde Valley
6 and giving us citizens down in Maricopa, to me, that
7 just epitomizes what I would consider
8 gerrymandering.

9 Thank you.

10 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is
11 Peggy Magee, representing self from Yavapai County.

12 PEGGY MAGEE: The name is Peggy,
13 P-e-g-g-y, Magee M-a-g-e-e. And I am from Prescott
14 Valley.

15 I would like to speak about Legislative
16 District 14 and the fact that you have scooped out
17 the Verde Valley, at least most of it.

18 For many years I was an adjunct
19 instructor at Yavapai College and I would have to
20 teach both on the Prescott campus and on the Verde
21 Valley campus, which is over in Clarkdale, which you
22 have scooped out of Legislative District 14.

23 I think we need to keep Yavapai County
24 together and not scoop out for some unknown reason.

25 If you take out that portion, you've got

1 to head down into the southern part, which includes
2 Maricopa County and we don't have any interest
3 there.

4 So please let's keep Yavapai County
5 together.

6 Thank you.

7 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

8 Our next speaker is Rose Sperry,
9 representing self from Cottonwood.

10 And after Rose will be Frank Davidson,
11 Judy Davidson, and Thomas Kayn.

12 ROSE SPERRY: Hi. My name is Rose
13 Sperry, R-o-s-e, S-p-e-r-r-y.

14 I came with a big list of things to say,
15 however, Representative Fann, the mayor of Dewey,
16 Malcolm Barrett, Jr., and everybody else has spoken,
17 has said it like it is, and the way I feel is
18 exactly the way they feel.

19 Lastly, I would like to thank you for
20 letting us speak and I hope that we are not just
21 blowing in the wind.

22 I sincerely pray that you all put your
23 integrity first when making this great decision that
24 will impact us all for years to come.

25 Thank you.

1 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

2 Our next speaker is Frank Davidson,
3 representing self from Dewey-Humboldt.

4 FRANK DAVIDSON: Good evening, and thank
5 you for all of your hard work. I know what it is to
6 be a volunteer.

7 I would like to request that -- keeping
8 Yavapai County whole. We've lived here for about
9 seven years and I like to see the police cars and
10 the sheriff cars and the county fire trucks all stay
11 in Yavapai County.

12 Thank you.

13 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

14 Our next speaker is Judy Davidson,
15 representing self in Dewey-Humboldt.

16 JUDY DAVIDSON: Thank you.

17 J-u-d-y, D-a-v-i-d-s-o-n.

18 I am relatively new to the area, and I
19 find that I feel that our Yavapai County should stay
20 together because we basically have the same
21 interests. We're rural, we're country folk, and we
22 really have nothing in common with the other areas
23 that you're trying to put into -- with us.

24 So if you can keep us all intact, we
25 would really appreciate it.

1 Thank you.

2 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is
3 Thomas Kayn, representing self from Prescott.

4 And after Thomas will be Sharlene Mullen,
5 Christine Lutz, and Rex Mauldin.

6 TOM KAYN: Last name is spelled K-a-y-n.
7 Tom Kayn from Prescott.

8 Commissioners, Proposition -- I'm going
9 to talk about congressional districts a little bit
10 more.

11 Proposition 106 states that districts
12 have to be compact and contiguous. And it should be
13 clear to anyone that overall, this requirement is
14 not being adhered to in the drawing of new CD 4 and
15 1 and needs to be revisited by the Commission.

16 Unlike the existing CD 1, your current
17 now CD 4 configuration is stretching, it's
18 meandering, it's got peninsula-like outcroppings.
19 It's haphazardly patched together with pieces of
20 counties that encompass nearly the total northern to
21 southern borders of the entire state with counties
22 that have notable differences in their priorities
23 and the needs for the Prop 106 mandated fair and
24 balanced state and federal representation.

25 Moreover, I view this gerrymandering as a

1 move to create one firmly Republican and one firmly
2 Democratic district to represent the rural
3 communities of Arizona. And this is a change from
4 the firmly Republican existing CD 2 and the
5 competitive CD 1 that now exists.

6 In essence, you're proposing a washout, a
7 potential stalemate. And I believe that that is
8 something we do not need in the makeup of our
9 overall rural representation.

10 With the tools you have available, you
11 should be able to draw two rural districts that
12 would be -- would open the elections to
13 representatives who have the same interests in mind
14 in serving rural Arizona.

15 Now, if that means two from one or the
16 other of the major parties or two honestly and
17 closely competitive districts, so be it.

18 My point is that the planned political
19 splitting of rural Arizona is not in the best
20 interest of the communities and the economies here.

21 Now, Prop 106 also states that
22 competitive districts are favored if they do not
23 significantly harm the other goals that are listed.
24 And one of these other goals is labeled communities
25 of interest, and I'll address that shortly.

1 Commissioners, what makes it difficult to
2 comment on this is a lack of definitions.

3 I was personally unable to find anything
4 on the Commission's website glossary to inform me as
5 to how the terms "rural" and "communities of
6 interest" are defined.

7 So as far as rural is concerned, I did
8 some research on my own, and I'm going to offer you
9 just a couple of short excerpts for your
10 enlightenment.

11 The term "rural" conjures -- I'm
12 reading --

13 STU ROBINSON: Time is up.

14 TOM KAYN: The term rural --

15 STU ROBINSON: Time is up.

16 TOM KAYN: The term rural conjures widely
17 shared images of farms, ranches, villages, small
18 towns, et cetera. Yet when it comes to
19 distinguishing rural from urban places, researchers
20 and policymakers employ a dizzying array of
21 definitions.

22 Many definitions for rural.

23 And the use of multiple definitions
24 reflects the reality that rural and urban are
25 multidimensional. And how small is rural as

1 compared to urban metropolitan, a semiurbanized
2 area?

3 Well, there's three different concepts of
4 urban that lead to very different boundary
5 definitions which define what rural is.

6 There's the land-use concept, there is
7 the administrative concept. The land-use concepts
8 used by the Census Bureau, the administrative
9 concept is used by the USDA in its rural development
10 programs and then that's the economic concept, which
11 is used by most rural research applications.

12 Commissioners, if you used population
13 density only to determine what is rural and what
14 isn't, I'm proposing that you have fallen short
15 regarding how to best draw truly rural districts.

16 If you've used population density figures
17 only, then you've diminished the importance of the
18 more broader communities of interest like geography,
19 topography, elevations, weather, plant climate
20 zones, natural resource development similarities,
21 agriculture.

22 Commissioners, we're not into cotton
23 growing and citrus and lettuce growing in Yavapai
24 County and yet you have tied us into counties that
25 are.

1 COMMISSIONER MCNULTY: Sir, I'm sorry to
2 interrupt, but if you could close up because we have
3 a lot of people wanting to speak.

4 TOM KAYN: I had a lot of applause, so I
5 lost time on that, which you have to make up.

6 COMMISSIONER MCNULTY: Okay.

7 TOM KAYN: These are points -- if you'll
8 bear with me, these are points that you haven't
9 heard yet, okay, at least I don't believe you've
10 heard yet.

11 Then there's forestry, mining and
12 extraction, and ranching, education, transportation
13 corridors.

14 Please know we don't have the use of the
15 Colorado River like the other counties in the
16 proposed districts.

17 So if you don't factor these, and I'm
18 sure there's others, these issues into a north of
19 and a south of Maricopa rural model with different
20 communities of interest, then you've circumvented
21 the terms of Prop 106.

22 So finally, a community of interest that
23 is critical in our area is the water issue.

24 Are you aware that the ADWR water atlas
25 categorizes a major portion of Yavapai County in the

1 Central Highlands Planning area, and our water
2 future has little to nothing in common with Mohave,
3 La Paz, and Yuma counties who you have married us to
4 in this new CD 4 district.

5 In my opinion, you've missed the mark
6 there.

7 Commissioners, Prop 106 states that you
8 are to create competitive districts to the extent
9 practicable where doing so would not create any
10 specific -- or any significant detriment to the
11 other goals listed.

12 My overall point here is this, and now
13 I'm closing.

14 In serving the common -- of the common
15 and recognized community of interest, some of which
16 I have just stated, the current CD 1 configuration,
17 imperfect as it may be, the current district with
18 Yavapai County and the Verde Valley included with
19 other more north of Maricopa counties who have
20 similar communities of interest, the current
21 district configuration is better than the one you
22 have developed and it's better because it's more in
23 line with our central to northern rural communities,
24 their economies, and the other larger communities of
25 interest that I have noted, as far as effective,

1 fair, and balanced representation is concerned.

2 So you need to reconsider the
3 redrawing -- or the drawing of the CD 1 and CD 4
4 districts, keep in mind that population density
5 involves more than just people per square mile.

6 Communities of interest topics must be
7 received on a regional as well as a local basis.
8 The rural land north of Maricopa is different from
9 that south of Maricopa.

10 And your current proposals show too much
11 gerrymandering and the lack of compactness
12 requirement by Proposition 106.

13 Thank you.

14 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is
15 Sharlene Mullen, representing self from Yavapai.

16 SHARLENE MULLEN: My name is Sharlene
17 Mullen, S-h-a-r-l-e-n-e, M-u-l-l-e-n.

18 I live in the Village of Oak Creek. We
19 are a rural community. And I am opposed to proposed
20 maps that break up Yavapai County in District 1.

21 While I appreciate your efforts, this
22 Commission has no representatives from Yavapai
23 County and it seems you have not taken our interests
24 into consideration.

25 You are asking for concrete suggestions,

1 add mine to it to keep Yavapai County intact,
2 including all of Sedona and the Verde Valley.

3 We share community of interest in water,
4 transportation, schools, law enforcement, and many
5 other services with Cottonwood, Clarkdale, Prescott
6 and Prescott Valley and not with Flagstaff and not
7 our urban neighbors to the south.

8 I urge you to keep Yavapai County intact
9 and you put communities of interest ahead of
10 politics.

11 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is
12 Christine Lutz, representing self. And you can tell
13 us where you are from.

14 CHRISTINE LUTZ: Good evening.

15 My name is Christine Lutz,
16 C-h-r-i-s-t-i-n-e, L-u-t-z.

17 I live in Sedona and I'm in Yavapai
18 County where I pay taxes and I like my votes to stay
19 there, too.

20 The Verde Valley should not be broken up.
21 It works just fine the way it is. We have more in
22 common with Prescott, Cottonwood, Clarkdale, Camp
23 Verde, and Cornville than we ever would Flagstaff or
24 anything in Phoenix.

25 We have rural communities and we have

1 many of the same interests and needs. We share
2 water, we share law enforcement, we share hospitals,
3 we share road construction, highways, things that we
4 need fixed. We're all on the same page, and we want
5 to stay on the same page.

6 I really can't help feeling that there is
7 gerrymandering going on here and I don't think it's
8 the American way.

9 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is
10 Rex Mauldin, representing self from Chino Valley.

11 After Rex will be Sara Reinsch, Glenn
12 Miller, and Kurt Womack.

13 REX MAULDIN: Rex Mauldin, M-a-u-l-d-i-n.

14 And I had a choice tonight whether to
15 write my comments on the little blue sheet or put a
16 face to my comments by being here and taking the
17 time. I appreciate your time as well.

18 I agree with everything I have heard
19 here, so I don't need to repeat so we can move on.

20 I'm concerned about water issues because
21 I live in Chino Valley, the water -- where the Verde
22 River is.

23 I certainly don't want to see the
24 breaking up of the Camp Verde area, Cottonwood,
25 Clarkdale and so forth.

1 It was mentioned about Williams, it's
2 more tied in with the economy of Chino Valley and
3 Mohave, if you go from Chino Valley to Williams and
4 so forth and on and on.

5 But some other things I noticed in this
6 map that don't make sense to me.

7 Kingman and Flagstaff are transportation
8 hubs, railroads, airports and yet there's no
9 connectivity between those two.

10 Quartzsite and Phoenix, that's another
11 area that there's a lot of traffic that goes between
12 those corridors, or Quartzsite and Yuma.

13 One of these other maps show parts of --
14 the districts south of the highway down there --
15 Marana grew from Tucson and it's got its own
16 district.

17 I don't understand this. If this is
18 connectivity going on, it just doesn't make sense to
19 me.

20 So anyway, I know there's other people
21 that want to talk. I just wanted to show up and say
22 my peace here.

23 Thank you.

24 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is
25 Sara Reinsch, representing self from Prescott.

1 SARA REINSCH: That's S-a-r-a,
2 R-e-i-n-s-c-h.

3 Good work on pronouncing it.

4 I'm only representing myself, but I have
5 discussed it with quite a few friends and neighbors,
6 and every single one of them wants to keep Yavapai
7 County intact.

8 The new map is contiguous but it is not
9 compact. It swoops around to the east side of
10 Phoenix. And basically, except for being human
11 beings and citizens of Arizona, we have almost
12 nothing in common as far as communities of interest.

13 Our primary industries are rural tourism,
14 mining and ranching. Our water concerns are also
15 different from theirs.

16 I'm being very brief. Most everybody has
17 given the details of these things.

18 But with our county intact, as far as
19 competitiveness is concerned, since I have been
20 here, we have elected a Republican followed by a
21 Democrat followed by a Republican. So we must be a
22 very competitive district.

23 That was all for CD 1.

24 For LD 4, pretty much the same thing.
25 What do we, Prescott, Prescott Valley,

1 Dewey-Humboldt, and Chino Valley have to do with
2 Metro Phoenix.

3 You cut away about approximately 40,000
4 people with the same interests we have and replaced
5 them with metropolitan areas that have no interest
6 in common with us.

7 Also mayors and supervisors of the City
8 of Williams and cities of the Verde Valley have sent
9 you letters asking to be kept with the quad cities.

10 We have common interests in management of
11 fire issues, water issues, and we share the rural
12 area. We should be kept together.

13 Thank you.

14 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

15 Our next speaker is Glenn Miller,
16 representing self in Yavapai.

17 GLENN MILLER: And Prescott, city of
18 Prescott.

19 My name is spelled G-l-e-n-n,
20 M-i-l-l-e-r, just like the band leader.

21 Two points of order have to be made.

22 Before I give my comments, there's a sign
23 back here, it says "Chicago Politics in Yavapai
24 County," it has got no place in this room. You have
25 consistent rules. This is obviously representing an

1 opinion.

2 And second, everybody here for the most
3 part has been following the rules, for the
4 three-minute rule. One gentleman, though he was
5 very articulate, violated that rule outrageously.

6 You should have a gong up here or a
7 buzzer or maybe a little 30-second light or
8 something to tell somebody they've got 30 seconds to
9 go and so they know when they have to wrap up their
10 three minutes. You got to be consistent. You got
11 to have rules and follow the rules.

12 CD 4 -- a general principle I wanted to
13 make is that looking at the maps, they are
14 emphasizing this idea that you have to have rural
15 districts over and above making geographically
16 contiguous districts. That is, you know, keeping a
17 geographical region of the state intact to the best
18 ability that you can.

19 For example, CD 4, as a rural district,
20 wraps around kind of like a little fish or whatever
21 into east of the Valley of Metro Phoenix, picking up
22 Apache Junction when maybe Yuma would be more
23 appropriately tacked on possibly to create a CD 4.

24 I want to second the comments in today's
25 Arizona Republic. The last few days there was a

1 republic (sic) by Luis Heredia, executive director
2 of the Democratic party, and Andrei Cherny, the
3 chairman of my party, the Democratic party, that we
4 needed to have more competitive districts in the LD
5 map.

6 In looking at LD 7, why is LD 7 so large
7 compared to the other districts geographically?
8 There should be some kind of balance in terms of how
9 much they range geographically.

10 To sum it up, I question why it's so
11 important to have solely rural districts over and
12 above geographic cohesiveness.

13 Thank you.

14 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

15 Next speaker is Kurt Womack, representing
16 self from Yavapai.

17 And after Kurt will be Dorothy O'Brien,
18 Roger Morgan, and Donna Tanzi.

19 KURT WOMACK: Hi. Thank you for doing
20 this.

21 My name is Kurt Womack, K-u-r-t,
22 W-o-m-a-c-k.

23 Ditto pretty much everybody else that has
24 spoke before me. As a nonprofessional, I'm not a
25 bureaucrat, when I look at that map, I think the old

1 saying about computers, garbage in; garbage out.

2 You know, the first map shows the grid
3 layout that to me seemed pretty logical and
4 straightforward and then the next map was shown kind
5 of made me think there's a garbage-disposal feature
6 on that computer program with Maricopa County as the
7 center of the vortex.

8 I find that map on the left there -- our
9 county wrapping down into the southern part of
10 Phoenix? Come on, that makes no logical sense.

11 And I'll be blunt on my next comment.

12 It's obvious that the voters act,
13 whatever it is, has subjugated points C, D, and E
14 out of Prop 106. It looks like political
15 correctness rules the day.

16 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: I'm sorry.

17 I was continuing to write.

18 Dorothy O'Brien, and you can tell us who
19 you are representing, from Yavapai.

20 DOROTHY O'BRIEN: Thank you, Madame
21 Chairman.

22 My name is Dorothy, O'Brien, capital O,
23 apostrophe, capital B-r-i-e-n, and I am here as the
24 past president of Big Park Regional Coordinating
25 Council.

1 Thank you for this opportunity.

2 I also chair our task force on
3 redistricting.

4 And, Madame Chairman, I am hoping that we
5 have some civil discourse, because my statements
6 will be the same that I have made for our community
7 at other redistricting hearings like this, so here
8 we go.

9 First of all, the city of Sedona is part
10 of a greater Sedona area. As we have -- as I have
11 said before and many have said before me, the
12 municipal part is just part.

13 Around the municipality are several
14 election precincts all comprising unincorporated
15 parts of the greater Sedona community. We are a
16 cohesive unit. We share, as vice Mayor Hamilton
17 said, all of those various districts and services.

18 And the community is desirous of staying
19 together as a greater Sedona area. So that's really
20 key for us as a community.

21 Secondly, our community is desirous of
22 staying with CD 1. The congressional district map
23 that you have put forward, provided we can, you
24 know, be part of the Sedona community that you
25 designate in that as it is drawn.

1 We heard lots of comments from people who
2 feel otherwise, and I would certainly fight for
3 their right to speak their opinion.

4 So what I would like to say is that our
5 community, while -- well, our community shares
6 several links with our neighbors to the north.

7 In Yavapai County, there is a strong,
8 proud history. There is no dispute about that. A
9 proud history.

10 We also have links to our northern
11 brothers and sisters. When you come through the
12 Sedona area, about 3 million visitors, 3 million
13 tourists come there. That's a huge economic driver
14 for the whole entire area.

15 Those people come through, they'll stay
16 in Sedona, look at the red rocks, they'll do some
17 cultural things there, but ultimately they are
18 heading towards the Grand Canyon, perhaps Hopi
19 lands, perhaps Navajo lands, Monument Valley and
20 some of the activities around Flagstaff.

21 Yes, they are also coming out to Sharlot
22 Hall Museum, some of the other things as well. No
23 question.

24 But the community is desirous of being a
25 greater Sedona area in CD 1 as you have it drawn.

1 So that's one point.

2 The other point -- the other point is the
3 natural resources. And I would like to just take a
4 minute and say that we've recently gone through our
5 county redistricting. And I am very sad to say that
6 a large portion of the public comment and the
7 written comments were completely not taken into
8 consideration at all. And, in fact, an alternate
9 map was drawn, did not go through the same public
10 process and then during the public hearing when it
11 was approved, we were told that it really didn't
12 matter, that the elected officials didn't have to
13 listen to public comment. It was very
14 disappointing. Very disappointing.

15 So now what we find in the Verde Valley
16 is that we have one district and there are four
17 others.

18 So I would hope that some of what we have
19 heard tonight is true. But just as we've heard the
20 statements about Maricopa and some of the other
21 unwanted bedfellows, if you will, I would say the
22 same thing, that given our past treatment and the
23 fact that the Verde Valley and particularly some of
24 the other communities within the Verde Valley are
25 not heard, are overwhelmed consistently, our voices

1 are discounted, that it's almost time for us to
2 perhaps look to the north and have our voices heard.

3 And I'm sorry to say that, but if I
4 didn't say it, I would not be telling you what the
5 discussion is in our communities when we meet.

6 So ladies and gentlemen, there you have
7 it on Congressional District 1.

8 On the legislative district, we will have
9 more to say, but we are about to meet about that so
10 that we can come back to you with some concrete
11 facts.

12 So that's a little different than you've
13 heard so far tonight, but thank you for the
14 opportunity.

15 Thank you for your time.

16 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

17 Our next speaker is Roger Morgan,
18 representing self from Chino Valley.

19 ROGER MORGAN: It's Roger Morgan,
20 R-o-g-e-r, M-o-r-g-a-n.

21 I guess I have a little different
22 perspective on this overall thing because I think in
23 terms of a retired small business owner, I think in
24 terms of keeping things simple, not making things so
25 difficult that it makes processes and maps and all

1 of these things that I'm looking at more difficult
2 for the small business because we always get
3 involved in having to pay people to do nonproductive
4 things for a small business.

5 Taxes, you name it, we get involved in
6 it.

7 I am currently retired. I don't have to
8 deal with that anymore, but I still think that way.

9 I also noticed that you have to have
10 approval from the Department of Justice, which I
11 actually have not much use for these days. I don't
12 think they are doing their job.

13 What I'm saying is, I've lived in the
14 area about 70 years now. Came from California,
15 which a lot of people have, and I came here on
16 purpose because I thought things were simpler.

17 There was a great sense of community in
18 this area. The people that represent us really
19 care.

20 So therefore, all I'm asking is let's not
21 make things so difficult that it makes it harder on
22 everybody.

23 That's my comment.

24 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

25 Our next speaker is Donna Tanzi,

1 representing self from Prescott.

2 And after Donna will be Craig Brown, Bill
3 Warren, and Pam Pearsall.

4 DONNA TANZI: Good evening.

5 Tanzi is spelled T-a-n-z-i.

6 When you consider Yavapai County
7 geographic location, as anywhere between 3500 and
8 6,000 feet --

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Microphone.

10 DONNA TANZI: Pardon?

11 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Can't hear you.

12 DONNA TANZI: Sorry about that.

13 Anyway, when you consider that we are
14 between 3500 and 6,000 feet in elevation and our
15 economical concerns include forestry, mining and
16 ranching, then why would the redistricting map lump
17 us together with the western part of the state that
18 has elevations at sea level and where agriculture
19 rules?

20 Water issues alone are so very different
21 in the western part of the state where the Colorado
22 River flows versus the many groundwater issues we
23 have in Yavapai County.

24 Good water and good forest management is
25 critical to the survival of the Verde Valley and the

1 Prescott quad cities.

2 Best we not be diluted with the issues
3 that are not common to Yavapai County. It makes no
4 sense to split the county.

5 Thank you.

6 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is
7 Craig Brown, representing Williamson Valley
8 Community Organization.

9 CRAIG BROWN: I am Craig Brown, common
10 spelling.

11 I could echo many of the things people
12 have said here today, but I started to look very
13 closely at the congressional district mapping and
14 it's so confusing and so involved that it's just a
15 big mess, in my opinion.

16 Secondly, we went on to look at the
17 legislative, and I would echo my friends over here
18 from the Verde Valley that they don't want to be
19 split from this area.

20 We live on the west side of the county
21 and we would ask that they stay a part of our
22 neighborhoods and our participation in the processes
23 that we have in this area.

24 Not much more beyond that or I would just
25 be redundant, but we would like -- it's a very

1 common and easy thing to fix. Small area. Give it
2 back to us. That's what we want.

3 Thank you.

4 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

5 Our next speaker is Bill Warren,
6 representing self from Prescott.

7 BILL WARREN: Madame Chairman, just so I
8 have an idea who I am talking to, are any of the
9 commissioners from Northern Arizona?

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No.

11 BILL WARREN: Okay. Thank you.

12 We in Northern Arizona have unique
13 problems that Prescott -- that Phoenix and Tucson
14 don't have.

15 I won't take but a few minutes and say
16 that the main problem that we have and the main
17 problem that determines our survival or not is
18 water.

19 And we have a mountain range that runs
20 right through our county and that mountain range
21 provides the water for all of the communities. And
22 you may or may not know, but this has been a
23 disputed item for a number of years.

24 And what I'm concerned about is if
25 Yavapai County, with it's unique problems, is not

1 properly represented in congress by a congressman or
2 woman who knows and is concerned about our problems,
3 our water need, that our existence could be
4 challenged.

5 And so I urge you to keep Yavapai County
6 as a single congressional district so we can be
7 represented and our unique survival can be properly
8 addressed.

9 And I also would like to say that please,
10 please don't draw up a district map that you think
11 will please the Attorney General.

12 Thank you.

13 STU ROBINSON: Madame Chairwoman, may I
14 address the gentleman's first comment?

15 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Sure, Stu.

16 STU ROBINSON: I get that question often,
17 and so I researched it and you have to understand
18 the Commission goes out --

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We can't hear you.

20 STU ROBINSON: Okay. The Commission goes
21 out of business between redistricting cycles. So a
22 third party, the committee on judicial public court
23 appointments, advertises for members of the
24 Commission, takes applications, and picks finalists,
25 because obviously the Commission can't do it because

1 it doesn't exist yet.

2 Now, I looked this up -- this time
3 around, only 11 of the 79 applications came from
4 outside Maricopa and Pima counties.

5 There was one application from Yavapai
6 County, one application from Coconino County, and
7 one application from Mohave County.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Why don't you
9 choose them?

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We didn't hear
11 about it.

12 (Multiple speakers in the audience.)

13 STU ROBINSON: My point is, nobody from
14 your county has applied to be on the Commission.

15 (Multiple speakers in the audience.)

16 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: We'll move on in
17 public comment.

18 Our next speaker is Pam Pearsall,
19 representing self, and is the County Assessor.

20 PAM PEARSALL: Yes.

21 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Great. And from
22 Yavapai County.

23 PAM PEARSALL: Yes.

24 Pam Pearsall, P-e-a-r, like the fruit,
25 pear, s, as in Sam, a-l-l.

1 I am the Yavapai County assessor but
2 today I am here representing myself.

3 Again, I want to echo what has been said
4 so many times. I truly would like to have Yavapai
5 County kept as a whole.

6 I didn't look at things as a land-use
7 issue out of the eyes of an assessor, but we share
8 so many things in Yavapai County.

9 We share the sheriff's office, we have
10 the same recorder, the same treasurer, the same
11 board of supervisors, the same assessor, the same --
12 these things are important I think to all of us.
13 We're neighbors, we're friends, we're family.

14 I think that Verde Valley and Sedona are
15 extremely important as a whole.

16 When you look at our community, we rely a
17 lot on ranching, on grapes, agratourism, tourism,
18 similar businesses, but when we look at some of the
19 communities that you have us lumped in with, they
20 have challenges but they are different challenges
21 than what we have.

22 I would hate to think that our
23 representative spend energy away from our challenges
24 on some of theirs.

25 I talked to the Mohave County assessor

1 and I said, "Tell me about your community and how
2 you're different from Yavapai County."

3 He says, "We completely have different
4 grazing, different length of grass," things like
5 that.

6 We have different water issues. And one
7 of our main challenges is polygamy and -- we border
8 Nevada -- we have a lot of land fraud back from the
9 1950s, things that Yavapai County -- we don't have,
10 and I don't want my representative wasting that
11 energy.

12 I then went to Yuma and I asked the Yuma
13 assessor Joel Wehrle, "What do you see different
14 about your community or do you think we're the
15 same?"

16 And he said, "No, we farm cotton and
17 vegetables. Up in Yavapai County you have grapes,
18 which don't grow down here. You have completely
19 different water issues in Yavapai County."

20 And while our history is interesting,
21 Yavapai County was the capital of Arizona. We have
22 a fine history and a lot of tourism because of that
23 history, and that history is all of Yavapai County.

24 So anyways, I would ask you to really
25 consider the -- what was the argument? The

1 communities of interest because as I see the
2 community of interest, those are the kind of things
3 I think about: Property tax issues, mining, the
4 college, the county.

5 Thank you so much.

6 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

7 Our next speaker is -- you'll have to
8 forgive me on pronunciation -- Wymbbs Shimizu
9 followed by Mike Siavelis and then Douglas Wade.

10 WYMBS SHIMIZU: Good evening. Thanks for
11 your time.

12 I'm Wymbbs, whiskey, Yankee, momma, bravo,
13 sierra, space, sierra, hotel, indigo --

14 (Interruption by the court reporter.)

15 WYMBS SHIMIZU: W-y-m-b-s, S-h-i-m-i-z-u.
16 Call me Bob.

17 Thanks very much for your time.

18 The existing Yavapai County borders are
19 sufficient unto all of these causes, with the
20 inclusion of the Verde Valley and perhaps the
21 addition of the town of Williams. That I think is
22 appropriate for both the legislative draft map and
23 the congressional draft map.

24 How many people here from Glendale?

25 No surprise.

1 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is
2 Mike Siavelis. You can tell us how to pronounce it.
3 Sorry about that. And representing self and if you
4 can tell us where you're from.

5 MIKE SIAVELIS: Mike Siavelis, I reside
6 in Prescott Valley, one of the last houses in
7 Prescott Valley.

8 My last name is S-i-a-v-e-l-i-s.

9 Okay. We have more common, like a lot of
10 people have already said, with the Verde Valley than
11 we do down in Phoenix. That's a given.

12 Now, there's a lot of people in this room
13 that feel that there's way too many changes
14 happening in our country. And here we are on a
15 Centennial celebration in Arizona and we are going
16 to split up Yavapai County just in preparation for
17 the celebration, along with not being District 1 any
18 more.

19 I mean, it just slaps everybody right in
20 the face along with everything else that's happening
21 in this country. It's really depressing to see
22 this.

23 Now, along with what the fellow said over
24 here, he didn't have many applications from people
25 in this area, but I guarantee you, if this map --

1 that these maps go through the way they are, you
2 will have hundreds of applications in ten years.

3 People will not forget what you do with
4 this map. If you want to stir up a beehive,
5 continue along the lines that you're taking here.

6 You're separating Yavapai County. That's
7 a historical county in this state. We're not ready
8 for those kind of changes yet, just to get another
9 Democrat elected.

10 Now, as I said before, we have more in
11 common with the Verde Valley than we do with
12 Phoenix.

13 I left Phoenix for a reason a while back,
14 and I don't want to live there and I don't want to
15 go down there for meetings either.

16 The map that you have on the
17 congressional district, the proposed map that you
18 are doing, is a lot worse than number 2 -- map
19 number 2. I can't believe that you went from map 2
20 to what we have now. I don't see the logic behind
21 that, unless you're working for the Democratic
22 party.

23 In my business and what I do for a
24 living, I have to deal with common sense and logic
25 all the time. I do not see it here.

1 I'm glad I'm not making the maps. Maybe
2 I should be. But you will get more -- you will get
3 hundreds of applications in ten years.

4 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

5 Our next speaker is Douglas Wade, from
6 Sedona. And after Douglas will be David Maurer,
7 Harry Oberg, and Mona Patton.

8 DOUGLAS WADE: Madame Chair, Commissioner
9 McNulty, and staff, my name is Douglas Wade,
10 W-a-d-e. I reside in Sedona and am a 38-year
11 resident of this great state of Arizona.

12 And I understand you have a difficult
13 job, but, we the people, have a difficult job as
14 well, staying united when there are so many
15 interests out there attempting to divide us.

16 I have a long history with the Verde
17 Valley, and this remapping divides the Verde Valley.

18 The Verde Valley itself is compact,
19 contiguous, and a community of interest,
20 geographically divided by a mountain range and the
21 Mogollon Rim.

22 To carve it out the way it's done in CD 1
23 appears to satisfy only the political interests of
24 competitiveness, making CD 1 more competitive,
25 favoring one party more so than the other.

1 Now, your job of carving up this pie,
2 this state of Arizona, CD 1 now appears to take
3 nearly half of the state, leaving eight other slices
4 of pie to eight other districts.

5 I would say that carving out a little bit
6 of Sedona and a small portion of the Verde Valley
7 and moving it into CD 1 divides it off from Yavapai
8 County, our county seat, Prescott, and really
9 divides us as a community of interest. Our
10 interests are one. That's the Verde Valley.

11 I would like to suggest that you take a
12 good hard look at taking the Verde Valley and
13 putting it back together as one piece again.

14 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is
15 David Maurer, CEO Prescott Chamber of Commerce.

16 DAVID MAURER: David Maurer, M-a-u-r-e-r.

17 Thank you, Commission members, for
18 participating this evening.

19 I, too, want to address the communities
20 of interest portion of this.

21 Our chamber represents 875 businesses in
22 the tri-city area and is one of six professional
23 full-time chambers of commerce in Yavapai County.

24 You've heard about the communities of
25 interest; you've heard about -- many examples of how

1 that community of interest works within Yavapai
2 County.

3 Let me give you one more, and that is the
4 Central Arizona Chambers Coalition.

5 Approximately six years ago our six
6 chambers got together and said we all work and live
7 in Yavapai County. Let's get together and talk
8 about commonalities.

9 So Sedona, Cottonwood, Camp Verde,
10 Prescott, Prescott Valley, and Chino Valley chambers
11 formed this loose-knit coalition.

12 It got to formalize for about three
13 years when times were good and we all had a little
14 bit of money. We pooled our resources and hired a
15 part-time lobbyist at the State capitol.

16 She kept our six chambers fully informed
17 of what was happening down there and carried our
18 message to the legislature.

19 So that to me is another example of
20 communities of interest. We hope you see it that
21 way and hope you keep Yavapai whole.

22 Thank you.

23 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you. Our next
24 speaker is Harry Oberg, representing self from
25 Prescott.

1 HARRY OBERG: Good evening. My name is
2 Harry Oberg, H-a-r-r-y, O-b-e-r-g.

3 Thank you for allowing us to have an
4 opportunity to come here and make comments.

5 My dad started to punch cows in '29 and
6 he worked throughout the Yavapai County, both
7 ranching and mining and he never thought of Yavapai
8 County as being anything except the best place to
9 live and never worked for any other county in
10 Arizona. He lived here all of his life and died
11 here.

12 I went to school here, graduated 1965
13 from high school, and I think I can bring a strong
14 perspective of how the people felt about Arizona and
15 Yavapai County from the time when I was born and
16 lived with many people that went to school.

17 I can tell you that my dad felt that
18 Yavapai was one community of interest. And that's
19 the reason why he never left it. And he was very
20 concerned about ranching and mining and basically
21 the agriculture that supported the ranching, which
22 is primary farming of alfalfa.

23 I've looked at your two maps, and I feel
24 that I must provide some comments to be addressed by
25 the Commission.

1 One of your goals is to respect
2 communities of interest. All of the communities of
3 Yavapai County, Sedona, Prescott, Prescott Valley,
4 Verde Valley, and Seligman, to name just a few, all
5 have common interest, goals, and history.

6 These communities are rural, engaged in
7 agricultural, ranching and mining, and have similar
8 issues related to water based on our common geology.

9 As a result, Yavapai County should be
10 kept whole and not have portions of the county
11 redistricted to other areas of the state that do not
12 share the same history and concerns.

13 Yavapai County should be kept whole as a
14 single district for both legislative and
15 congressional reasons.

16 Our common community of interest will be
17 best represented by legislative and congressional
18 representatives who fully understand the issues and
19 needs facing our county.

20 In addition, Yavapai, La Paz, Mohave, and
21 the nonreservation portions of Coconino County
22 should be considered one congressional district
23 because they are all rural and they all have mining
24 and ranching as part of their history and we should
25 have no portion of Maricopa County be included in

1 that district.

2 Since Yavapai is within 2 percent of the
3 required population, it would be considered in our
4 legislative and congressional district. It would be
5 unfair for any of our communities to be separated
6 from the county for ten years when it's likely that
7 we will reach the required population level in a
8 very short time, possibly in one to two years.

9 In Prescott I know several people moving
10 into our residential areas from out of state and
11 building homes. This rate seems to be accelerating
12 up here for the last three years.

13 So I feel that, you know, we're going to
14 reach that point where we can be our own district
15 here in the very near future and it would be totally
16 unfair for any of our communities to be separated
17 from the community -- from the county for ten years.

18 Thank you.

19 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

20 Just checking on the court reporter. She
21 says she's okay.

22 After Mona Patton we will have Catherine
23 Sinkey, Joshua Mazon, and Jonathan Mazon.

24 So this is Mona Patton, representing self
25 from Yavapai.

1 MONA PATTON: I'm Mona Patton, M-o-n-a,
2 P-a-t-t-o-n.

3 I am here to chastise each and every
4 member of this so-called Independent Commission for
5 his or her failure to act in a fair and nonpartisan
6 manner.

7 It is your fiduciary responsibility to
8 represent the citizens of Arizona, not the Democrat
9 or the Republican party.

10 Arizona voters demand that you do not
11 pander to political pressure. You have failed to
12 draw compact districts that respect communities of
13 interest. Instead you have carved up communities in
14 an attempt to give unfair advantage to one party
15 over another.

16 Your current proposed map is a miserable
17 failure. Go back to the drawing board, correct the
18 maps.

19 Yavapai County and Arizona deserve
20 better.

21 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is
22 Catherine Sinkey, retired community health manager,
23 representing self from Yavapai.

24 CATHERINE SINKEY: Well, I have spent the
25 last 30 years working in community and public

1 health.

2 My name is Catherine, with a C,
3 C-a-t-h-e-r-i-n-e, and then Sinkey is S-i-n-k-e-y.

4 And for both state and local
5 government -- so I've spent most of my life trying
6 to operationalize what somebody else has said we
7 need to do.

8 So when I got to thinking about these
9 programs, and I've been in probably every nook and
10 cranny in the state from a public health and
11 community health standpoint, so I just sat down and
12 I looked at all of the counties and I looked at all
13 of the programs and I looked at the demographics and
14 realized that this map was not continuous nor
15 contiguous, if you really look at it from all of the
16 people that live there and do the work.

17 And I appreciated the guy that talked
18 about the small business because there are a lot of
19 businesses in Yavapai County that, frankly, depend
20 on all of those other people from all of those other
21 counties that we want to put with us to come up here
22 for the summer when it's 115 there.

23 So they certainly aren't anything like us
24 as far as altitude and all of that sort of thing.
25 And people said some really -- much more clear than

1 I could ever say, so I won't go back into that.

2 But I would like to get practical for
3 here for a little bit and just talk about the people
4 that work and live in the county, and I agree with
5 keeping the county together, by the way.

6 So you have people like public health
7 nurses that cover for each other. They talk to each
8 other, they go to meetings together from both sides
9 of the mountain, from top to bottom of the county.

10 It's a huge county. If you've ever
11 gotten in a car and driven around it, I've been lost
12 a time or two. You can -- it takes two hours to get
13 to Bisbee from here and it's only 60 miles. So if
14 that tells you anything, kind of like the
15 ruralness --

16 I moved here eight years ago because I
17 got tired of the heat, and I am thrilled to death
18 and I have a pine tree in my back yard and I'm
19 really excited about that.

20 So I want things to kind of stay that
21 sort of a community kind of thing.

22 I watch the nurses go in -- and all of
23 the families that live in Ash Fork, for instance, I
24 would like to make a plea for Williams, too.

25 By the way, if we could put that on our

1 list, because they -- Williams is only 16 miles from
2 Ash Fork and most people that live in Ash Fork have
3 to drive 40 miles to Prescott. It's a lot harder in
4 the winter than going on the freeway, and even in
5 the summer, than going on the freeway and going to
6 Flagstaff -- or not Flagstaff, Williams.

7 So they will get WIC and all of that kind
8 of stuff. They will get community health, that kind
9 of stuff they get in Williams.

10 So we would love to have them come join
11 us and let some of those other people all be
12 together that live along the rivers and Maricopa
13 County. And trust me, they are nothing like Yavapai
14 County.

15 Thank you.

16 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

17 Our next speaker is Joshua Mazon, from
18 Prescott Valley.

19 JOSHUA MAZON: M-a-z-o-n.

20 First off, I am opposed to this new
21 district map. A lot of people have already stepped
22 on my toes, and I'm happy about that because they
23 all said what I was going to say anyway, but I'm
24 going to reiterate a little bit.

25 Yavapai County has different values and

1 community interests than the Valley. Some people
2 actually move out of the big cities because of this
3 reason, so that their voice can be heard.

4 How can a representative effectively
5 serve his district when the voters are far apart in
6 needs and views and priorities for their government?

7 It seems that the Commission turned an
8 easy task into millions of dollars of expense to
9 attempt to swing this district Democrat, which it
10 probably could have asked a high school geography
11 and economics class to do a better job.

12 This is a political-based move to try to
13 promote an agenda, which is obvious by whom the
14 supporters are.

15 And I actually have the Chicago politics
16 written down, but he covered it.

17 Yavapai County is one of the highest
18 voter turnouts percentage-wise in the state, which
19 means that the citizens here in this area are
20 concerned about our government.

21 You would think that that would mean that
22 the government would try to listen to us instead of
23 suppress our views, which is what this redistricting
24 is aiming at.

25 And I have voted in every election since

1 I turned 18, but I wasn't 18 in 2000 when Prop 106
2 was voted on. And -- except I didn't vote the year
3 I was in Iraq.

4 And one member should be -- at least one
5 member should be above Maricopa County on this
6 Commission board.

7 And maybe you should advertise more for
8 Commission seats and not just, like, in Democratic
9 headquarters. But it seems consistent with how
10 secretive this Commission works in the first place
11 that you would do that.

12 And one final thing that hasn't been
13 mentioned, and now I work for a local fire
14 department, is wildland fire fighting and
15 protection. And I wonder how high on the priority
16 list for Valley residents in Metro Phoenix, how much
17 they care about wildfires and protection from it.

18 That's all.

19 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is
20 Jonathan Mazon from Yavapai.

21 JONATHAN MAZON: That's my brother.

22 I have a book right here that some of you
23 might be familiar with. Alinsky's "Rules for
24 Radicals."

25 In here -- it says right here, the tenth

1 rule of ethics of means and ends is that you do what
2 you can with what you have and you clothe it with
3 moral arguments.

4 Basically, I'm going to do whatever the
5 heck I want to do and I'm going to do it because I
6 have a moral argument at hand. We're going to save
7 the people, Ann Kirkpatrick is going to vote for the
8 health care law.

9 Well, frankly, I think that that's crazy.
10 I've heard -- to let you know who I am, I'm a
11 full-time teacher and I work part time at a West
12 Yavapai Guidance Clinic. I work 60 hours a week
13 helping people. I don't work 60 hours a week
14 helping people that see everything fall apart.

15 I have a kid over here, and this is --
16 his name is Israel Mazon. He's six months. When he
17 is older, I want him to have an intact Yavapai
18 County to work with.

19 Here is something else that hasn't been
20 mentioned.

21 We are so interconnected with Camp Verde,
22 I know, and stuff. I used to work at Home Depot
23 when I was working full time and going to college
24 full time. I didn't have a bureaucratic parent from
25 Jersey paying for my college. I worked my butt off.

1 Okay?

2 And constantly people from Camp Verde
3 would come to Home Depot because they didn't have a
4 Home Depot. We are so connected that people come
5 there and back. I've been -- I'm a wrestler, I've
6 wrestled and we go -- always go to Camp Verde. We
7 always go to Cottonwood to wrestle. I have never
8 been to Yuma to wrestle.

9 Plus, the whole idea of democracy comes
10 from Greece. Right?

11 Guess what, a spartan would never have an
12 Athenian represent him.

13 Also I think it's ironic that on -- the
14 whole point of Arizona coming into existence is
15 because we didn't want to be represented from people
16 from Santa Fe, New Mexico. Right?

17 And on our Centennial birthday, you're
18 going to go against that entire concept of being
19 represented by the people with whom you live.

20 Okay. That totally flies in the face of
21 what Arizona stands for.

22 Also, there is something about minority
23 rights -- at this whole thing up here.

24 Minority rights. What about majority
25 rights? Isn't that what Democrats are? Demo means

1 people. Power to the people.

2 Well, here's the people. If you're a
3 true Democrat and not a Progressive, then you would
4 listen to us.

5 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is
6 Barbara Nelson and following Barbara will be Larry
7 Nelson and then Sally Ann Lerette.

8 BARBARA NELSON: I'm Barbara Nelson,
9 B-a-r-b-a-r-a, N-e-l-s-o-n.

10 I'm throwing everything all over the
11 place here.

12 Several people have gotten up here and
13 spoken much more eloquently than I can about the
14 issues.

15 I would just like to reiterate a couple
16 of points.

17 First of all, I'm very concerned about
18 what I have heard about the fairness of the
19 composition of this committee and the
20 representations of Yavapai County and the
21 northern -- other northern counties as to this
22 redistricting process.

23 I moved here three years ago from
24 Washington -- Washington state. I saw what
25 gerrymandering did in that state. It was awful, and

1 I see that happening here, and I'm very, very upset
2 about it.

3 First of all, the currently approved maps
4 split Yavapai County up and Verde Valley out,
5 placing us all potentially without representation.

6 We are placed with other wholly
7 noncontiguous counties, Mohave, La Paz, Maricopa
8 County, and Yuma in the congressional map. With
9 hundreds of miles from Northern to Southern Arizona,
10 this is not compact, and that's one of your
11 criteria. So you have violated your duty to use
12 those criteria.

13 We have little, if any, community of
14 interest with these other areas. We have different
15 transportation issues, we have different economies,
16 we are forest and mountain as opposed to desert. We
17 have very different water issues, and that is a big
18 topic. Since I moved here, it's a huge topic.

19 Rendering Yavapai County's voice reduced
20 in all of these issues, significantly harming our
21 county and the Verde Valley by splitting us up.

22 So I oppose this map and I would ask you
23 to keep Yavapai County together.

24 Thank you.

25 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: I have about eight

1 more request to speak forms and I just wanted to
2 check -- you're okay?

3 Okay. Larry Nelson --

4 LARRY NELSON: From Prescott, and I'll
5 talk quick.

6 Well, first of all, I see no reason to
7 split up Yavapai County. When I look at the
8 legislative map, just -- neither one makes sense to
9 me.

10 But I suppose if the people of Sedona
11 that are in Yavapai County really wanted out of
12 Yavapai County and the people of Williams really
13 wanted in, maybe we could do a swap there, as long
14 as we keep the Verde River intact in Yavapai County.
15 But I don't think that's really how the people of
16 Sedona feel.

17 The other one -- the first thing that
18 struck me on the congressional map is -- and I do
19 have to echo the comment, if we have to make a
20 change, option 2 really wasn't horrible. I don't
21 think it's an improvement over what we have now.

22 It's worse than what we have now but it's
23 much better than what's currently being proposed. I
24 don't even know -- how do you even get from Bullhead
25 City to Yuma? How do you even get there except by

1 boat?

2 You know, I think the real reason -- or
3 one of the real reasons to having communities of
4 interest is you have effective representatives
5 representing you.

6 How do you do that when things are so
7 diverse between here and the west side of the state?
8 I just don't -- we have great legislators but not
9 super-legislators.

10 Anyway, I think we need to leave Yavapai
11 County intact.

12 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

13 Our next speaker is Sally Ann Lerette,
14 representing self from Prescott.

15 After Sally Ann will be Christopher
16 Campbell, Mike Flannery, and Gary Robbins.

17 SALLY LERETTE: It's Sally Lerette. It's
18 Sally with a Y, L-e-r-e-t-t-e.

19 I live in Prescott now, but I've been a
20 resident of Yavapai County for 38 years. And the 20
21 years -- first 20 years I lived in the Verde Valley,
22 in Cottonwood, on a little ranch on the Verde River,
23 and then I lived in Clarkdale awhile and then 18
24 years ago I moved to Prescott.

25 So I really know the Verde Valley, and I

1 also know Prescott, but the Verde Valley -- I sold
2 real estate for 30 years there in Prescott, but I
3 really had worked in Sedona, I worked in Camp Verde,
4 I worked in Rim Rock, and Cottonwood, Clarkdale, and
5 Jerome, sold real estate in Jerome, and I really --
6 to me, when I see you took the Verde Valley away,
7 it's kind of like a divorce, a real big divorce
8 because we're so commonly linked.

9 And I have family and friends that still
10 live there. I know how they feel. I don't feel
11 that they are happy at all, from what I can tell by
12 talking with them and seeing this.

13 So I really feel that we need to keep the
14 Verde Valley/Sedona in here.

15 And people that I talk to in Sedona don't
16 feel that way -- I mean, that feel they want to stay
17 with this. I don't know about these other people
18 representing them, but that's my personal views of
19 what the people I talk to.

20 So anyhow, I really feel that the
21 congressional district is way too chopped up, just
22 like all of these people have said before me. I
23 hope you hear our call and our cry for help. We,
24 the people, would like you to keep Yavapai County
25 one congressional district and also legislative.

1 Thank you.

2 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

3 Our next speaker is Christopher Campbell,
4 representing self, and you can tell us where you are
5 from.

6 CHRISTOPHER CAMPBELL: I'm from Prescott,
7 Arizona.

8 And Christopher is C-h-r-i-s-t-o-p-h-e-r,
9 and Campbell is like the soup, C-a-m-p-b-e-l-l.

10 Some of my comments may draw applause,
11 others might draw boos. I would like for either
12 response to be held until the end, for the brevity
13 of time as well as so that I can keep my thoughts
14 together and communicate most effectively.

15 Thank you for being here tonight, and I
16 appreciate all the hard work you have to do along
17 with what seems tonight to be a thankless job,
18 Madame Chair.

19 I would like to talk tonight about both
20 legislative district map as well as the
21 congressional draft map.

22 And I would like to start with some of
23 the things that I like about the maps.

24 I really like about the maps that it
25 appears, more so with congressional district map,

1 but both with the legislative map as well, that it
2 really appears that the representatives are evenly
3 divided amongst the population so that everyone
4 seems like they are evenly represented amongst all
5 of the various people in Arizona.

6 Another statement that I would like to
7 make is something else that I like is something that
8 was mirrored by some of the representatives from
9 Sedona, in that it appears that the maps,
10 particularly the legislative district map, really
11 appears to keep the Sedona greater area in together
12 with the Verde Valley area and that they recognize
13 that it's a much larger community of interest, and I
14 happen to agree with that.

15 But there are some things that I would
16 like to share with you, some improvements that I
17 believe might be made or some adjustments, and I
18 believe they can be made fairly easily.

19 One of those is that I, like many of my
20 other associates here tonight, believe that Yavapai
21 County could be one legislative district, and I
22 believe that if we are going to expand beyond
23 Yavapai County, it should be done in looking to
24 expanding to a larger Sedona area and into a larger
25 area of the Black Canyon City area, the other areas

1 that are surrounding Yavapai County that their
2 communities stretch over into other district.

3 But only minor -- only in very minor
4 fashions as opposed to stretching down a great deal
5 into Maricopa County or some of the other counties.

6 One of the other -- one of the other
7 things with regard to the congressional district
8 map, I would like to see is the same. I would like
9 to see all of Yavapai County or at least all of its
10 communities of interest kept together in one
11 congressional district as well. And I believe that
12 this can be done very effectively and easily, so I
13 would like both of those things to be considered.

14 I would also like -- as has been brought
15 up in the past, we have a very long tradition, a
16 very long history of having Yavapai County
17 Congressional and Legislative District 1, for the
18 reasons that have been explained repeatedly in the
19 past -- over this evening.

20 So I would like those matters to be
21 considered.

22 Is my time up? Okay.

23 STU ROBINSON: Please wind it up.

24 CHRISTOPHER CAMPBELL: Well, thank you
25 very much, and I appreciate you hearing my thoughts.

1 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

2 Our next speaker is Mike Flannery, from
3 Prescott Valley.

4 After Mike is Gary Robbins, Sena
5 Mitchell, and Drake Mitchell.

6 MIKE FLANNERY: Thank you, Madame Chair,
7 Commissioner McNulty, staff.

8 Mike Flannery, F-l-a-n-n-e-r-y.

9 Welcome to Prescott Valley.

10 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thanks.

11 MIKE FLANNERY: One of the things I
12 really like about you guys going out on public
13 hearing tour is I don't have to follow you around
14 the state. You're now in my neighborhood. So thank
15 you and welcome.

16 I guess I need to -- I was handed a
17 resolution that I need to read to you. So if you
18 would bear with me. A resolution from
19 Dewey-Humboldt.

20 Whereas Dewey-Humboldt needs to emphasize
21 the fact that rural means nonurbanized area; and
22 whereas the more logical fix to the underpopulation
23 would be to move Flagstaff and Western Coconino into
24 western rural and District 4; and whereas in doing
25 so, these issues -- the issue such as the

1 communities of interest, contiguousness, and compact
2 would apply and we encourage -- or whereas we
3 encourage the Commission to maintain the District 1
4 numbering for both legislative and congressional
5 district for historic purposes; and whereas applying
6 this method would compensate for moving the Western
7 Coconino into District 4 would make both districts
8 more competitive; and whereas we need again to
9 emphasize the fact that the quad cities and the
10 Verde Valley communities need to stay together in
11 both the congressional and legislative districts.

12 Now, therefore, be it resolved that the
13 mayor and common council of Dewey-Humboldt, Arizona,
14 support the above resolution passed and adopted by
15 mayor and common council of Dewey-Humboldt, Arizona,
16 this 11th day of October of 2011, signed Mayor Terry
17 Nolan.

18 So if I could give that to Stuart, is it?

19 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Yeah.

20 MIKE FLANNERY: First of all, I want to
21 say I appreciate everything that the Commission
22 does. I know that it's a terrible task for you and
23 no matter what you do, you're going to get yelled at
24 by somebody and you really need someone to come
25 forward with potential. And I say "potential."

1 Solutions rather than just the criticism of what you
2 have done.

3 So let me do that, since I think I only
4 got a couple more speakers tonight.

5 Congressional district. I know you've
6 heard this before, so I'm -- on the congressional
7 side -- and instead of going down into Maricopa
8 County for that what used to be the river district,
9 we'll call it the western rural district, instead of
10 going down into Maricopa County and over across the
11 top and down into -- picking up Gila going down into
12 Pinal County, the solution was to either -- we heard
13 it here this evening as well, potentially going into
14 Yuma and picking up more of Yuma for some of that
15 population or even going into, and I know this is a
16 sensitive one, going into Flagstaff and Western
17 Coconino County and picking that up.

18 If you did that, then you could go ahead
19 and pick up those other communities, which everybody
20 is complaining about, and bring those into District
21 1, which would be more of an eastern rural
22 communities.

23 But right now, as it is, when that comes
24 across the state and picks that up, people from the
25 west are saying it's not a western rural community.

1 So just a thought on that.

2 Also, the fact is that if you did that,
3 it would equal out the competitiveness as well. So
4 just a thought.

5 Legislative map. I know the last time I
6 think I stood up before you I had somewhat concerns,
7 and I think I gave you some heart failure when I
8 misunderstood that the map was going down into
9 Maricopa County and then even down into Pinal
10 County, and you guys were fixing Maricopa County and
11 Pinal County.

12 And I said that you were going in the
13 wrong direction and you looked at me bewildered and
14 said we haven't even dealt with Yavapai County yet.

15 I was wrong. You had just put that map
16 up there. However, you didn't go down into the
17 Pinal for legislative district, you went into very
18 rural Maricopa.

19 But as you have heard tonight, if you can
20 take that rural Maricopa out, go back up into
21 Yavapai County, bring in the Verde Valley, which you
22 have heard a strong presentation tonight by a lot of
23 people to bring in the Verde Valley and we've got
24 211 -- I'm sorry, somebody misquoted that. It's
25 211,033 people in Yavapai County. That brings us

1 2,000 shy.

2 Well, we like Williams and Williams has
3 already petitioned you to be with Yavapai County.

4 It's a solution, a solution worth looking
5 at.

6 Anyway, I want to thank you.

7 One thing I did want to -- I did want to
8 say when you were here back in July, Commissioner
9 McNulty, I know that you weren't, but Chairman
10 Mathis you were, I came before you and I said you
11 need to adopt definitions as soon as possible so
12 that they can be applied across the state equally
13 for all of the things that are going to be applied.

14 And to date, we don't have it and we're
15 out doing maps. I think we'd get out of a lot of
16 hot water if we'd had those definitions.

17 Thank you.

18 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

19 Our next speaker is Gary Robbins,
20 representing self from Coconino County, followed by
21 Zena Mitchell, Drake Mitchell, and Eleanor Lazok.

22 GARY ROBBINS: Madame Chairman, my name
23 is Gary Robbins, G-a-r-y, R-o-b-b-i-n-s.

24 I was not able to be at the Commission
25 hearing in Flagstaff back on Thursday due to an

1 out-of-state volunteer commitment.

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Louder, please.

3 GARY ROBBINS: I'm sorry, I can speak
4 closer.

5 Okay. I think that the Commission
6 suffers from an unconscious urbanism bias.

7 Ten years ago, one of the members of the
8 Commission was from St. Johns, if memory serves.
9 I've lived in Maricopa County, I have lived in Pima
10 County. Both are wonderful. It's different in
11 rural Arizona.

12 If I had been here in July, I would have
13 said start at the 37th parallel, which is our border
14 with Utah come down three degrees to the 34th
15 parallel and that's one congressional district.

16 It's a little bit late for me to make
17 that point, but if you took the five northern
18 counties Mohave, Yavapai, Coconino, Navajo, Apache,
19 you are within 12,000 people of the exact number of
20 people you need to have for a congressional
21 district.

22 There are two other solutions.

23 Leaving aside the other districts, my
24 suggestion would be that you would take CD 4 to the
25 limit of Yavapai County, go north to the Mogollon

1 Rim and then go straight across at the Mogollon Rim,
2 which is a natural boundary. You would have two
3 districts of equal size.

4 Coconino County has a great deal -- the
5 non-Native portion of Coconino County has a great
6 deal in common with Yavapai County.

7 I've probably been to Yavapai County ten
8 times for every time I've been to the Native portion
9 of Coconino County, let alone Navajo or Apache
10 County.

11 I have a quick solution.

12 Pinal County is the third most populous
13 county in the state of Arizona. It has 375,000
14 people living there.

15 I agree that the portion of the Tohono
16 O'odham Tribe, which is in CD 3, must stay there.
17 You cannot divide up an Indian reservation.
18 However, with the rest -- that's only 1 percent of
19 Pinal County's population.

20 Pinal County comprises more than half the
21 number of people we need for a congressional
22 district. However, a 180,000 of that number of
23 people is in CD 4. They want to be in CD 1. They
24 are in CD 4. The non-Native portion of CD 1 -- the
25 non-Native portion of Coconino County that's in CD 1

1 wants to be in CD 4. The Verde Valley portion of CD
2 1 desperately wants to be in CD 4.

3 My suggestion is people of the San Tan
4 Valley want to be in CD 1; we want to be in CD 4.
5 How about a straight-up exchange? We want to be
6 here; they want to be there. I see it as a win-win
7 solution where you've respected everyone's needs.

8 Also I believe that Pinal County has now
9 achieved a point where it ought to have a county --
10 it ought to have a congressional district where it
11 is primarily located.

12 Thank you very much for your time.

13 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

14 Our next speaker is Zena Mitchell,
15 representing self from Yavapai County.

16 ZENA MITCHELL: Zena Mitchell, Z-e-n-a,
17 M-i-t-c-h-e-l-l.

18 I have a question. Considering the
19 Voters' Rights Act, section 5, would you please
20 explain in detail how the redistricting pertains to
21 blacks in Yavapai and Pima counties? There are so
22 very few in each of these counties, and as far as I
23 know, and I used to live in Tucson, they aren't in
24 pockets but very scattered.

25 Thank you.

1 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

2 Our next speaker is Drake Mitchell,
3 representing self from Sedona.

4 DRAKE MITCHELL: Madame Chairman,
5 commissioner, thank you for your time this evening.

6 I am from Sedona. And if you call it
7 Sedona/Verde Valley, which we often do,
8 Sedona/Village of Oak Creek, as a community, some
9 people call it Village of Oak Creek/Big Park area,
10 we have liked the congressional district we're in.

11 Again, we share more in common with the
12 Verde Valley/Cottonwood area.

13 I enlisted in the Service out of
14 Cottonwood and 17 years later came home. It's a
15 rural district and people who don't understand that
16 concept of the difference and feel between a rural
17 district and an urban environment -- again, we're
18 not represented here. We don't feel we are.

19 If you haven't lived the lifestyle, you
20 don't understand. I'm sorry. I just don't feel
21 it's possible for me to explain it to you.

22 We do things different. We help our
23 neighbors. We know our neighbors.

24 For a short time I lived in a big city
25 and I could not have told you the names of ten

1 people that lived across my street. That is not the
2 way it is here.

3 I would like you to consider the
4 possibility of keeping the Verde part of Yavapai
5 County.

6 Thank you.

7 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

8 Our next speaker is Eleanor Lazok,
9 representing self from Yavapai. After Eleanor is
10 Erik LeBlanc and Steve Rutherford.

11 ELEANOR LAZOK: Hi, welcome to Yavapai
12 County.

13 I didn't intend to speak tonight but
14 after I heard the comments, I have something to say.

15 First of all, I'm from Prescott Valley.
16 My name is E-l-e-a-n-o-r, last name is Lazok,
17 L-a-z-o-k.

18 I was raised in Chicago, north of
19 Chicago. I am very familiar with Chicago politics
20 and politics in the Midwest.

21 Okay. I moved to Arizona in 1957. Lived
22 in Maricopa County 15 years, was married and raised
23 my five children there. We moved to Yavapai County
24 in 1972.

25 I thought Arizona is different than

1 Illinois. Okay.

2 I believe that this whole process and the
3 maps are bogus and this is all a waste of time,
4 actually, because I have a question.

5 Why was the Republican -- one of the
6 Republican Commission members allowed to abstain,
7 which makes the whole Commission out of balance?

8 You have two Republicans, one
9 Independent, and two Democrats. The Republican is
10 allowed to abstain and so you go ahead and do the
11 maps anyway?

12 I don't think it's right.

13 And why is the Republican person that
14 didn't vote not here tonight?

15 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is
16 Erik LeBlanc, representing self from Chino Valley.

17 ERIK LEBLANC: Thank you very much for
18 all of you folks coming up here.

19 I have lived in Yavapai County
20 practically all of my life. I started school in
21 Sedona when we still had rodeos. I've gone to
22 school in Camp Verde, I've gone to school in
23 Cottonwood, Mingus Union, Yavapai College, I've been
24 all over the county.

25 For a short time I also lived in

1 Flagstaff and also lived in Phoenix. So I know how
2 different those communities are from the communities
3 of the Verde Valley and Prescott.

4 It's, I imagine, hard for a city person
5 to understand what a rural community is like and
6 what the people are like.

7 It's more -- it kind of sounds sappy but
8 it's more like the rural community is more like a
9 family. You don't have that in the city. You have
10 strangers.

11 Any time I was in Flagstaff or in
12 Phoenix, you don't have the friendships that you do,
13 lifelong friendships that you build in Sedona and in
14 Cottonwood and in Prescott.

15 We have the same kind of culture,
16 ranching culture, that you didn't have down there.
17 We have one college that unites us all. We even
18 have one jail that serves the entire Verde Valley
19 and Prescott area. You break off the Verde Valley,
20 you're breaking a lot out of our county.

21 And that's about all I wanted to say.

22 That's just from a lifelong resident who
23 doesn't want to see us broken up and divided.

24 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

25 My last request to speak form is Steve

1 Rutherford, if he's here.

2 Okay. Did I miss anyone? Is there
3 anyone else who would like to address the
4 commission?

5 Great. And if you could fill out a
6 request to speak form -- you can do it after you
7 speak. That's okay. But you can come up now, if
8 you want.

9 MARLA FESTENESE: I'm not good at this,
10 and I also wasn't going to speak.

11 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: And if you could
12 tell us your name and where you're from.

13 MARLA FESTENESE: It's Marla, last name
14 is F-e-s-t-e-n-e-s-e.

15 And I am a resident of Prescott. Moved
16 here seven years ago from California. And we longed
17 to have this rural lifestyle, and I would like to
18 invite any of you on the board to come out to the
19 place -- unfortunately we don't live there any more,
20 but Crossroads Ranch was a community -- a rural
21 community. At that time we had 46 acres and it was
22 a wonderful life. And I still go out there. I've
23 got my horse out there. It's a total -- as so many
24 have said, it's --

25 I don't know. I just -- I find it really

1 hard to mix us with Gila County. It just doesn't
2 seem right.

3 I really, really wish, not politically,
4 but just I really wish you would go back and take
5 another look and see if there's anything else that
6 you can do and maybe listen, really listen to some
7 of the comments that are being made here tonight.

8 That's about all I have to say.

9 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

10 Is there anyone else that would like to
11 address the Commission that didn't already?

12 Okay. Well, gosh, I don't know how many
13 people spoke tonight. It was close to 50, at least.
14 And we really appreciate everyone coming and
15 listening.

16 And what I really appreciate even more
17 than that is how many of you are still here, because
18 oftentimes at these hearings, people leave right
19 after they speak. And I think it's really important
20 for us all to listen to each other. And the fact
21 that you are all still here is pretty impressive.

22 So let me ask my fellow commissioner,
23 Ms. McNulty, if she has anything she would like to
24 say.

25 COMMISSIONER MCNULTY: Thank you.

1 I thank you also for coming on a work
2 night. I know you all have busy days, as do we.

3 This is a very complicated process and we
4 have all learned a great deal about it since we
5 undertook this voluntary job.

6 I've lived in Arizona a long time. I've
7 been in every single part of the state. I've spent
8 a lot of time in this part of the state. Its
9 beautiful, and I understand why you love it here.

10 I grew up in a small town myself, so I
11 understand what you're saying about a rural
12 lifestyle.

13 I also understand that we've been charged
14 by the Constitution with very a difficult task. And
15 one of the greatest assets of this state, I've
16 learned in the many, many, years I've lived here, is
17 our diversity. We all share much more in common
18 than separates us.

19 So I appreciate you coming. I've heard
20 what you have to say. I hope you will continue to
21 remain involved in the process, learn more about
22 what it is that we are charged with doing and what
23 it is that your fellow citizens throughout the state
24 are saying.

25 As the mayor said at the beginning, when

1 we're done with this process, some folks will be
2 happy, some folks will be unhappy, but the reality
3 is, we will all still be Arizonans.

4 And what we are trying to do is find the
5 best way that we can meld all of these criteria
6 together to give everybody a voice.

7 So again, I thank you for coming.

8 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next hearing,
9 just so everyone knows, is tomorrow evening in the
10 city of Chandler at the Chandler City Hall. It
11 starts at 6 p.m. followed by Bullhead City on
12 Wednesday night.

13 So thank you again all for coming.

14 This meeting is now adjourned.

15 The time is 8:30 p.m.

16 (The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.)

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I, MICHELLE D. ELAM, Certified Reporter
No. 50637 for the State of Arizona, do hereby
certify that the foregoing 106 printed pages
constitute a full, true, and accurate transcript of
the proceedings had in the foregoing matter, all
done to the best of my skill and ability.

WITNESS my hand this 29th day of October,
2011.

MICHELLE D. ELAM
Certified Reporter
Certificate No. 50637