



Minutes of the Redistricting Commission Meeting
January 1, 2012

Hearing Room 4, John A. Cherberg Building, 304 15th Ave, Olympia, Washington
Broadcast and Webcast Live on TVW

Commission Members Present:

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| Lura Powell, Chair | Dean Foster | Tom Huff |
| Tim Ceis | Slade Gorton | |

Commission Members Absent:

None

Commission Staff Present:

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| Bonnie Bunning | Genevieve O'Sullivan | Nick Pharris |
| Heather Boe | Rachel Gay | Ryan Wilke |

Other Attendees:

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| Adam Bartz, House Democratic Caucus | Amy Ruble, House of Representatives |
| Rusty Fallis, Assistant Attorney General | Brad Shannon, The Olympian |
| Steven Garrett, House/Senate Democratic Caucus' | Don Skillman, House Republican Caucus |
| John Milem, Citizen | Jim Troyer, Senate Republican Caucus |
| Ryan Moore, Senate Republican Caucus | David Valiant, Pierce County Elections |
| Joann Poysky, Citizen | Emily Walters, House Democratic Caucus |

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. with Lura Powell presiding as Chair.

2. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 27, 2011, DECEMBER 28, 2011, AND DECEMBER 29, 2011

The minutes for December 27, 2011 were presented by the Chair for approval.

Motion: Commissioner Gorton moved to approve the minutes.

In favor: Commissioners Ceis, Foster, Gorton, and Huff.

Against: None.

The minutes for December 28, 2011 were presented by the Chair for approval.

Motion: Commissioner Ceis moved to approve the minutes.

In favor: Commissioners Ceis, Foster, Gorton, and Huff.

Against: None.

The minutes for December 29, 2011 were presented by the Chair for approval.

Commissioner Tom Huff expressed concern about the lack of details in the minutes and suggested adding more detail on the maps presented. Commissioner Tim Ceis agreed and thought the minutes could reflect the maps that were presented by using the labels and dates at the top of the handouts.

3. MATTERS PERTAINING TO REDISTRICTING

Ms. Bonnie Bunning, Executive Director, reviewed the proposed draft resolution which has some additions from the previous draft. Chair Powell asked if the commissioners agreed with the modifications. Commissioner Foster said he had concerns about subsection 6 of 9 where it gives the auditors some freedom to make changes freely and he hoped it was limited. Commissioner Slade Gorton suggested adding language that said “no population” or “not more than two or three people.”

Commissioner Huff asked where this language came from. Ms. Bunning said it came from Mr. Pharris’ suggestion to eliminate auditor concerns. Commissioner Ceis suggested limiting auditor changes to nine people or fewer. Mr. John Milem, citizen, suggested that auditors won’t care about it if there is no population involved. Chair Powell suggested bringing it back with clarification.

Ms. Bunning shared an updated draft copy of the final report for commissioner review and comment. Ms. Bunning also shared and reviewed a revised timeline. Chair Powell suggested scheduling a teleconference meeting on the morning of January 4, 2012 for the purpose of approving the report. Ms. Bunning suggested signing a postdated letter of conveyance to the Legislature at today’s meeting.

Chair Powell called for a recess at 11:08 a.m. until noon.

Mr. Nick Pharris, Commission Staff, responded to inquiries from commissioners about the language in the resolution about county auditors and it was agreed to let the language stand as originally written.

Mr. Pharris reviewed a presentation titled “Eastern Washington Legislative Proposal: Trapped Polygon Analysis.” Commissioner Ceis asked if Mr. Pharris’ analysis included Mr. Milem’s comments. Mr. Pharris said it didn’t and would take him about two hours to prepare a presentation to include Mr. Milem’s comments.

The Commission went to recess from 1:14 p.m. to reconvene at 3:15 p.m. The recess was extended and the Commission reconvened at 4:25 p.m.

Mr. Nick Pharris provided a presentation titled “John Milem’s Legislative District Comments.” Mr. John Milem clarified that after all the changes, the largest district is 49 over and the smallest district is 40 over.

The Commission recessed at 4:52 p.m. and reconvened at 5:16 p.m.

Mr. Pharris asked commissioners to confirm that they were okay moving two people from the 7th legislative district to the 13th legislative district with the rest of Lincoln County to keep all of Lincoln County together as a whole. Commissioners agreed.

The Commission recessed at 5:18 p.m. and reconvened at 9:48 p.m.

Chair Powell asked Nick Pharris to display the maps.

Mr. Pharris presented the proposed legislative map.

Chair Powell read the following statement “For purposes of motions relating to the adoption of the plan, the term “plan” refers to the Washington State Redistricting Plan captioned C-JOINTSUB_2-1 for the congressional and L- JOINTSUB_3-2 for the legislative.” Chair Powell asked if there was a motion for approval of the portion of the plan relating to legislative districts.

Motion: Commissioner Gorton moved to approve the legislative map.

In favor: Commissioners Ceis, Foster, Gorton, and Huff.

Against: None.

Mr. Pharris stated that there was a small technical note with the congressional plan involving the boundary for the 8th and 9th. He explained that the agreed upon change to make the congressional boundary match the eastern city limit line of the city of Kent rather than Big Soos Creek could not be done for technical reasons, but that there was no effect on population either way.

Commissioner Ceis clarified that the map they would be adopting would draw lines along Big Soos Creek.

Motion: Commissioner Ceis moved to approve the congressional map.

In favor: Commissioners Ceis, Foster, Gorton, and Huff.

Against: None.

Chair Powell asked for a roll call vote for approval of the plan and the resolution.

Motion: Commissioner Foster moved to approve the plan and resolution.

In favor: Commissioners Ceis, Foster, Gorton, and Huff.

Against: None.

Commissioner Gorton said he was planning to introduce an amendment to renumber the congressional districts but given the late hour and the difficulty getting the maps, he did not. He also said he had a resolution recognizing the contributions by John Milem.

Commissioner Foster also acknowledged John Milem’s contributions.

Commissioner Huff thanked John Milem and his wife, the staff, and the citizens. He stated that, although he feels that our redistricting is a great process, it needs some fixing. He feels

that the process is too long, too costly, and the January 1 completion deadline keeps families from enjoying the holidays together. The length of the process could be reduced to six months, cutting the budget in half. He encourages legislators to consider changing the timeline.

Commissioner Ceis added his thanks to John Milem and the Commission staff. He thanked Steven Garrett, Adam Bartz, and Emily Walters.

Motion: Commissioner Gorton moved to approve the resolution recognizing the contributions by John Milem.

In favor: Commissioners Ceis, Foster, Gorton, and Huff.

Against: None.

Commissioner Gorton thanked Chair Lura Powell.

Chair Powell announced that the Commission will hold a teleconference meeting on January 4, 2012.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

A transcript of the public testimony will be published on the Commission's website at <http://www.redistricting.wa.gov/forums.asp> and can be viewed as a webcast at http://twv.org/index.php?option=com_twvplayer&eventID=2012010041.