

1 **ARIZONA INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION**

2

3

4

5 October 15, 2011

6 9:09 a.m.

7

8

9 **Location**

10 Eagar Town Hall Council Chambers

11 22 West 2nd Street

12 Eagar, Arizona 85925

13

14 **Attending**

15 Colleen C. Mathis, Chair

16 Scott Day Freeman, Vice Chair

17 Linda C. McNulty, Commissioner

18 Ray Bladine, Executive Director

19 Buck Forst, Information Technology Specialist

20 Joe Kanefield, Counsel, Ballard Spahr

21

22 **PREPARED BY:**

23 AZ Litigation Support, LLC

24 Michelle D. Elam, CR

25 Certified Reporter

 CR No. 50637

Eagar, Arizona
October 15, 2011
9:09 a.m.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Good morning.

This meeting of the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission will now come to order.

Today is Saturday, October 15th, and the time is 9:09 a.m.

And let's begin with the Pledge of Allegiance.

(Pledge of Allegiance was recited.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Welcome. It's good to see so many of the public here today for our hearing. We really appreciate you all coming out on an early Saturday morning.

I'll first start with roll call.

Vice Chair Freeman.

COMMISSIONER FREEMAN: Here.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Vice Chair Herrera.

Commissioner McNulty.

COMMISSIONER MCNULTY: Here.

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Commissioner Stertz.

And other folks at the table today include our legal counsel, Joe Kanefield, and our mapping consultant, Andrew Drechsler.

1 We have a court reporter, Michelle, who
2 will be taking a transcript of today's proceedings.

3 Our chief technology officer is Buck
4 Forst, and we're streaming this meeting live today
5 over the Internet so folks can watch at home.

6 Other people from our staff include Ray
7 Bladine, who is our executive director in the back.
8 Our public outreach coordinators Shane Shields and
9 Karen Herrman.

10 So please feel free to go to any of those
11 folks and ask them questions if you need to give
12 them anything or talk to them or have questions.
13 They will be happy to help out.

14 We have a couple of translators here this
15 morning. By federal law, we need to translate the
16 proceedings should anyone require translation
17 services.

18 So I'll call up to the microphone, Carlos
19 Reyes, who will be translating into Spanish if
20 anyone needs it, and he'll give a few words about
21 that.

22 CARLOS REYES: Good morning, Chief Mathis
23 and commissioners.

24 Chair Mathis, ladies and gentlemen, in
25 accordance with the Voting Rights Act, a

1 translator/interpreter will be available at all of
2 the public hearings in order to provide translating
3 services that might be needed for those citizens
4 that need translating or interpreting services.

5 Please contact the translator/interpreter
6 present at this meeting so that he or she can assist
7 you and we will have an Apache and Navajo
8 interpreter and I will be the Spanish interpreter,
9 and now I will read the script in Spanish.

10 (Speaking in native tongue.)

11 Thank you.

12 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you very much.

13 And we also have an Apache interpreter,
14 Bonnie Lewis.

15 BONNIE LEWIS: Hello. Yes, I am Bonnie
16 Lewis and I also am going to explain the same thing
17 and it will be in Apache also, what was said to you
18 is in Apache here.

19 (Speaking in native tongue.)

20 Thank you.

21 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you very much.

22 And I believe we have a Navajo translator
23 coming in shortly. So when they are here, we'll
24 introduce them, too.

25 So the purpose of today's hearing is to

1 obtain input from you, the public, on our draft
2 maps.

3 We have a draft congressional map that's
4 been approved and a draft legislative map that's
5 been approved.

6 And we're in the midst of a tour going
7 across Arizona to 26 locations, I believe. And we
8 just started this week and -- listening to folks all
9 across the state.

10 Our goal is to hear from you, and we're
11 here to listen. We want to know what you like about
12 the map or what you don't like about the map. We'll
13 take both.

14 And if you don't like it, if you can be
15 as specific as you can about what modifications you
16 think should be made to it, we would be happy to
17 hear about those and take those into account. So
18 please let us know.

19 It looks like we have our Navajo
20 translator. If she would like to come in and please
21 feel free to give some words of welcome.

22 Thank you.

23 LOUISE KERLEY: (Speaking in native
24 tongue.)

25 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you very much.

1 And so if you would like to address us
2 today, please fill out a yellow request to speak
3 form. Those are in the back of the room. And when
4 we get to that part of the meeting, I'll be calling
5 folks up and you can just come up to the microphone
6 and provide your input. Be sure to fill out a
7 request to speak form so we know that you would like
8 to speak.

9 If you would not like to speak but you
10 still have input that you would like to give us, you
11 can fill out a blue form. Those are in the back as
12 well, and that will become part of the record as
13 well, the formal record. So it's treated just the
14 same way as if you spoke here at the microphone.

15 Before we move into the presentation that
16 our mapping consultant will give, I understand that
17 the mayor is here, Mayor Holaway.

18 I would just like to acknowledge her.

19 Thank you for being here, and thanks for
20 hosting the meeting here in Eagar. We appreciate
21 it.

22 So with that, I think I can turn it over
23 to Mr. Drechsler.

24 ANDREW DRECHSLER: Thank you very much.

25 Before we get to the presentation, this

1 is -- the map that you see on the screen is just the
2 congressional map that you can find on the -- or I'm
3 sorry, the legislative map that you can find on the
4 website. And we'll put this back up on the screen
5 afterwards. Just wanted -- unfortunately, this is a
6 Google map and the two different colors sort of --
7 Eagar is -- in the draft map is in Legislative
8 District 7 and I just wanted to point out the
9 lighter color on the screen is the Legislative
10 District 6.

11 So we'll have this back up for people to
12 look at a little bit more closer.

13 And we also have a congressional map up
14 on the wall so you can see that as well and maps in
15 your packet as well.

16 And again, thank you. Good morning.

17 Today we are here to discuss the draft
18 maps presented by the Arizona Independent
19 Redistricting Commission.

20 The draft maps are currently under a
21 30-day public review period, which is the main
22 reason we are here today.

23 As the Chair mentioned, we're here to
24 hear your thoughts on the maps, what you like, what
25 you may want to change. And feel free to give us

1 your opinions.

2 Before we start, we just wanted to go
3 over a quick overview of the process in general to
4 show folks how we sort of got to the draft maps and
5 what's going to happen next in this process.

6 Arizona redistricting process is governed
7 by the State Constitution as amended by the voters
8 in 2000, with the passage of Proposition 106.

9 It stipulates that Arizona Independent
10 Redistricting Commission redraw Arizona's
11 congressional and legislative districts to reflect
12 the results of the most recent census.

13 Due to the 2010 census, Arizona gained a
14 congressional seat. So we'll be going from eight
15 congressional seats to nine.

16 What are the guidelines of Proposition
17 106?

18 A, must comply with United States
19 Constitution and Voting Rights Act.

20 B, equal population.

21 So these two criteria are federally
22 mandated, and then we have four other criteria that
23 are to the extent practicable, C, compact and
24 contiguous; D, respect communities of interest; E,
25 use visible geographic features, city, town, and

1 county boundaries, and undivided census tracts; and
2 F, favor competitive districts where no significant
3 detriment to other goals.

4 So these are the six criteria that are
5 sort of the rules that the Commission must follow
6 when drawing these maps.

7 And obviously, they all can't be applied
8 equally, but the two overriding rules are the Voting
9 Rights Act and equal population.

10 We just wanted to go -- touch on Voting
11 Rights Act a little bit and then explain it a little
12 bit more.

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

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

23 Under Section 5, Arizona's redistricting
24 plans cannot be retrogressive. The plans cannot
25 weaken or reduce minority voters' rights. The

1 presence of discrimination can be determined by
2 analyzing population data and election results.

3 So in terms of the timeline for the
4 Commission, there's really six main steps involved.

5 Step 1, was setting up the Commission.

6 Earlier this year the commissioners were
7 appointed following a thorough screening process.

8 They serve as volunteers to the Commission.

9 And the commissioners are Scott Freeman,
10 who is vice chair and with us today; Jose Herrera,
11 vice chair; Chairwoman Colleen Mathis, who is here
12 with us today; Commissioner Linda McNulty, who is
13 here today; and Richard Stertz.

14 The next step was the first round of
15 hearings.

16 Before a single line was drawn, the
17 Commission held 23 public hearings around the state
18 in July and August to get input from members of the
19 public about issues relevant to redistricting such
20 as geography, communities of interest, minority
21 voting rights, and competitiveness.

22 The next step was the mapping.

23 We started with a grid map. Per
24 Proposition 106, they required us to start with a
25 clean slate. And one of the -- and then to do the

1 grid map, which you will see in a little bit.

2 And the grid map only takes into
3 consideration two things. Equal population and
4 compactness. And this grid map was approved on
5 August 18th.

6 Since adopting the grid maps for both the
7 congressional and legislative districts, the
8 Commission has met more than 25 times to consider
9 adjustments to the grid to accommodate all of the
10 State constitutional criteria.

11 During this time, they received
12 additional public comment and draft maps.

13 Approval of the maps.

14 On October 3rd, the Commission approved
15 the draft congressional map that incorporated
16 changes based on all of the constitutional criteria.
17 And just earlier this week it approved the draft
18 legislative map on Monday, October 10th.

19 The second round of hearings is step 4.

20 Currently we're visiting 25 towns and
21 cities around the state to share the draft maps and
22 receive additional input during the month of
23 October.

24 Once that is done will be step 5, where
25 we come up with the final maps.

1 Upon completion of the comment period,
2 the Commission will adopt final maps.

3 And the final step in the process is
4 preclearance.

5 Because Arizona is subject to Section 5
6 of the Voting Rights Act, the district maps must be
7 approved by the federal Department of Justice or
8 federal court in Washington D.C. before they can be
9 used in Arizona's elections.

10 Before we go into showing the current
11 draft map for the Commission, we just wanted to walk
12 through the process.

13 This is a map that you may recognize.
14 It's the current -- it's the congressional map that
15 was approved by the last Commission and last used in
16 the 2010 elections.

17 Per Proposition 106, we were required to
18 start with a blank map and then we came up with the
19 grid map. Again, there were two considerations when
20 we were drawing the grid map. It needed to be equal
21 population and compact.

22 And finally, after more than 25 meetings,
23 the Commission voted on the draft map that you see
24 here.

25 Besides taking into consideration the six

1 criteria, the Commission took into consideration
2 public comment provided via public meetings, round
3 one of public hearings, comments mailed, e-mailed,
4 hand-delivered, telephone, and I'm probably
5 forgetting a couple modes of communication to the
6 Commission, but over -- I think we're close to 5,000
7 comments -- public comments were given to the
8 Commission on their opinions and thoughts of the six
9 criteria. And that's when we came up with the draft
10 map that you see here.

11 Some highlights in the draft map include
12 two predominantly rural districts, three border
13 districts, two districts in the city of Tucson, five
14 districts that are entirely in Maricopa County, it
15 avoids splitting Arizona's Indian reservations, two
16 districts where minority voters have the opportunity
17 to elect their candidate of their choice.

18 The legislative map draft map process
19 went through a very similar process, and this was
20 the map that was approved by the last Commission and
21 was most recently used in the 2010 elections.

22 Much like the congressional map, we had
23 to start with a blank slate, and that's where we
24 came up with the grid map that was approved in
25 August -- on August 18th.

1 And again, this -- the grid map only took
2 into consideration two criteria, the compactness and
3 equal population.

4 And again, per Proposition 106, they
5 didn't want to take into consideration the last map.
6 That's why we do the grid map.

7 And finally, we come up with the
8 legislative draft map that was approved just on
9 Monday.

10 So some highlights of the draft map.

11 So the old map that was used, that was
12 last used in the 2010 election, the population of
13 the districts ranged from 155,000 to 378,000. The
14 current draft has 207 to 215,000.

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

23 As the Chairwoman mentioned before, we
24 want your input on these maps. We really want to
25 hear what you think of them. And just a reminder,

1 these are draft maps and not final and there is
2 going to be some anticipated changes.

3 So you can fill out a request to speak
4 form today, the yellow sheet that you can get in the
5 back to provide your thoughts and input.

6 Examples of input include any of the
7 thoughts on any of the constitutional criteria, any
8 thoughts on the draft congressional map, any
9 thoughts on the draft legislative map.

10 And you can submit your input by filling
11 out one of the speaker forms. And at the back of
12 your packet are one of these blue forms, and you
13 don't have to give us this today. If you wanted to
14 mail it to us, the address is on the bottom. So you
15 would be able to do that.

16 We also have a form on our website at
17 www.azredistricting.org that you can fill out the
18 public comment or you can call us at 602-542-5221 or
19 toll free at 855-733-7478.

20 And just one correction. In the packets
21 today, we apologize that the toll free number is
22 different. So this is the toll free number if
23 anybody wants to call toll free. It's on the screen
24 and you can get it from anybody at the back of the
25 room as well.

1 Here is just a screenshot of our web
2 site. And I just wanted to highlight a couple of
3 different things.

4 You see two arrows on the left that show
5 the maps. The arrow at the bottom below the picture
6 is the -- you have the opportunity to click on the
7 draft or congressional maps.

8 The meeting tab has all of the past
9 meetings. So if you wanted to watch any of the
10 deliberation that went into these maps, they are
11 all -- all of the videos are online, so you can
12 watch any of them along with the transcripts. And
13 also the meeting tab has information on future
14 meetings.

15 As we go around the state, you can follow
16 us -- you can come in person or you can follow us.
17 Most of the meetings are going to be streamed live.
18 But if they are not streamed live, the video of the
19 meetings will be up a couple of days later so that
20 you can see.

21 And then the public input, you can click
22 on that and it will allow you to do public input.
23 It's a short form that you can fill out to give any
24 of your thoughts or comments.

25 One thing -- so if you click on either --

1 on the bottom on any -- either of the two -- click
2 here to see the draft maps, you'll come to this
3 screen. This screen has the draft maps and a number
4 of different formats, but one format that citizens
5 have really liked and commented on is the Google
6 maps.

7 And if you see the red circles, those are
8 the two for both the legislative and congressional
9 maps.

10 And if you click on those, you'll come to
11 a screen that looks much like this. And one of the
12 really nice things about this is you can really
13 scroll in to see what the exact border is and you
14 can zoom in or zoom out as necessary.

15 And here is just a quick example of how
16 you can zoom in and you'll be able to see some of
17 the exact boundaries, the streets, the buildings
18 that make up the districts.

19 And again, we want you to stay connected.
20 We want you to follow. We thank you for coming out
21 this morning. But this process is still ongoing and
22 we wanted you to follow along.

23 You can do that at azredistricting.org.
24 On the website, besides watching current meetings
25 and past meetings and getting updates on future

1 meetings, there's the ability to draw your own maps.
2 We have an online mapping software that we have
3 available or you can follow us at Twitter at #AIRC
4 or friend us on Facebook.

5 There are also people in the back of the
6 room with some computers that if you have any
7 questions about the website or want to see how the
8 online mapping works or if you want to see any maps
9 or details a little closer, Karen or Shane are in
10 the back of the room and they would be more than
11 happy to help show you maps or answer any questions
12 that you may have.

13 Thank you very much.

14 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you,
15 Mr. Drechsler.

16 I should have mentioned earlier that not
17 all of the commissioners travel to each of the
18 meetings. So today we have three. Commissioner
19 Stertz and Vice Chair Herrera can watch this via
20 Internet if they are able to watch it this morning,
21 this live stream, or as Mr. Drechsler mentioned,
22 these are recorded. It will be up on the website,
23 the whole meeting, and they can watch the testimony
24 at their convenience.

25 So we're all taking turns going to all of

1 the different towns across the state. I just wanted
2 to make that clear for everyone.

3 So with that, I believe we are at the
4 public comment portion of the meeting.

5 And just a few reminders on public
6 comment. If you could come up to the microphone and
7 get as close as you can to the microphone so that we
8 hear it very well and it goes over the Internet
9 well.

10 Also, if you could state your name and
11 spell it for the court reporter so that we get an
12 accurate transcript, that would be very helpful.
13 And also if you could just give the city, town, or
14 county in which you reside. We don't need your
15 address, we just would like to know what city, town,
16 or county.

17 And with that, I believe we'll go ahead
18 and get started.

19 I don't think I've left any housekeeping
20 items out.

21 So our first speaker is Eli Blake, from
22 Joseph City.

23 ELI BLAKE: The correct spelling would be
24 B-l-a-k-e.

25 The first thing I would like to say is

1 something I don't think that is said often enough at
2 any kind of political meeting. And we keep hearing
3 all of the negativity and all of the -- I have views
4 and I accuse and I refuse, so I would like to thank
5 the commissioners.

6 I know that none of you get a dime for
7 doing this. I know that it's taking a lot of time
8 away from your families, so I would like to say
9 thank you. I think a lot of people really
10 appreciate the work that you do.

11 One concern that I do have, as I
12 mentioned, I'm from Joseph City and that's in Navajo
13 County.

14 I live along the I-40 corridor and
15 there's a group of communities along the I-40
16 corridor, Flagstaff, Winslow, Joseph City, and
17 Holbrook that are very much tied together. People
18 go back and forth between them because we do have an
19 all-weather highway to do that.

20 Like a lot of people, I live in Joseph
21 City and I work in Winslow.

22 One particular group of people I'm
23 concerned about, a lot them do live in Joseph City
24 and they work in Winslow and now they are in
25 different legislative districts, are the employees

1 of the State prison.

2 Right now prison privatization is a hot
3 topic in Arizona and their jobs may be on the line
4 in the next ten years.

5 And if that comes up -- I don't think
6 it's a good thing that they are maybe not
7 represented by the same person who would be
8 representing the prison. Because usually when
9 privatization comes up, the legislators whose
10 district the prison is in have the most say about
11 whether it's going to be privatized or how that goes
12 about.

13 So I'm not sure it's going to
14 disenfranchise people when their job may depend on
15 their having good representation.

16 So I hope you'll look at that, and I hope
17 you'll look at putting these communities together in
18 one district because they are very much tied
19 together economically as well as -- you know,
20 there's many people -- you know, families that live
21 in, for example, Winslow and Joseph City or Joseph
22 City and Holbrook or even Winslow and Flagstaff
23 families. They spread across that.

24 And that's all I have to say.

25 Thank you very much, and I want to say

1 again, thank you for doing the job that you do.

2 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you very much.

3 Our next speaker is Gail Marcroft,
4 representing self from Apache.

5 GAIL MARCROFT: Good morning.

6 I was going to ask, do you have a
7 hearing-impaired -- somebody for hearing-impaired in
8 here today?

9 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: I do not believe so.

10 If it's requested in advance, we provide
11 it, but we don't have anyone here this morning.

12 Is there somebody who needs assistance?

13 GAIL MARCROFT: Yes. Usually I see
14 federally mandate law saying you have a
15 sign-language person always available. And I didn't
16 notice if that was -- I can hear; I am
17 hearing-impaired, but I can hear enough. I don't
18 need sign language, but I thought I would ask the
19 question.

20 I don't know if it's -- I realize you're
21 saying the other stuff is mandated, but -- can you
22 hear me?

23 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: And if you could
24 spell your name for the record, thank you.

25 GAIL MARCROFT: Gail, G-a-i-l, Marcroft,

1 M-a-r-c-r-o-f-t. F, as in fox trot, T, as in thank
2 you.

3 Okay. The first question I would like to
4 ask -- and I agree with the last speaker. I
5 appreciate the efforts that you are putting forth.

6 I am getting -- I kind of need a
7 fire-hose-in-the-mouth type catch up here. So I may
8 ask you something that you've already been asked.

9 The commission's -- commissioners, what
10 districts are they in with regards to the new
11 distributing? What district would they fall under?

12 Like Jose Herrera, what district would he
13 fall under the new redistrict?

14 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: So the purpose of
15 this hearing is only for you to tell us and we are
16 to listen, we are not supposed to answer questions.

17 Our staff can answer questions directly
18 of any --

19 GAIL MARCROFT: Okay. So I'll assume
20 that on your website that information is available?
21 Can I make that assumption?

22 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: The information is
23 on there.

24 GAIL MARCROFT: So I get to speak; I
25 don't get to ask questions?

1 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Right.

2 GAIL MARCROFT: I see.

3 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: You can ask
4 questions of our staff and they can answer.

5 GAIL MARCROFT: And your staff is where?

6 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Mr. Ray Bladine
7 right here is our executive director.

8 GAIL MARCROFT: Okay. All right. Sorry
9 about that.

10 My next question would be -- I'm
11 having -- I need a comprehension of defining what --
12 in terms of this exercise minority voter, what is
13 the definition of that?

14 RAY BLADINE: I don't believe --

15 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: I think our legal
16 counsel will talk.

17 JOE KANEFIELD: Madame Chair, minority
18 voters is -- I think what you may be referring to,
19 ma'am, as.

20 GAIL MARCROFT: I'm sorry?

21 JOE KANEFIELD: I'm sorry, my voice is
22 very low.

23 Minority voters in Arizona, under the
24 Voting Rights Act, generally refer to
25 Spanish-speaking voters and Native-American voters.

1 GAIL MARCROFT: Spanish-speaking?

2 JOE KANEFIELD: Yes.

3 GAIL MARCROFT: Okay. Thank you.

4 What was the reasoning given -- well, the
5 District 1 is very large and it said the purpose was
6 to combine the Indian reservations all in one
7 district.

8 What was the reason for that?

9 RAY BLADINE: Madame Chair, can you
10 explain -- I can answer after the meeting, but it's
11 really not appropriate for me to participate in
12 dialog now.

13 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: And, legal counsel,
14 is it appropriate for me to talk?

15 GAIL MARCROFT: I'm not disagreeing with
16 it. I'm asking what the reason was for it.

17 JOE KANEFIELD: Madame Chair, it's
18 perfectly appropriate to answer questions from
19 members of the public; however, to move the process
20 along, because this -- I'm sorry, ma'am, I didn't
21 catch your name.

22 You have lots of questions. It may make
23 more sense for us to try to answer not in the public
24 form but through staff. I would be happy to talk
25 with you, too, but I'm not sure this is the best

1 forum for the Commission, this dialog with these
2 questions.

3 We would be happy to work with you and
4 answer all of your questions.

5 GAIL MARCROFT: Okay. You also provided
6 a 2010 census population by district. I will assume
7 that that is the new district, District 1 on here,
8 would indicate that 70 percent of that population
9 there in that district is white and that .8 percent
10 is Native American, 3 percent is African-American.

11 I just want everyone in here to
12 question -- if you've been around -- if you drive
13 around this area, if you live in this area, I would
14 have significant question on those numbers.

15 I would ask anybody to ask this
16 Commission, the Census Bureau, any of those -- how
17 when I look at that district, I've been to most of
18 it. I've been to Cochise County, Morenci, that
19 20 percent is Hispanic, 70 percent is white,
20 3.6 percent is African-American, and that .8 percent
21 is Native American.

22 All of --

23 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Ms. Marcroft?

24 GAIL MARCROFT: I'm making a comment.

25 COMMISSIONER MCNULTY: You might want to

1 speak into the microphone so your comments get
2 heard.

3 GAIL MARCROFT: Can you hear me?

4 All right you can hear me.

5 All right. That of Apache, Navajo
6 Nation, the -- what was Havasupai or whatever one is
7 up there, there was at least five Indian
8 reservations in that District 1 on that map.

9 And I find it interesting that .8 percent
10 of that district is Native American.

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It's 22.8.

12 (Multiple people speaking in the
13 audience.)

14 GAIL MARCROFT: What I look on here at
15 the -- it says .8 percent under Native American.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No. 22.8.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's legislative
18 districts.

19 GAIL MARCROFT: .8.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Well, is she
21 talking legislative or congressional?

22 GAIL MARCROFT: I'm talking congressional
23 map.

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It's showing 22.8.

25 GAIL MARCROFT: No, I'm talking about

1 here. I'm talking about the census.

2 ANDREW DRECHSLER: The legislative
3 districts.

4 GAIL MARCROFT: Map population breakdown,
5 Commission approved legislative draft map population
6 breakdown. District 1, Hispanic population,
7 21.4 percent; non-Hispanic, 70; African-American
8 3.4; Native American .8.

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's for
10 legislative.

11 (Multiple people speaking in the
12 audience.)

13 (Interruption by the court reporter.)

14 GAIL MARCROFT: All right. But when I
15 look at that district, Native American is much
16 larger than .1.

17 (Multiple people speaking in the
18 audience.)

19 GAIL MARCROFT: This is the question.
20 I'm looking at District 1.

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's
22 congressional, not legislative.

23 GAIL MARCROFT: Oh, okay. I apologize.

24 ANDREW DRECHSLER: This is the
25 legislative map.

1 GAIL MARCROFT: Okay. And the
2 legislative map has 20 percent Native American?

3 ANDREW DRECHSLER: So the legislative map
4 is 62.17 percent Native American.

5 GAIL MARCROFT: Okay. So then in our
6 legislative, 25 percent of the 8 point -- the other
7 non-Native American, would they not be minority?

8 I mean, how do I get represented as a
9 minority when I'm a minority in a legislative
10 district or congressional district?

11 I mean, just looks like this
12 congressional district is really funny, huge,
13 large -- I don't know how you came up with it that
14 big.

15 I don't want to rant, I don't want to --
16 it's a huge, large district intentionally done to
17 combine all of the Indian reservations.

18 It says right on the thing.
19 Intentionally done to combine all of the Indian
20 reservations along there.

21 And legislatively, there are a large
22 number of population-wise, there are .8 percent of a
23 congressional district. The numbers don't look
24 right. I'm just saying that -- I am new. I'm
25 getting a fire-hose-in-the-mouth. I'm asking people

1 to question those numbers. Those numbers don't look
2 right. They don't look represented.

3 At the same time, I am a minority in that
4 congressional district and yet I'm not classified as
5 one.

6 The other question I have -- I think
7 that's all.

8 Thank, God, huh.

9 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

10 Our next speaker is Bobbi Peterson,
11 representing self from Pinetop.

12 ROBERTA "BOBBI" PETERSON: Thank you.

13 My first comments are about the map for
14 the congressional district, the congressional
15 district draft map.

16 As was just pointed out, it is way too
17 big. I might have--

18 Oh, Peterson. It's Roberta, and it's
19 P-e-t-e-r-s-o-n, but I go by Bobbi, which is
20 B-o-b-b-i.

21 And I might have said that I am president
22 of the White Mountain Conservatives and have been
23 since we organized on July 1st, 2009.

24 And so actually I am speaking for a lot
25 more than just myself, but I didn't think of that

1 when I filled out the thing.

2 We meet monthly in Show Low. I live in
3 Pinetop, and we have discussed this and we have had
4 our state legislators in our meetings talk about
5 this issue of redistricting.

6 And the congressional draft map is not
7 only way too big, but it is obviously putting, as
8 has been mentioned, all of the Native American
9 populations together.

10 I don't know, there are probably pros and
11 cons about that idea of putting them all together.
12 And speaking as a non-Native American, I don't like
13 that idea.

14 Whatever happened to working together to
15 make a melting pot instead of dividing us between
16 races?

17 It seems to me like it's playing the race
18 card to divide America, to divide Arizona between
19 non-Natives and Natives.

20 I have many friends in the Pinetop area
21 that are Apache. I lived in Flagstaff for 19 years
22 and had no Native American friends. It all depends
23 on where you live and who you associate with and so
24 forth.

25 So I don't think that we have communities

1 of interest in this huge District 1. I think it
2 would be entirely impractical to be represented in
3 this huge district from Utah to Mexico and almost
4 all the way to the border with California -- or
5 Nevada, whatever that would be on the west. That
6 would be Nevada, excuse my ignorance, by one
7 congressional representative.

8 We are not happy with the fact that the
9 size of the Congressional District 1 right now, our
10 congressional representative does not get to visit
11 his constituents nearly enough.

12 We do have technology where we can do
13 town halls online and that kind of thing, but we
14 want to visit with our representatives regularly.
15 And this map is, in my view, just totally
16 ridiculous.

17 Option 1 map was very similar to our
18 current map. All we needed to do was add Camp
19 Verde, and they are a community of interest along
20 with what has been District 1.

21 It would be nice to get District 1 down
22 geographically so that our congressperson could
23 represent us better and get to all of us in the
24 district, but speaking from rural Arizona, at least
25 let's not make this ridiculous from Utah to Mexico.

1 I know that you have all donated your
2 time and you've talked about how you've paid
3 attention to comments and you had so many comments
4 and so forth.

5 I'm sorry, but I really question that
6 because it seems to me that this gerrymandering is
7 designed to turn a red state into a blue state.

8 And I think it is important to let us
9 know what districts you commissioners live in and
10 why you would be combining Native American.

11 I think it's wrong that you can't answer
12 our questions and we can't do that publicly. Where
13 is the transparency in that?

14 I also understand that, Madame Chairman,
15 you are not really Independent. Your husband is
16 Democrat and so forth and so on.

17 As far as the legislative draft map, I
18 lived in Flagstaff for 19 years and then moved to
19 Pinetop in Navajo County six years ago.

20 My husband passed away 14 months ago, but
21 our experience in Flagstaff and now in the White
22 Mountains, there's no commonality with Flagstaff,
23 and I would never move back to Flagstaff.

24 I think if you had talked to anyone who
25 has lived in Flagstaff and the White Mountains, as I

1 have, you would discover that there really is no
2 commonality. I won't go into all of the details
3 where there isn't, but there really isn't.

4 And I would assert that those in Apache
5 County, like here in Eagar, have no commonality with
6 people in Mohave County.

7 This legislative draft map has no
8 commonality in it and it looks very gerrymandering
9 to me as well.

10 I don't understand how the Commission
11 could come up with these gerrymandered maps, unless
12 there is an agenda.

13 And I do not feel that we will end up
14 with anything that is truly representative of the
15 citizens of Arizona, that they would truly approve
16 of until a lot of changes are made and a lot more
17 integrity on the part of the commissioners.

18 I'm sorry, but it just looks that way to
19 me, and I think it will end up in the courts.

20 So I would urge this Commission to pay
21 attention to your criteria and pay a lot more
22 attention to commonality and realize that you can do
23 a whole lot better.

24 Thank you.

25 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

1 Just to let everyone know, I hope you all
2 have a copy of the presentation that Mr. Drechsler
3 gave. It should be available as a handout in your
4 packet.

5 And on slide 5, the five commissioners
6 names are listed along with what party they are from
7 and also what county they reside in. So just so you
8 have that information.

9 Our next speaker is Steve Erhart,
10 representing self from Eagar.

11 STEVE ERHART: My name is E-r-h-a-r-t.

12 First of all I would like to just
13 thank --

14 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Can you speak
15 directly into the microphone? Sorry.

16 STEVE ERHART: Better?

17 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Really close.

18 STEVE ERHART: Closer?

19 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Sorry.

20 STEVE ERHART: I don't want to eat it.

21 Anyways, I want to tell you thanks for,
22 you know, all of your work on these districts, and I
23 know it's pretty difficult, but I do want to point
24 out a few concerns I have on the congressional draft
25 map.

1 Is there any way you could put that up?

2 It seems to me that we have 13 rural
3 Arizona counties that out of that we should be able
4 to form at least two truly rural congressional
5 districts.

6 We have over one-and-a-half-million
7 people in rural Arizona and that should be enough to
8 form two rural counties without including us with
9 Metro Tucson or Metro Phoenix.

10 If Apache County has to be tied with the
11 more populated area, why not the more populated of
12 Pinal County that we share more interest and
13 commonality with?

14 I'm concerned that Congressional District
15 1, that we're tied to the suburban areas of Tucson
16 of Marana, Oro Valley, and Saddlebrooke.

17 It appears actually that all
18 congressional districts, all nine, are linked to
19 Metro Phoenix or the Metro Tucson area.

20 You know, this takes away, I feel like,
21 competitiveness of the districts and our interests.

22 And I -- in rural areas, we would like to
23 have a voice. We would like to be able to elect
24 candidates from rural Arizona, not necessarily
25 suburban Tucson.

1 I'm concerned also that we've got five
2 counties split up. We've got Pinal, Cochise, Gila,
3 Pima, and Yavapai Counties that are chopped up, and
4 I'm not sure, but it appears somehow to keep
5 Coconino County whole, and I don't really know what
6 the purpose of that is.

7 But as you mentioned earlier, the
8 Constitution says when practicable, district lines
9 should be visible geographic features, city, town,
10 and county boundaries and undivided census tracts.

11 That's really not what I see on that map,
12 and I guess I would think that there ought to be a
13 desire by the Commission to have at least a couple
14 of rural Arizona counties. You know, maybe one on
15 the eastern part of the state and one on the west,
16 but I don't believe that Eastern Arizona counties
17 need to be grouped with Pima County, and the western
18 counties don't need to be grouped with the urban
19 areas of Maricopa County and Pinal County.

20 I feel like we need two truly rural
21 counties in our state.

22 Thank you. That's really all I have to
23 say.

24 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

25 Our next speaker is Terry Hill,

1 representing self from Navajo.

2 TERRY HILL: Hill, H-i-l-l, first name is
3 Terry, T-e-r-r-y, from Shumway.

4 What you are creating in this CD 1 is a
5 district that's too large. From Mexico to the south
6 and New Mexico completely on the right on the east
7 and Utah to the north. On the northeast corner we
8 are just a few short miles from Nevada/California
9 border. On the southeast you've got us wrapped
10 around all the way to Goodyear.

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: West.

12 TERRY HILL: Or rather on the west, thank
13 you.

14 On the Southwest corner it goes all the
15 way around to Goodyear.

16 The district is too huge to be properly
17 represented without a major increase in funding --
18 congressional funding rather. And that will not
19 happen.

20 If you -- District 9, the new district,
21 that little new district will have just as much
22 funding as District 1.

23 If you question that, just ask Gosar's
24 office or any of the Schweikert's office or any of
25 the other or Frank's office, they all get the same

1 amount of money to fund their districts.

2 And what you have created is an
3 unfinancial -- it cannot be financially maintained
4 the way the small districts are.

5 You go down into staffs in the city and
6 get a heck of a lot more money than the staffs up in
7 the rural areas, especially right now, even with CD
8 1, because there's no -- there's only a certain
9 amount of dollars and can only go so far.

10 Second thing, the district is no longer
11 competitive. I'm not a registered Democrat nor am I
12 a registered Republican, but I'm seeing the district
13 go from 3.8 percent Democrat favor -- you know, in
14 favor of -- there are more -- 3.8 percent more
15 Democrats than there are Republicans. Now it will
16 be -- it will have -- it will outnumber everybody by
17 9.5 percent. That makes this district almost appear
18 a noncompetitive district. It makes it solely a
19 Democratic district.

20 And some of us, though we are not
21 Republicans nor are we Democrats, we just as soon be
22 as close as possible so we can have some influence
23 over those we send to Washington. And when you've
24 got a majority -- you have no one majority, you have
25 no influence.

1 Third thing, the district is no longer --
2 has communities of like interest. This district map
3 needs to be redrawn to take that into consideration.

4 I would recommend you go back, you redo
5 this map. You redo this CD 1 and make it more
6 compact and contiguous and make it more competitive
7 and bring back in more communities of like interest.

8 Thank you.

9 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

10 Our next speaker is Tom Samoff,
11 representing self from Apache.

12 TOM SAMOFF: Okay. I'm Tom Samoff,
13 T-o-m, last name S-a-m-o-f-f. I live in the Hunt
14 area north of Concho in Apache County.

15 I'm a conservative person and -- which is
16 an extreme minority in Apache County in the first
17 place, and I do like representatives we have in
18 service right now.

19 By including the entire north of the 40
20 and the Indian reservations, it's going to make our
21 county completely Democrat.

22 And when you say I live in America, I
23 love America, and when you say that we need to make
24 certain areas minority so they can vote somebody in,
25 that sounds so, so wrong to me.

1 I mean, it's just a matter -- you know,
2 we all are competitive. We all want to vote our
3 people in, but to make it gerrymandering or
4 whatever -- to make it so certain areas have a
5 bigger chance in certain areas, it's just -- it
6 doesn't sound right and this is definitely doing
7 that to our area.

8 Our area is going to be, well, like
9 everybody elses'. It huge, it's going to be largely
10 Democrat, and it is not representing us that are
11 just trying to get by and work our way.

12 And as far as just with our philosophy as
13 being a conservative person in Arizona, I think we
14 should have a fair chance, too.

15 And what you are doing in District 1 is
16 just absolutely incredible, making it so huge and
17 leaning towards a different way than I see and it's
18 just a matter -- I have to speak up for what I see,
19 too.

20 And I'll make it short, and that's just a
21 matter of what I feel. That this is just an unfair
22 expansion. What we had before was -- was tenable
23 and this expansion just makes it impossible.

24 Thank you for your time, and that's all I
25 have to say right now.

1 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

2 Our next speaker is Eleanor Kerger,
3 representing self from Blue.

4 ELEANOR KERGER: Yes. It still is
5 morning.

6 Good morning. As it says, I'm Eleanor
7 Kerger. Last name is K-e-r-g-e-r. I live in Blue,
8 Arizona. And if you've ever been there or haven't,
9 you need to go.

10 We had a meeting down there not on this,
11 on something else. And my comments today are
12 basically Sylvia Allen was at our meeting and so was
13 Petty Pew, Congressman Gosar's -- one of his aides.

14 And we had Coconino -- I'm sorry, we had
15 Greenlee County officers there and Apache County
16 officers.

17 My comments on this is that Sylvia Allen
18 pointed out to us, the residents there at the
19 meeting, about this meeting. And not one person
20 besides the officials knew anything about this.

21 When I got here and looked at the paper,
22 some of the information you have, and it stated in
23 there that this is the second round of public
24 comments?

25 There is -- it's the first time I've

1 heard anything about this was Thursday, two days
2 ago.

3 My husband this morning went through the
4 Independent here, the local paper. There was not
5 one mention in that paper of this meeting. That
6 means that the news media, our media, is not getting
7 any information to the public on this. That's my
8 first part.

9 The second part, I agree with the other
10 people here that have stated that this section, this
11 area, is way too large. It is going to be
12 absolutely -- and this is something Sylvia Allen
13 said, it's going to be absolutely impossible for a
14 representative to go from the far northern part of
15 the border of Utah down to Mexico and try to visit,
16 even know this area. It would be impossible for
17 them to do it.

18 If I was a member of the Indian
19 community, I would be outraged that they are lumping
20 -- that they are being lumped all in one little
21 basket. It's so unfair.

22 I thank you for allowing me to give my
23 comments, and everyone have a nice day.

24 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is
25 Tara Haws, representing self from Apache.

1 TARA HAWS: Hello. Tara, T-a-r-a, Haws,
2 H-a-w-s, and I am from Apache County.

3 And this is a big purple splotch on the
4 state for sure. These congressional people, they
5 have a lot of different issues that they need to
6 look at and address and deal with consistently.

7 They have staff, of course, that they
8 help rely on running down information for them and
9 such, but this is almost like -- that person would
10 be, like, governor over this territory on this side
11 of Arizona.

12 That would be far too much. And as has
13 been previously brought up that it would be just so
14 impossible, near to impossible, to address the
15 concerns for such a large area because when you get
16 it that large and you rely that much on staff, then
17 pretty soon you're seeing the opinion of the staff
18 member who looked at that area and you don't know
19 what their goals are and their agendas, personal
20 opinions. And then pretty soon the person cannot
21 properly assert what they have been elected to do in
22 that area. It's just impossible.

23 It's just far too large, far too
24 expansive, and this is why we elect these officials,
25 is to better govern the area that they are in and

1 break it down instead of creating almost like a
2 second governor for this part of the state.

3 You're going to have your large
4 populations or your population count in different
5 areas and say this is how we're breaking up;
6 however, if you have the large -- a large population
7 concentrated in one area -- and just because we're
8 very rural up here in this north -- northeastern and
9 down to the south part of the state, the needs of
10 the people and the concerns are greatly and vastly
11 different than when you're starting to skirt the
12 more major towns that have much more different
13 concerns and needs.

14 And I would like to also ask -- this is
15 input. Is there going to be any meetings to where
16 you can have a rapport or is it just strictly
17 speaking with staff on a one-to-one basis?

18 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Well, all of our
19 meetings and hearings are in this format. That's
20 how it's run. Outside of the meeting, though, we
21 can -- you can talk individually to commissioners as
22 you wish and you can also contact our office through
23 our staff and also get information from them.

24 TARA HAWS: Okay. So these are just
25 strictly this-is-how-we-feel meetings?

1 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Right.

2 TARA HAWS: You guys got to sit there and
3 take it?

4 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: That's right.

5 TARA HAWS: All right. Thank you.

6 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

7 That was my last request to speak form.

8 Is there anyone else who would like to
9 address the Commission?

10 GAIL MARCROFT: I would like to say one
11 more thing.

12 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Please come up.

13 This is Gail Marcroft.

14 GAIL MARCROFT: Yes, Gail Marcroft.

15 G-a-i-l, M-a-r-c-r-o-f-t.

16 I did want to make -- I have no question,
17 I have a comment.

18 On the congressional and legislative
19 districts and the purpose of combining all of the
20 Indian reservations into one district.

21 Again, I'm not certain what advantage
22 that is to the Indians or to me; however, I do want
23 to make a note that the Indian reservation -- it's a
24 matter of competitiveness with -- private sector
25 would become an issue under that scenario in that

1 the reservations are allowed to log, they are
2 allowed casinos, they are exempt from a lot of
3 federal regulations that private sector is not
4 exempt from.

5 That puts private sector at a
6 disadvantage, and you're putting all of these
7 reservations into one district.

8 Anyway, that's the comment I wanted to
9 make with regard to competitiveness.

10 Thank you.

11 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

12 Is there anyone else?

13 Mayor, please come up.

14 KIM HOLAWAY: I'm sorry, I didn't fill
15 out a form, but I just was kind of formulating some
16 things.

17 My name is Kim Holaway, K-i-m,
18 H-o-l-a-w-a-y, and I would like to speak to the
19 legislative maps, not the congressional maps. I
20 think most of the previous comments have been
21 related to that.

22 And Apache County and specifically the
23 town of Eagar, which I represent, are all located in
24 District 7, which, again, has a similar issue to
25 Congressional District 1, being that it's very, very

1 large.

2 It goes from the northwest corner of the
3 state all the way across the north part and down the
4 eastern portion.

5 I cannot see how -- how legislators, to
6 represent this area adequately as well as go to
7 Phoenix to do the business that they need to.

8 And your option 2 map previously had the
9 southern part of Navajo County in with this same
10 district, and I don't know if I have the number, but
11 I would just propose that you relook at that because
12 we in this -- in Southern Apache County, we have the
13 most in common with Southern Navajo County. We
14 really do. And to separate us out and to put
15 Southern Apache County with Greenlee County, Gila
16 County and then all the way over to parts of
17 Coconino and Mohave County doesn't seem to make
18 sense.

19 And it doesn't -- I know that you want
20 your districts to be very compact; this is not a
21 compact district the way it is. Your previous maps
22 were much more compact.

23 So that's my comment regarding that, so I
24 hope that you will relook at that on your draft map.

25 Thank you very much.

1 And I also would like to echo the
2 previous comments that we truly do appreciate your
3 time and your efforts, and I know this is a
4 monumental task and you probably don't get very many
5 positive comments and you're mostly hearing the
6 negative, but I think you're doing a great job and
7 we really appreciate you coming to Eagar and
8 allowing the citizens in our area and the
9 surrounding areas to meet with you and give you our
10 opinions.

11 So thank you very much.

12 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you very much.

13 Is there anyone else who would like to
14 address the Commission?

15 Please, and if you can fill out a request
16 to speak form for us when you're done, that would go
17 great.

18 JOE SITARZEWSKI: My name is Joe
19 Sitarzewski. Last name is S-i-t-a-r-z-e-w-s-k-i,
20 and I'm a resident of Eagar.

21 My comment has to do with both the
22 legislative and congressional maps.

23 I know that one of the objectives
24 nationally is to keep districts compact, but on the
25 congressional map, I would suggest that you look at

1 possibly using the Phoenix metropolitan area as a
2 center of a spoke and radiate out to all sides of
3 the state, include -- if you aren't going to make
4 rural districts, then include part of rural in each
5 metropolitan district so that those congressmen and
6 congresswomen have to go out and listen to the
7 residents or rural people and not only think of
8 metropolitan things when they are doing their job.

9 And with the legislative map, again, I
10 pretty much second what Mayor Holaway said, but I
11 would also suggest that you look again at including
12 some rural areas with metropolitan areas.

13 There is a belief in Arizona, as I'm sure
14 you all know being from metropolitan areas most
15 likely, that very little gets done in rural areas.

16 We have extreme recreational use in rural
17 areas and we receive no funding to deal with the
18 amenities, the transportation system. The
19 infrastructure that rural residents have to support
20 and urban residents come and use and complain
21 because it's not up to their standards.

22 So if you would include a mix of lands in
23 your districts, I think there would be more
24 understanding to the needs of rural communities.

25 Thank you.

1 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

2 Is there anyone else who would like to
3 address the Commission?

4 Please.

5 ELEANOR KERGER: Hi. Eleanor Kerger
6 again.

7 Something that -- two things that you
8 mentioned just a little while ago.

9 One was you showed a -- one was the
10 information forms here, that your names and where
11 you're from and your voting preferences were on
12 that. They are not on those papers, but they are on
13 the website. That's what I found out from the back
14 from one of your -- from the guys that helped.

15 Besides that -- see, now I've just lost
16 that one train there was there.

17 When it comes to the media -- again, I
18 want to stress that there is nothing -- coming out
19 on this.

20 Is there -- you know, just a comment
21 here, is there anyone here that is on the media?

22 Plus you also said earlier that this is
23 going to be streamed. According to the website this
24 morning, there was not going to be a streaming of
25 this meeting. That's what it said on the website.

1 There was not going to be one for this meeting.

2 So you --

3 BUCK FORST: Can I respond?

4 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Yes, please.

5 BUCK FORST: You know, as of this meeting
6 we were not supposed to have streaming, but the City
7 of Eagar was nice enough to put an Ethernet
8 connection in the wall for us.

9 ELEANOR KERGER: Wonderful.

10 Like I said, it said it on the website.
11 I just looked at it this morning on my iPad.

12 So great. Thank you.

13 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Is there anyone else
14 who would like to address the Commission?

15 JAY KERGER: My name is Jay Kerger,
16 J-a-y, K-e-r-g-e-r. My wife has been up here a
17 couple of times.

18 I appreciate you listening and I wasn't
19 going to make a comment, but I feel like I have to.

20 I travel back and forth with my wife.
21 She lives down in Blue and I work in Prescott.
22 Weekends I'm up here. I'm a pilot, so I fly back
23 and forth.

24 As a pilot -- and I fly all over the
25 state, I would think it would be an exacting -- an

1 effort to represent this District 1 in congressional
2 district. It would be a daunting task. I don't see
3 how a representative would be able to even come
4 close to representing the people here.

5 And I'm a pilot and my plane goes
6 200 miles an hour, and I would have a difficult time
7 representing this county -- this district here.

8 And both on the legislative part, it's a
9 vast increase -- I don't see how anybody is going to
10 really represent this area properly, and I feel you
11 ought to really consider redrawing the map some.

12 I appreciate the thought.

13 Thank you.

14 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

15 Is there anyone else who would like to
16 address the Commission?

17 Okay. Well, I'll ask my fellow
18 commissioners if they would like to say anything.

19 I'll start with Vice Chair Freeman.

20 VICE CHAIR FREEMAN: Thank you, Madame
21 Chair.

22 Thank you all for coming out today. It's
23 really a pleasure. It was a beautiful drive up to
24 Eagar this morning.

25 When I was coming down the 260, I saw a

1 nice herd of antelope just north of the road. I
2 don't know why I see them whenever I don't have an
3 antelope tag, but there they were. And so it's
4 great to come up here.

5 I think one thing I want to emphasize is
6 something that each of the other commissioners have
7 said in other hearings, is that the congressional
8 map and the legislative map that we put out, the
9 Commission has put out for public comment, are
10 drafts. And they've all noted that there will be
11 changes, and I think it's very incumbent upon this
12 Commission and on the commissioners to take into
13 account all public comment and apply the six
14 constitutional criteria that this Commission is to
15 follow. And you saw that earlier in the
16 presentation. And make the necessary changes to
17 make these maps fit together the way Arizona fits
18 together.

19 And that's what I'll be striving to do as
20 I attend as many of these public comment hearings as
21 I can. And after the Commission reconvenes to go
22 back to work with the maps, that will be my goal.

23 I think later today we're going to be
24 over in Hon-Dah at 3 o'clock. So if anyone wants to
25 follow us over there, that's where we'll be.

1 And I'll stick around as long as needed
2 if any of you have any questions, I'm happy to stick
3 around and answer any questions you may have.

4 Thanks.

5 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

6 And Commissioner McNulty.

7 COMMISSIONER MCNULTY: I would echo those
8 comments. I appreciate you coming out on a Saturday
9 morning. I appreciate your hospitality in this
10 beautiful part of the state. It's a pleasure and a
11 privilege to be able to have an excuse to come up
12 here and spend time.

13 And this is a complicated process, it
14 truly is. We have to merge together these six
15 criteria.

16 We are trying very hard to create some
17 rural districts in response to comments we received,
18 at the same time, just by virtue of the rural nature
19 of the state and the way -- where population exists,
20 in order to do that, you have some very -- it covers
21 some very large mountain territory.

22 So those are the trade-offs, you know,
23 for trying to create rural districts. They are
24 going to cover a lot of ground, but we really do --
25 I really do appreciate your comments. I appreciate

1 the thoughtful and professional way in which you
2 delivered them.

3 And again, I appreciate the opportunity
4 to visit Eagar.

5 Thanks.

6 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

7 And I echo both of those commissioners'
8 comments as well. It's a treat to be here and such
9 a beautiful day seeing all of these fall colors in
10 your region. It's incredibly gorgeous.

11 So we appreciate you participate in this
12 process and we hope you will continue to do so by
13 coming to additional meetings in the region or
14 following us online.

15 And you can always contact our staff via
16 the office through, you know, calling or e-mailing.
17 Visit our website. There's a lot of information out
18 there, we know, and we're trying to make it as
19 accessible and transparent as possible.

20 So please, you know, keep -- stay with us
21 throughout these next 20 days or so that we are
22 continuing on this journey.

23 And afterwards, if you have any questions
24 or want to address any of us, please feel free to do
25 so.

1 And again, thank you for coming.

2 The time now is 10:24 in the morning and
3 I'll declare this meeting adjourned.

4 Thank you.

5 (The meeting adjourned at 10:24 a.m.)

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

I, MICHELLE D. ELAM, Certified Reporter
No. 50637 for the State of Arizona, do hereby
certify that the foregoing 57 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 27th day of October,
2011.

MICHELLE D. ELAM
Certified Reporter
Certificate No. 50637