

**ARIZONA INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION**

Monday, October 24, 2011  
11:14 a.m.

**Location**

**Tohono O'odham Utility Authority  
Highway 86  
Sells, Arizona 85634**

**Attending**

Linda McNulty, Commissioner

Buck Forst, Information Technology Specialist  
Kristina Gomez, Deputy Executive Director

Joseph Kanefield, Legal Counsel

Reported By:  
Marty Herder, CCR  
Certified Court Reporter #50162

Sells, Arizona  
October 24, 2011  
11:14 a.m.

P R O C E E D I N G S

COMMISSIONER McNULTY: Good morning.

Let's call this meeting of the Independent Redistricting Commission to order. It's Monday, October 24th at 11:14 a.m.

Let's begin by rising and saying the pledge of allegiance.

(Whereupon, the Pledge was recited.)

COMMISSIONER McNULTY: Thank you for hosting us in Sells this morning.

I'm Commissioner Linda McNulty.

This meeting being live streamed this morning? Excellent.

So the other Commissioners will be watching or will have an opportunity to watch the video later on.

I want to thank you for coming to the meeting.

The purpose of these meetings is to allow you to give us input on the draft congressional and legislative maps that we have issued.

We want to hear if you have concerns about the

1 maps, if you have comments about the maps, if you have  
2 suggestions about ways to improve the maps, this is the  
3 opportunity to make those comments to us.

4           There is a requirement under federal law that we  
5 have translation services available at each of these  
6 meetings, so I'd like now to call our translators up to  
7 provide a welcome, and to offer their translation services.

8           The first is Elsa Gutierrez.

9           Ms. Gutierrez, could you come up briefly? Thank  
10 you.

11           ELSA GUTIERREZ: Good morning. My name is Elsa  
12 Gutierrez, reading a statement. Commissioner McNulty,  
13 ladies and gentlemen, in accordance with the Voting Rights  
14 Act, a translator/interpreter will be available at all the  
15 public hearings in order to provide translations and  
16 interpretation services that might be needed for those  
17 citizens that need translation and interpretation services.

18           Please contact the translation interpreters  
19 present at this meeting so that he or she can assist you.

20           Will the interpreters please raise your hands so  
21 you can be identified.

22           (Whereupon the interpreter made a statement in  
23 Spanish.)

24           COMMISSIONER McNULTY: Thank you very much.

25           I believe we have two Tohono O'odham interpreters

1 this morning. The first is Sy Johnson.

2 THE WITNESS: Good morning. My name is Sy  
3 Johnson, Senior, and I was asked to come and assist in  
4 interpreting O'odham language.

5 I'm honored to be here to see -- to hear outside  
6 of what goes on in the nation and how the role of O'odham  
7 place in this Pima County.

8 (Whereupon the interpreter made a statement in  
9 O'odham.)

10 COMMISSIONER McNULTY: Thank you very much.  
11 Canellas Lopez.

12 THE WITNESS: Good day. My name is Canellas  
13 Lopez. I come from the village of Santa Rosa, and Gu Vo  
14 District.

15 I was asked to come here to do translations for  
16 this subject.

17 I was involved in the subject last ten years ago  
18 when they had the redistricting, and so I'm pretty familiar  
19 with what happens. And so I'm hoping that if there -- my  
20 services are needed, that I will do a good job in order to  
21 help the people understand what this means for them.

22 I think many people don't understand what  
23 redistricting is, and I think that when people understand,  
24 they put a little bit more importance to it, and they seem  
25 to want to be involved.

1           (Whereupon the interpreter made a statement in his  
2 native language.)

3           COMMISSIONER McNULTY: Thank you very much.

4           We have with us this morning our assistant  
5 executive director, Kristina Gomez.

6           Our legal counsel, Joe Kanefield, from Ballard and  
7 Spahr.

8           Korinne Belock, from mapping, Strategic Telemetry.

9           Our court reporter Marty Herder, who's  
10 transcribing the hearing.

11           Our chief technology officer, Buck Forst, who's  
12 hiding behind all that stuff over there.

13           Our two outreach coordinators, Lisa Schmelling and  
14 Kristi Olson.

15           If you have questions, you can ask any of those  
16 folks for help.

17           As I said, we're here today to seek your comments  
18 about the draft congressional and legislative maps.

19           And if anyone would like to comment in the  
20 hearing, we have yellow Request to Speak forms at the table  
21 there that you can fill out and bring up to me.

22           And after we do a presentation about the  
23 redistricting process, we'll receive your comments at the  
24 microphone there.

25           If you would prefer not to speak at the hearing,

1 there's an information packet also at the table that  
2 provides information about what this redistricting process  
3 is all about, and where we are in the process.

4           And at the back of that there is a blue comment  
5 form that you can fill out and leave at the table, or you  
6 can send it in at any time in the next week or so.

7           I think I've told you everything that I need to  
8 tell you at this point.

9           So with that, I will turn it over to Korinne  
10 Belock, and ask her to give us all some information about  
11 the redistricting process.

12           KORINNE KUBENA BELOCK: Thank you. I'm Korinne  
13 Kubena Belock with Strategic Telemetry. I'm happy to be  
14 here in this morning in Sells to give you an overview of the  
15 draft congressional legislative maps drafted by the Arizona  
16 Independent Redistricting Commission.

17           The goal of these meetings is to hear comments  
18 from you about these draft maps, so thank you for taking the  
19 time to attend.

20           Before getting into -- well, one more thing. The  
21 draft maps are currently under a 30-day review period, so  
22 that the Commission can hear your opinion about these maps.

23           So before I get into the maps, I want to give you  
24 a quick overview of the redistricting process.

25           So Arizona's redistricting process is governed by

1 the State Constitution as amended by voters in 2000 with the  
2 passage of Proposition 106, that stipulates that Arizona  
3 Independent Redistricting Commission redraw Arizona's  
4 congressional and legislative districts to reflect the  
5 results of the most recent census.

6 So due to the 2010 census, the state of Arizona  
7 gained a congressional seat, going from eight seats to nine  
8 seats.

9 So what are the requirements of the State  
10 Constitution via Prop 106?

11 The new district boundaries must comply with the  
12 U.S. Constitution and the Voting Rights Act, and must have  
13 equal population. And criteria A and B are federally  
14 mandated.

15 And then to the extent practicable, the districts  
16 must be compact and contiguous, respect communities of  
17 interest, use visible geographic features, city, town and  
18 county boundaries, and undivided census tracts. And,  
19 finally, favor competitive districts where no significant  
20 detriment to other goals.

21 So just a little bit about the Voting Rights Act  
22 today.

23 Arizona's congressional and legislative districts  
24 must receive pre-clearance or approval from the Department  
25 of Justice or a federal court under Section 5 of the Voting

1 Rights Act before they can take effect.

2 To get pre-clearance, Arizona must demonstrate  
3 that the new districts do not discriminate against minority  
4 voters in purpose or effect. Which means there can be no  
5 intentional or accidental discrimination.

6 Also under Section 5, Arizona's redistricting  
7 plans cannot be retrogressive.

8 The plans cannot weaken or reduce minority voters'  
9 rights.

10 And finally, the presence of discrimination can be  
11 determined by analyzing population data and election  
12 results.

13 So very quickly, I just want to show you a video  
14 from Bruce Adelson, with the Federal Compliance and  
15 Consulting LLC, who's been providing consult to the  
16 Commission on the Voting Rights Act.

17 (Whereupon, Mr. Bruce Adelson's video presentation  
18 was played.)

19 KORINNE KUBENA BELOCK: So I will just pull up the  
20 presentation again, very quickly.

21 And moving through, before we get to the maps, one  
22 more section we'll cover is the time line of the Commission.

23 So earlier this year, as step one, the Commission  
24 was established.

25 The commissioners were appointed following a very



1 thorough screening process and serve in a voluntary role for  
2 the State of Arizona.

3           Of course, this afternoon we have commissioner  
4 Linda McNulty. Other commissioners not present, Scott  
5 Freeman, Vice Chair, Jose Herrera, Vice Chair, Colleen  
6 Mathis, Chairman, and Richard Stertz, Commissioner.

7           So the second step in this redistricting process  
8 for the first round of hearings.

9           Before drawing a single line, the Commission held  
10 23 public hearings around the state in July and August, to  
11 get input from members of the public about issues related to  
12 redistricting, anything from geography, communities of  
13 interest, minority voting rights, and competitiveness.

14           And after those first round of hearings the  
15 mapping process actually began.

16           Per proposition 106, the Commission started with a  
17 clean slate, which I'll show you in a bit.

18           They then divided the state into equal population  
19 and compact grid-like districts and approved a grid map on  
20 August 18th.

21           Since adopting the grid map, the Commission has  
22 met more than 25 times to consider adjustments to the grid  
23 to accommodate the six constitutional criteria.

24           And during this time they also received additional  
25 public comments and draft maps from the public as well.

1           Approval of the draft maps was the next step. On  
2 October 3rd the Commission approved draft congressional maps  
3 that incorporated changes based on all of the constitutional  
4 criteria.

5           They then approved a draft legislative map on  
6 October 10th.

7           Which brings us to the second round of hearings  
8 which are happening right now.

9           The Commission is currently visiting 25 towns and  
10 cities to share the draft maps and to receive additional  
11 public input in the months of October and November.

12           Step five will be approval of the final maps.

13           Upon completion of the public comment period, the  
14 AIRC will adopt the final maps, and then pre-clearance,  
15 which Bruce Adelson spoke on a bit.

16           Because Arizona is subject to Section 5 of the  
17 Voting Rights Act, the districts must be approved by the  
18 Federal Department of Justice or a federal court in  
19 Washington D.C. before they can be used for Arizona  
20 elections.

21           So moving on to the maps.

22           Before I show you the draft map, I just want to  
23 show you the progression of the maps throughout the process.

24           So the map that you see here on the screen is the  
25 congressional map that was approved by the last

1 Redistricting Commission and was most recently used in the  
2 2010 elections.

3           Then, per Prop 106, which I mentioned, the  
4 Commission was required to start with a blank slate, not  
5 taking into consideration any election districts or  
6 incumbents.

7           Also per Proposition 106, the Commission started  
8 with a grid map, as I touched on earlier.

9           Trying to get over a cold here.

10           So per Proposition 106, the Commission started  
11 with a grid map which I touched on. You'll see the grid map  
12 on the screen now.

13           However, the grid map only takes into  
14 consideration two of the six constitutional criteria,  
15 compactness and equal population.

16           So in August the Commission asked that two grid  
17 maps be drawn, and on August 18th they agreed upon option  
18 two, which you see here.

19           And then after more than 25 meetings, the  
20 Commission voted to approve the draft map that you now see  
21 on the screen.

22           In addition to taking into consideration the six  
23 criteria, the Commission took into consideration public  
24 comment provided via public meetings, round one of hearings,  
25 comments mailed, e-mails, hand delivered, telephoned, and

1 any way possible that they could be delivered to the  
2 Commission, those comments were taken.

3 And then over 5,000 comments helped to develop  
4 this draft map that you see on the screen.

5 Just to point out a couple highlights of the  
6 congressional map. The district -- the congressional draft  
7 map includes two predominantly rural districts, three border  
8 districts, three districts in the Greater Tucson region,  
9 five districts that are entirely in Maricopa County. It  
10 avoids splitting Arizona's Indian Reservations, and it  
11 creates two districts where minority voters have the  
12 opportunity to elect their candidate of choice.

13 So just moving on to the legislative maps.

14 Like the congressional draft map, the legislative  
15 map followed a very similar process.

16 Here we see the legislative map that the last  
17 Commission approved, which was most recently used in the  
18 2010 election.

19 Again, per Proposition 106, the Commission started  
20 with a blank slate, and then a grid map was approved in  
21 August, legislative grid map. Similar to the congressional  
22 grid map, this grid map only took into consideration two of  
23 the six constitutional criteria, equal population and  
24 compactness.

25 Which leads to the legislative draft map.

1 Arizona has 30 legislative districts and each district  
2 elects one senator and two House members.

3           Some other points to give you about the highlights  
4 from the legislative map include, the population growth and  
5 reduction was taken into consideration by the Commission.  
6 The old districts ranged from about 155,000 to 378,000 in  
7 population.

8           According to the current draft map, population  
9 ranges from 207,000 to 215,000.

10           To comply with the Voting Rights Act, the plan  
11 includes ten districts in which minority voters should have  
12 an opportunity to elect a candidate of their choice.

13           And the draft map includes three districts wholly  
14 within Pima County, and three additional southern Arizona  
15 districts. 17 districts primarily within Maricopa County.  
16 And creates nine districts that are primarily rural.

17           So moving on to the most important reason why  
18 we're here today, is that the AIRC wants your input on these  
19 maps.

20           There's several ways you can do that. You can  
21 fill out a Request to Speak at a public hearing and provide  
22 the Commission with your input.

23           Examples of input might include thoughts on all  
24 the constitutional criteria, draft congressional map, and a  
25 draft legislative map.

1           You can also submit your input by speaking at a  
2 hearing, and filling out a public -- you can also fill out a  
3 public opinion form at a hearing, or on the AIRC website,  
4 and you can visit [azredistricting.org](http://azredistricting.org), the Commission  
5 website, or call 602-542-5221, or also toll free at  
6 855-733-7478 with any comments that you might have about  
7 this, the maps.

8           So another important thing is that the Commission  
9 wants you to stay connected through this process.

10           On the screen you will see a shot of the  
11 Commission's website. The arrows highlight a couple key  
12 areas of interest.

13           Under meetings you can find dates for future and  
14 past meetings. And in case you'd like to watch the  
15 deliberation that went into these draft maps, all of the  
16 videos on the -- on the website by dates, you can find the  
17 date that you're interested in watching.

18           If you'd like to make comments, you can click on  
19 the public input form which you can see on the red arrow  
20 there highlighting that.

21           If you would like to see the maps, you can click  
22 on either of the links there that say maps.

23           In particular, the arrow down at the bottom will  
24 guide you directly to draft maps.

25           Once you click on that link, you'll see this

1 screen here.

2           Basically, most people are, of course, interested  
3 in reviewing the draft maps as closely as possible.

4           So once you get to this screen, you'll see you  
5 have several menus of choices. Basically these maps are  
6 displayed essentially in a number of different file types  
7 from JPEG to PDF to KMZ/Google map.

8           It can be a little bit confusing, but the one we  
9 want to highlight for you that gives you a really good  
10 opportunity to review the maps is the KMZ/Google maps, which  
11 are circled in red here.

12           Once you click on that KMZ/Google link, you then  
13 are directed to this site, which allows you to view the  
14 KMZ/Google map. It's a great way to view the map because  
15 you're able to zoom in and out to specific areas that you  
16 want to see.

17           Basically, on the screen here you see the draft  
18 congressional map, and then on the left column you'll see  
19 there's a number of different filter or labels essentially.

20           What you can do is unclick on any of those boxes  
21 to help you better able to view the map. For example, you  
22 can click off of counties that you don't want to view. You  
23 can click off the colors of areas that you do not want to  
24 view.

25           And it just enables you to view the map much more

1 clearly.

2           So, this is a zoomed out version of the entire  
3 state of Arizona, and this is as you zoom into the map.

4           This, as what you're looking at here is a slide of  
5 the districts around Maricopa County.

6           Again, you have the ability to zoom in and out,  
7 down to viewing street names, small street names and  
8 individual blocks to see which district they possibly like  
9 according to the draft maps.

10           So that's just a view of the maps.

11           And then, just moving up, as I wrap this up I want  
12 to highlight the Commission's website once again,  
13 [azredistricting.org](http://azredistricting.org). On the website you can draw maps, you  
14 can watch hearings, you can also find out details about  
15 future meetings.

16           And I encourage you, if you're in social media, to  
17 follow the Commission on Twitter on hash tag AIRC. Also  
18 friends of the Commission on Facebook. And you basically,  
19 through those two opportunities, to get up to the minute  
20 updates from the Commission.

21           And, again, thank you for coming out this morning  
22 to be a part of this process.

23           Final word on these maps.

24           Versions of them can be found in the packet that  
25 you received today.



1           And then I'm also available after the public  
2 comment period of this meeting. If you have any questions  
3 regarding maps or the process, I'm happy to talk you through  
4 it. And any of the staff as well, as we mentioned, can help  
5 you view the maps more clearly or explain it to you where  
6 you can find them on the Commission's website so you can  
7 continue to stay connected.

8           And so I look forward to speaking with you and  
9 thanks again for having us today.

10           COMMISSIONER McNULTY: Thank you, Ms. Belock.  
11 Thank you.

12           I have one Request to Speak form, so we'll go  
13 ahead and hear from Bill Roe from Pima County. Come up to  
14 the microphone and spell your name for Mr. Herder, please.

15           BILL ROE: Good morning, am I close enough?  
16 Buck, how do I do this?

17           Good morning, can you hear me now? Good.

18           I'm Bill Roe, R-O-E, from Tucson and Pima County.

19           And thank you for the opportunity to speak this  
20 morning. And Commissioner McNulty, thank you for being  
21 here.

22           Until after the second World War in an Arizona  
23 Supreme Court case in the 1940's, authored by Justice Udall,  
24 Native Americans did not have the right to vote in Arizona.  
25 And since then they have had that right.

1           Redistricting is incredibly important to them, not  
2 just the Tohono O'odham nation, but the other nations, some  
3 22 federally recognized tribes in Arizona.

4           The process is extremely important.

5           I heard Sherman Norris from this nation speak at  
6 the Heard Museum a month or so ago in the first round, and  
7 he was quite eloquent about what his nation needed in  
8 representation.

9           But like many of us, he felt strongly that the  
10 process was going well, that it was important to focus on  
11 fairness, it was important to focus on competitiveness, and  
12 the -- he gave some proposals for legislative and  
13 congressional districts, and those were taken into  
14 consideration.

15           I don't think they were followed completely in the  
16 draft maps that are out now.

17           But, I urge you to continue in your process  
18 looking for fairness, looking for competitiveness, and  
19 benefiting all Arizonans, including the 22 federally  
20 recognized tribes in this state, who in the past did  
21 experience voting discrimination.

22           Thank you very much.

23           COMMISSIONER McNULTY: Thank you Mr. Roe.

24           Is there anyone else who would like to speak  
25 before the Commission?

1 (No oral response.)

2 COMMISSIONER McNULTY: I'd just say for the  
3 record, and for anyone who might be watching on the live  
4 stream, one more time, that as Ms. Belock said, there are a  
5 number of ways to provide your input to the Commission,  
6 including the blue form that's in this packet, on the web,  
7 by phone. So please take advantage of those opportunities.

8 Typically at this point in the meeting the  
9 Commissioner who's chairing the meeting asks their fellow  
10 Commissioners if they have anything they would like to add,  
11 so being the only Commissioner here, I will say I would like  
12 to add that, as you heard on our presentation of the Voting  
13 Rights Act, is extremely important to this endeavor, and  
14 insuring that minorities, including Native American members  
15 of our state of Arizona, have the opportunity to elect  
16 candidates of their choice.

17 The Native American nations have been very  
18 generous in hosting the Commission all over the state. We  
19 learn a great deal by traveling to their communities and  
20 reservations and we appreciate that.

21 Mr. Kanefield, given that there's no one else here  
22 of the Commission, do you have anything you would like to  
23 add.

24 JOSEPH KANEFIELD: No.

25 COMMISSIONER McNULTY: That, with one last call

1 for comments.

2           Hearing none, I will declare this meeting  
3 adjourned at 11:47 a.m. in Sells, Arizona.

4           (Whereupon, the meeting adjourned.)

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1 STATE OF ARIZONA            )  
  )  
2 COUNTY OF MARICOPA        )        ss.  
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4                    BE IT KNOWN that the foregoing proceeding was  
5 taken before me, Marty Herder, a Certified Court Reporter,  
6 CCR No. 50162, State of Arizona; that the foregoing 20 pages  
7 constitute a true and accurate transcript of all proceedings  
8 had upon the taking of said meeting, all done to the best of  
9 my skill and ability.

10                   DATED at Chandler, Arizona, this 26th day of  
11 October, 2011.

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C. Martin Herder, CCR  
Certified Court Reporter  
Certificate No. 50162

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