

Private
STAFF SUMMARY OF MEETING

OTHER COMMITTEE COMMITTEE ON INDEPENDENT LEGISLATIVE REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

Date 06/25/2021
Time 01:02:01 PM to 04:23:47 PM
Place HCR 0112
This Meeting was called to order by Carlos Perez
This Report was prepared by Elizabeth Burger

Attendance	
Hunter Barnett	X
Heather Barry	X
John Buckley	X
Samuel	X
Greenidge	X
Constance	X
Hass	X
Gary Horvath	X
Aislinn Kottwitz	X
Amber	*
McReynolds	
Blanca Uzeta	X
O'Leary	X
Robin Schepper	*
Kevin Fletcher	X
Carlos Perez	X

X = Present, E = Excused, A = Absent, * = Present after roll call

Hearing Items	Action Taken
Approval of Meeting	
Agenda and Minutes and Public Comment	Agenda and Meeting Minutes Approved
GeoCivics Presentation	Committee Discussion Only
Review of the Preliminary Congressional Redistricting Plan	Committee Discussion Only
Unfinished Business	Committee Discussion Only
New Business	Engagement Letter Approved
Subcommittee Reports	Committee Discussion Only
Staff Reports	Committee Discussion Only
Commissioner Communications	Committee Discussion Only
Topics for Future Meetings	Committee Discussion Only

Approval of Meeting Agenda and Minutes and Public Comment - Agenda and Meeting Minutes

Approved

01:06:35 PM Chair Perez called the meeting to order. Meeting materials can be found here: <https://coleg.box.com/s/rm12au9y6uslv92lib8vj7irc4wvfwzu> The agenda for the meeting and the minutes of the June 18 commission meeting were approved by acclamation. There was no public comment.

GeoCivics Presentation - Committee Discussion Only

01:08:06 PM Dr. Rebecca Theobald, University of Colorado Colorado Springs, began the presentation on public engagement tools for redistricting. She reviewed the available tools to support public understanding of redistricting, including various websites and student exercises.

01:23:28 PM Dr. Theobald responded to questions from the commission regarding redistricting tools.

01:32:23 PM The committee discussed tools for the public to draw redistricting maps and GIS resources.

Review of the Preliminary Congressional Redistricting Plan - Committee Discussion Only



- 01:40:01 PM Jeremiah Barry, Independent Legislative Redistricting Commission Staff, shared the preliminary congressional map, noting that the map was created with preliminary data, and it is unknown how the final census data will differ from the preliminary data. He noted that there were public comments asking for two rural districts, and the map creates these districts in the eastern and western parts of the state. He reviewed District 4, noting that population was pulled from El Paso, Douglas, Adams, Arapahoe, and Weld counties to complete District 4. El Paso and Denver Counties were primarily kept whole except for small segments. He discussed the enclaves in Denver, and how segmenting them in the Denver district would have resulted in the drawing of precincts that could have exposed voter identity. The new 8th district is located in the northern Denver suburbs, extending up the 1-25 corridor. This area of the state is fast-growing, and Mr. Barry noted that the goal was to create a district where the Hispanic community could have significant impact on the representation. He described District 2, including all of Larimer County except for the city of Windsor, and discussed the municipal boundaries included in the district. Nearly all of Boulder and Gilpin counties were included in District 2. District 7 is comprised of the remainder of Jefferson County and Douglas County.
- 01:49:31 PM Mr. Barry reviewed the constitutional criteria for drawing the preliminary congressional map, and discussed how the map complies with each requirement.
- 02:02:15 PM Commissioner Kottwitz commented on the effort of staff to keep municipalities whole. Commissioner Hass commented on districts 3 and 4.

Unfinished Business - Committee Discussion Only

- 02:06:07 PM Commissioner Perez reviewed the redistricting timeline and the commission's calendar. He noted that he removed the regular Friday commission meetings from the commission's schedule in July and August, due to the public hearing schedule. Commissioners Perez and O'Leary discussed the commission meeting on Tuesday, June 29. The commission discussed holding meetings every other week in July and August to address commission business.

New Business - Engagement Letter Approved

- 02:16:59 PM Commissioner Perez shared a draft engagement letter for an expert on competitiveness. Commissioner Horvath discussed the services that this expert could provide to the committee. Commissioner Uzeta O'Leary shared her concerns regarding whether the expert would prioritize competitiveness above other constitutional redistricting criteria. She asked what the role of the expert would be. Commissioner Horvath responded, describing the services that the expert could provide to the commission.
- 02:31:23 PM The commission continued to discuss whether or not to engage an expert on competitiveness. The commission discussed how an expert could assist in measuring competitiveness, and commissioners commented about the need for the commissioners to choose measures of competitiveness. The commission discussed measures of competitiveness and whether staff could provide analyses on competitiveness.
- 02:48:38 PM Chair Perez discussed the methodology the expert will apply, noting that the expert will test maps based on an index of competitiveness. Commissioner Schepper discussed the scope of work for the engagement of the competitiveness expert, and suggested that the scope of work be refined. Jessika Shipley, Independent Legislative Redistricting Commission Staff, responded to questions from the commission regarding whether the staff could perform an analysis of competitiveness. Mr. Louis Pino, Independent Legislative Redistricting Commission Staff, commented on the data the staff have, and how to perform an analysis of competitiveness.
- 03:03:32 PM Chair Perez clarified the process for voting on the issue. Mr. Dwayne Liller described the services that he could offer to the commission, and responded to questions from the commission. Ms. Shipley commented regarding hiring a competitiveness consultant.
- 03:23:27 PM Commissioner Barnett stated his belief that there is value in engaging Mr. Liller's services. Commissioner Greenidge discussed his belief that it would be helpful to have recommendations from a neutral party.



03:24:25 PM Accept letter of engagement and execute a contract with Mr. Dwayne Liller, with the inclusion of language enumerating items that are out of scope and clarifying that he will not be doing work the commission is responsible for (second from Barnett).

Motion

Moved Gary Horvath

Seconded

Hunter Yes

Barnett

Heather No

Barry

John Yes

Buckley

Samuel Yes

Greenidge

Constance Yes

Hass

Gary Yes

Horvath

Aislinn Yes

Kottwitz

Amber Yes

McReynolds

Blanca

Uzeta No

O'Leary

Robin No

Schepper

Kevin No

Fletcher

Carlos Yes

Perez

YES: 8 NO: 4 EXC: 0 ABS: 0 FINAL ACTION: PASS

03:24:47 PM The commission took a brief recess.

03:36:07 PM The commission reconvened. The commission began discussion of the reallocation of incarcerated persons. Commissioner Fletcher shared a memo discussing the arguments in favor and against reallocation. The commission discussed the constitutionality of legislation on the reallocation of incarcerated persons. Ms. Shipley noted that the legislation requires the staff to reallocated the incarcerated population to the census blocks they resided in prior to incarceration. She clarified that the staff will not use the adjusted data to create the maps unless the commission takes an affirmative vote directing staff to do so. The commission discussed the language of the bill and direction to staff. Commissioner O'Leary discussed raising the issue with the commission's outside counsel.

03:55:11 PM Commissioner Schepper asked asked if the Congressional Commission had made a determination about how to address the issue, and Ms. Shipley responded that the commission has not decided the issue yet.

Subcommittee Reports - Committee Discussion Only

04:00:58 PM Commissioner Uzeta O'Leary noted that there were a few changes to the engagement letter for the Voting Rights Act expert and that the letter is still awaiting approval. Commissioner Schepper gave the report from a joint meeting of the Congressional and Legislative Public Hearing Committee meetings, noting that the committees are working on an introductory video to be shown at the public hearings. She discussed the difficulty in finding venues for commission meetings, and direction to staff on how to handle logistical issues. Commissioner Horvath shared the the Mapping and Quantitative Methods Subcommittee report.

Staff Reports - Committee Discussion Only

04:12:00 PM Julia Jackson, Independent Legislative Redistricting Commission Staff, noted that a search feature has been added to the public comments available on the commission's website. Mr. Pino noted that the Congressional mapping commission is holding a training on the ESRI software, and the Legislative Commissioners were also invited to attend.

Commissioner Communications - Committee Discussion Only



04:14:14 PM Commissioners Barnett, Hass, McReynolds, and Perez shared their comments.

Topics for Future Meetings - Committee Discussion Only

04:22:48 PM Chair Perez reviewed potential topic for future meetings. He discussed reaching out to Chair Hare from the congressional committee to discuss the reallocation of incarcerated persons.

04:23:47 PM The committee adjourned.

