

Fort Collins – Colorado State University – July 17th, 2021

Date: 7/17/2021

Time: 12:16 PM to 3:09 PM

Place: Fort Collins

This meeting was called to order by:

Martha Coleman

Report was prepared by:

Zach Beaudoin

Attendance:

Hunter Barnett E

Heather Barry X

John Buckley X

Jolie Brawner X

Moussa Diawara X

Paula Espinoza X

Kevin Fletcher X

Samuel Greenidge X

Carly Hare X

Constance Hass X

Gary Horvath X

Jason Kelly X

William Leone X

JulieMarie Shepherd Macklin X

Amber McReynolds E

Danny Moore X

Blanca Uzeta O'Leary X

Carlos Perez X

Lori Smith Schell X

Robin Schepper X

Simon Tafoya X

Lisa Wilkes E

Chairs

Martha Coleman X

Aislinn Kottwitz X

12:16 PM Chair Coleman called the meeting to order.

12:19 PM Chair Kottwitz gave a personal introduction to the public.

12:20 PM The chairs played the redistricting introductory video for the public.

12:31 PM The chairs read their rules and procedures for the hearing.

12:36 PM Russell Connelly, representing self, testified. Mr. Connelly asked the commissioners to put Larimer County into a district with Weld County.

12:40 PM Commissioners asked Mr. Connelly questions about communities of interest and how those within Larimer and Weld Counties are connected.

12:43 PM Ed Haynes, representing self, testified. Mr. Haynes discussed the educational make up of House District 59 and 60 and suggested that K-12 students and college students are separate communities of interest that aren't accounted for in the preliminary districts.

12:49 PM Jody Shaddock-McNally, Larimer County Commissioner, testified. Commissioner Shaddock-McNally testified that Larimer County is diverse and unique with many public lands and economic and land management partnerships. She asked for commissioners to keep Larimer whole in the redistricting.

12:53 PM Commissioners asked Commissioner Shaddock-McNally questions about the district Larimer County will be represented within if the preliminary maps were to be adopted.

1:00 PM Commissioners continued asking Commissioner Shaddock-McNally questions.

1:03 PM Yara Zokaie, representing self, testified. Ms. Zokaie testified that Windsor's community make up is a community of interest and fears that it will become difficult for the residents to remain there if housing prices go up. Ms. Zokaie testified that she doesn't believe Windsor's current districts allow the area to advocate for their interests due to being districted with rural areas.

1:06 PM Commissioners asked Ms. Zokaie questions about her testimony.

1:10 PM MaryKay Morrison, representing self, testified. Ms. Morrison proposed a revision to the districts that break the house districts into three specific communities of interest.

1:15 PM Ben Aste, representing self, testified. Mr. Aste testified that he is concerned about having three districts and believes that it dilutes the interests within the community. Mr. Aste testified that people want Ft. Collins to be in two districts.

1:19 PM Cody Jeanneret, representing self, testified. Mr. Jeanneret testified that he likes the idea of drawing districts so that there is a college part of Ft. Collins separate from the residential part of the city. He believes that those are two communities of interest.

1:21 PM Janet Juell, representing self, testified that there are two distinct communities in Fort Collins, one centered around Colorado State University. Ms. Juell asked commissioners to make the three districts into two.

1:25 PM Commissioners asked Ms. Juell questions on her testimony.

1:28 PM Melanie Potyondy, representing self, testified. Ms. Potyondy testified about keeping Boulder and Larimer County districted together. She believes that they have grown together over the years and share interests and values.

1:31 PM Commissioners asked Ms. Potyondy questions about her testimony.

1:33 PM David Burks, representing self, testified. Mr. Burks testified that he would not like to dilute the interests of Larimer and Weld counties. He gave specific examples of how he would like to remake the maps.

1:37 PM Commissioners asked Mr. Burks to submit a map with his comments so they can evaluate them better.

1:39 PM Steve Olson, representing self, testified. Mr. Olson testified that connecting Weld and Larimer counties would be better than keeping Boulder and Larimer counties together.

1:43 PM Commissioners asked Mr. Olson how the oil and gas industry has impacted the area's connections.

1:47 PM Kristi Smiley, representing self, testified. Ms. Smiley proposed map changes that she believes better represent the Ft. Collins area.

1:51 PM Natasha Carr, representing self, testified. Ms. Carr testified that she believes that Larimer and Weld counties are more aligned than Boulder and Larimer counties.

1:54 PM James Fitzgerald, representing self, testified, Mr. Fitzgerald testified that he agreed with the map changes submitted by Ms. Morrison.

1:57 PM Linae Warden, representing self, testified. Ms. Warden testified that she believes that there is good reason to have three districts for Larimer County to represent those that aren't a part of Ft. Collins.

2:01 PM Jon Nicholas, representing self, testified. Mr. Nicholas testified that he believes communities of interest should be focused on geography, environmental interests, economic interests, and cultural similarities.

2:05 PM Commissioners began asking Mr. Nicholas questions on his testimony and to submit his comments in writing.

2:12 PM Ft. Collins City Councilmember Tricia Canonico, representing self, testified. Councilmember Canonico stated that Larimer and Boulder counties should be districted together. She said that Boulder and Larimer Counties have communities of interest that Larimer and Weld Counties don't have together.

2:15 PM Commissioners asked City Councilmember Canonico questions.

2:21 PM Kevin McNaught, representing self, testified. Mr. McNaught testified that he has many clients in tech and engineering located on the south side of Ft. Collins. He argued that they should be another community of interest.

2:25 PM Commissioners asked Mr. McNaught questions about his community.

2:27 PM Steve Tool, representing self, testified. Mr. Tool testified about this time on the Reapportionment Commission in 2011 and recapped a letter he would like commissioners to evaluate after the census data is released.

2:34 PM Commissioners asked Mr. Tool questions about his redistricting experience.

2:44 PM Gary Young, representing self, testified. Mr. Young testified that he agreed with most speakers and believed there should be two districts in Ft. Collins. He stated that he likes the senate district keeping Ft. Collins whole. He also asked that Larimer and Weld Counties should be together.

2:48 PM Kristen Grazier, representing self, testified. Ms. Grazier testified that there are many commonalities between Larimer and Boulder counties but believes that culture-wise they are incompatible. She added that she feels there is affinity with Larimer and Weld Counties rather than with Boulder.

2:53 PM Wade Troxell, representing self, testified. Mr. Troxell testified that Weld and Larimer Counties informally coordinate services and work together to address common issues. He offered his experience and insight from his career as Mayor of Ft. Collins and a City Councilmember.

2:58 PM Commissioners asked Mr. Troxell questions and asked him to submit his thoughts online.

3:06 PM Mr. Tool appealed to the chair to add an additional comment. He testified on using the I-25 corridor as a dividing line to demonstrate communities of interest.

3:09 PM The public hearing adjourned.