

Private
STAFF SUMMARY OF MEETING

OTHER COMMITTEE COMMITTEE ON INDEPENDENT CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

Date 04/21/2021
Time 02:03:24 PM to 03:56:32 PM
Place SCR 354
This Meeting was called to order by Carly Hare
This Report was prepared by Elizabeth Burger

Attendance	
Jolie Brawner	*
Martha Coleman	X
Moussa Diawara	X
Paula Espinoza	X
Jason Kelly	X
William Leone	E
JulieMarie Shepherd	E
Macklin Danny Moore	X
Lori Schell	X
Simon Tafoya	X
Elizabeth Wilkes	X
Carly Hare	X

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

Hearing Items	Action Taken
Rules and Procedures Committee Report	Committee Discussion Only
Review of Map Analytics Committee Report	Committee Discussion Only
Presentation Regarding Constitutional Criteria for Map Drawing	Committee Discussion Only

02:03:28 PM Chair Hare made announcements related to the commission's agenda. Materials related to the meeting agenda can be accessed here: <https://coleg.box.com/s/slejmro55n155wtggjsitrvuki39kb5> (<https://coleg.box.com/s/slejmro55n155wtggjsitrvuki39kb5>).

Rules and Procedures Committee Report - Committee Discussion Only

02:09:32 PM Commissioner Tafoya gave an update regarding the draft rules of procedure discussed by the commission on April 19, and noted that the commission will consider the rules and any amendments at its April 26 meeting.

Review of Map Analytics Committee Report - Committee Discussion Only

02:10:38 PM Commissioner Schell gave the update from the Map Analytics Committee, and reviewed the report of the committee that was presented to the commission at the April 19 meeting.

Presentation Regarding Constitutional Criteria for Map Drawing - Committee Discussion Only

02:15:43 PM Mr. Jerry Barry, Colorado Independent Redistricting Commissions Staff, began the presentation on the constitutional criteria that apply when drawing congressional districts.

02:16:33 PM He discussed the requirement to have districts of equal population.



- 02:18:00 PM Mr. Barry discussed the requirement that districts much be composed of contiguous geographic areas, and responded to commissioner questions on the issue. He discussed the requirement to comply with the Federal Voting Right Act, and discussed the preconditions for claims under the act.
- 02:26:25 PM Mr. Barry responded to questions from the commission regarding the hierarchy of the criteria, the requirement for districts to have equal population, and political versus racial gerrymandering. He cautioned the commission to be cautious when reviewing maps from outside sources.
- 02:47:13 PM Mr. Barry continued by explaining the requirement that as much as possible the commission preserve whole communities of interest and whole political subdivisions, including counties, cities, and towns. He responded to questions from the commission on the issue.
- 03:00:00 PM The commission discussed communities of interest and how to gain information about them. Commissioners commented about communities of interest.
- 03:12:19 PM Mr. Barry continued by explaining that districts must be as compact as possible, and noted that there are mathematical formulas that can provide guidance on the issue. He discussed the requirements that the districts be competitive and not be drawn to protect a seat for a particular party. He discussed the history of congressional districts in the state and how they have changed in representation over time.
- 03:19:09 PM Commission discussion continued regarding the prohibition on drawing districts to favor one party or the other. He discussed the importance of developing a purpose and rationale in how districts in certain areas are drawn.
- 03:43:43 PM He explained that maps may not be drawn for the purpose of or resulting in the denial or abridgement of the right of any citizen to vote on account of that person's or membership in a language minority group. Mr. Barry responded to questions from the commission regarding differential privacy. Ms. Julia Jackson, Independent Redistricting Commissions Staff, noted that the Census Bureau has made changes to the differential privacy calculations and staff will provide more information on the changes in the near future.

03:52:30 PM

The commission reviewed topics of discussion for upcoming meetings. The commission discussed the impending release of the census redistricting data, and how to respond to media inquiries regarding the data and the potential for Colorado to gain a congressional district.

03:56:32 PM The committee adjourned.

