

Private
STAFF SUMMARY OF MEETING

OTHER COMMITTEE COMMITTEE ON INDEPENDENT LEGISLATIVE REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

		Attendance	
Date	06/04/2021	Hunter Barnett	X
		Heather Barry	X
		John Buckley	X
		Samuel	X
Time	01:02:56 PM to 05:52:13 PM	Greenidge	X
		Constance	X
Place	SCR 354	Hass	X
		Gary Horvath	X
This Meeting was called to order by	Carlos Perez	Aislinn Kottwitz	X
		Amber	X
		McReynolds	X
This Report was prepared by	Elizabeth Burger	Blanca Uzeta	X
		O'Leary	X
		Robin Schepper	X
		Kevin Fletcher	X
		Carlos Perez	X

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

Hearing Items	Action Taken
Overview of ESRI Redistricting Software	Committee Discussion Only
Public Comment	Committee Discussion Only
Unfinished Business	Approve Two Commissioners to Attend Redistricting Conference
New Business	Committee Discussion Only
Subcommittee Reports	Committee Discussion Only
Staff Reports	Committee Discussion Only
Commissioner Communications	Committee Discussion Only

Expand All Items

Collapse All Items

01:02:59 PM

Chair Perez called the meeting to order. Meeting materials can be accessed here: <https://coleg.box.com/s/wb3hcofco57muq9or2o0h4mz5045jmlu> (<https://coleg.box.com/s/wb3hcofco57muq9or2o0h4mz5045jmlu>). The agenda and the minutes of the May 28 meeting were approved by acclamation.

Overview of ESRI Redistricting Software - Committee Discussion Only

01:07:50 PM Louis Pino, Independent Redistricting Commissions Staff, provided an overview of the ESRI redistricting software. He described how the public would access and use the software. He described the information that will be prepopulated into the software, and how individuals could use various data to create maps. Mr. Pino noted that the software allows shapefiles to be imported, and noted that there are default reference layers available to use when creating maps. Commissioner Schepper noted that staff will create the preliminary maps, and asked what principles staff will use when creating maps. Jerry Barry, Independent Redistricting Commissions Staff responded that the staff are following constitutional criteria when creating the preliminary maps, but noted that it would be helpful for the commission to provide a definition of competitive districts prior to the finalization of the preliminary plan.

Public Comment - Committee Discussion Only

01:35:14 PM Brad Blake, representing himself, discussed redistricting in Southwest Colorado. He discussed the difficulties caused by the current configuration of legislative districts in the region. He urged the commission to review a letter submitted by the Southwest Colorado Redistricting Alliance. He urged the commission to keep La Plata and Archuleta counties in the same district.

01:38:55 PM Mr. Blake responded to questions from the commission and discussed the current legislative districts in Southwestern Colorado.

Unfinished Business - Approve Two Commissioners to Attend Redistricting Conference



- 01:42:25 PM Chair Perez shared and discussed the legislative redistricting calendar. He explained that he added a start date for the public hearings, and also added tentative dates for hearings in September on staff maps. Commissioner Buckley asked about public hearing dates and the progress in the development of the preliminary maps, and Mr. Barry responded. The commission discussed the establishment of a public hearing schedule.
- 01:52:35 PM Commissioner Kottwitz asked about the dates for the adoption of the final plan, and the commission discussed the dates for Colorado Supreme Court review and approval of the final plan. Mr. Barry commented on the timeline for the drafting of maps by staff, explaining that staff map 1 could be developed about a month after the receipt of U.S. Census data, which would be around September 16. Commissioner Buckley commented on the timing of drafting and approval of the staff plans. Chair Perez noted that he would continue to flesh out the timeline for discussion purposes. The commission discussed scheduling the public hearings and how to get information about the meetings out to the public.
- 02:15:02 PM Commissioner McReynolds suggested contacting county clerks for assistance on finding appropriate venues, and the commission and staff discussed scheduling public hearings.
- 02:27:33 PM The commission discussed attendance at the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) redistricting conference. Commissioner Horvath expressed interest in attending. Chair Perez asked if there was any opposition to him and Commission Horvath attending the conference.

02:28:32 PM Motion Approve up to two commissioners to attend the conference (seconded by Buckley).

Moved Aislinn Kottwitz

Seconded

Hunter

Barnett

Heather

Barry

John

Buckley

Samuel

Greenidge

Constance

Hass

Gary

Horvath

Aislinn

Kottwitz

Amber

McReynolds

Blanca

Uzeta

O'Leary

Robin

Schepper

Kevin

Fletcher

Carlos

Perez

YES: 0 NO: 0 EXC: 0 ABS: 0 FINAL ACTION: Pass Without Objection

New Business - Committee Discussion Only

- 02:29:35 PM Richard Kaufman, commission's legal counsel, discussed the ruling of the Colorado Supreme Court on the interrogatories submitted by the legislature on Senate Bill 21-247. The commission discussed the retention of an outside expert to advise the commission on voting rights issues, and Mr. Kaufman agreed to prepare materials on such an expert for the commission's consideration at next week's meeting.
- 02:47:30 PM The commission took a brief recess.



02:47:46 PM The commission reconvened. The commission turned its discussion to commission policies. Commissioner Perez shared a proposal regarding the development of committee policy documents, explaining that the purpose of his proposal is to organize and document policy decisions of the commission. He gave an example of a policy document. The commissioners commented on the process of developing the policies and whether the concept should be further pursued. Commissioner Perez discussed how to move the proposal forward, including changing the commission's rules and procedures to adopt a new policy template, and bringing the proposal back to the commission for approval.

Subcommittee Reports - Committee Discussion Only

03:27:08 PM Commissioner Barry shared updates from the Outside Counsel Subcommittee, noting that the subcommittee will consider the appointment of an outside expert on voting rights issue at a future meeting. Commissioner Schepper gave an update regarding the public hearings, and discussed the proposed public hearing format. Commissioner Horvath gave an update on the Mapping and Qualitative Methods Subcommittee, and reviewed the mapping criteria and discussed how the subcommittee is working through each issue. He discussed measures of competitiveness. The commission discussed competitiveness in elections and measurements of competitiveness. Chair Perez commented on the presentation by Dr. Robert Loevy and whether it's possible to draw competitive districts in all cases. Commissioner Schepper commented on the need to provide staff direction on competitiveness.

Staff Reports - Committee Discussion Only

04:00:56 PM Julia Jackson, Independent Redistricting Commissions Staff, noted the commissioners would be receiving a NCSL redistricting book in the mail soon.

Commissioner Communications - Committee Discussion Only

04:01:42 PM Commissioner Hass discussed the hope that the commission could identify a formula for competitiveness. Commissioner McReynolds also commented on competitiveness, and considering ballot measure data and registration data when considering competitiveness.

05:52:13 PM The committee adjourned.

