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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, SUE E. GARCIA, a Certified Court Reporter in and for the State of Washington, residing at Tacoma, authorized to administer oaths and affirmations pursuant to RCW 5.28.010, do hereby certify:

That the foregoing proceedings were taken before me on the 14th of November, 2011, and thereafter transcribed by me by means of computer-aided transcription, that the transcript is a full, true, and complete transcript of said proceedings;

That I am not a relative, employee, attorney, or counsel of any party to this action or relative or employee of any such attorney or counsel, and I am not financially interested in the said action or the outcome thereof;

IN WITNESS HEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this November 21, 2011.


SUE E. GARCIA, CCR, RPR
WA Lic. No. 2781

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WASHINGTON COMMISSION

SPECIAL MEETING

November 14, 2011

Cherberg Building
Olympia, Washington

Taken Before:

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of
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APPEARANCES

- LURA POWELL - CHAIRWOMAN
- TOM HUFF - COMMISSIONER
- TIM CEIS - COMMISSIONER
- SLADE GORTON - COMMISSIONER
- DEAN FOSTER - COMMISSIONER
- RUSTY FALLIS - ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL
- GENEVIEVE O'SULLIVAN - COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR
- BONNIE BUNNING - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
- HEATHER BOE - EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

NOTE: (As read) - paraphrased quote
(Indiscernible) = words heard but not understood

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1 BE IT REMEMBERED that on Monday, November 14, 2011, at
2 10:34 a.m., at 304 15th Avenue, Cherberg Building,
3 Olympia, Washington, the following proceedings were
4 had, to wit:

5
6 * * * * *

7
8 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Good morning and welcome
9 to this meeting of the Washington State Redistricting
10 Commission. My name is Lura Powell, and I'm chairman
11 of the Commission.

12 And I would like to have folks up here on the dais
13 go down and introduce each of themselves.

14 Bonnie?

15 MS. BUNNING: I'm Bonnie Bunning, and I'm the
16 executive director for the Commission.

17 MR. FALLIS: I'm Rusty Fallis with the
18 Attorney General's Office. I'm general counsel to the
19 Commission.

20 COMM. GORTON: Slade Gorton, commissioner
21 appointed by Senate Republicans.

22 COMM. CEIS: Tim Ceis, appointed by the
23 Senate Democrats.

24 MS. O'SULLIVAN: Genevieve O'Sullivan,
25 communications director for the Commission.

1 COMM. HUFF: Tom Huff, appointed by the House
2 Republicans.

3 COMM. FOSTER: I'm Dean Foster, and I was
4 appointed by the House Democrats.

5 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. Thank you.

6 Our first order of business is approval of the
7 minutes of November 8th. It was sort of a quick
8 turnaround. But have you all had a chance to look at
9 the -- the minutes? And if so, let me know if there
10 are any additions or corrections.

11 COMM. FOSTER: I move they be approved.

12 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. It's been moved
13 that the minutes be approved. Do I have any further
14 discussion?

15 Okay. All those in favor say "aye."

16 COMMISSION MEMBERS: Aye.

17 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Opposed? Okay. We have
18 minutes.

19 Okay. The next item of business is Matters
20 Pertaining to Redistricting. And I would like to ask
21 the other commissioners if they have any reports to
22 make.

23 COMM. GORTON: Tim?

24 COMM. CEIS: Sure. Yeah. So the -- the
25 Senate representatives have met on three different

1 occasions, I think, to discuss the northwest part of
2 the state, Districts 42, 40, 38, 10, 39, 32, 21, and 1.
3 Did I leave anybody out?

4 COMM. GORTON: 44 did you say?

5 COMM. CEIS: 44. Thank you. I do not want
6 to forget the 44th.

7 I think we made really very significant progress.
8 We have some -- still a little bit of work to do. But
9 I think the progress was very significant, and, in
10 fact, so significant I think we're ready to discuss our
11 next group of districts we might want to take on.

12 COMM. GORTON: Yes. Madam Chairman, I agree.
13 We took that assignment that came up at last week and
14 did the best job we could at reconciling the two plans
15 that the Democratic commissioners and Republican
16 commissioners had come up with. And while there's
17 still a bit of work left, I think we're a long way
18 there. And I second what Tim has said, that we're
19 willing -- we're -- we're ready to take on the next set
20 south because, of course, that affects the south end of
21 what we've already done and is one of the things still
22 remaining and work on that this week.

23 COMM. CEIS: And as always, it's still a
24 work-in-progress.

25 COMM. GORTON: It's a work-in-progress, and

1 nothing's final till everything's final. But we're
2 quite encouraged.

3 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. How about the two
4 of you?

5 COMM. HUFF: Dean and I have met four times,
6 I guess. And, you know, it's interesting when you're
7 working with this much detail that it takes a while to
8 work out some of the technical issues, which -- we
9 fortunately have done that, and we made overall quite
10 good progress. And we, too, are continuing to meet to
11 see if we can get this all buttoned up in the next few
12 days and then move on into the next regional section
13 that we're discussing. And we'll bring that up a
14 little bit later.

15 COMM. FOSTER: I have nothing to add to that
16 report. I agree.

17 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. So it sounds like
18 we're ready to talk about the next pieces that you all
19 want to add to your list.

20 COMM. CEIS: Yeah. I think that would be the
21 next step 'cause --

22 COMM. GORTON: Yeah.

23 COMM. CEIS: -- I think we're both saying
24 we're ready to go to work on the next groupings, that
25 we should identify which those are going to be.

1 I mean, for us it would make sense for us to
2 continue to go south from where we left off, as -- as
3 Commissioner Gorton said, and probably to start coming
4 down the east side of Lake Washington.

5 COMM. GORTON: Or both sides of Lake
6 Washington.

7 COMM. CEIS: Or both sides.

8 COMM. GORTON: Yeah.

9 COMM. CEIS: Move down into King County
10 towards Pierce County. I don't think we want to go
11 past the Pierce County line --

12 COMM. GORTON: Nope.

13 COMM. CEIS: -- on this next group.

14 Maybe you guys should start moving up into Pierce
15 county with your next group.

16 COMM. FOSTER: That seems to make sense.
17 That would be 2, 25, 27, 29, 31, and 28, I think.

18 COMM. GORTON: Yeah.

19 COMM. CEIS: 31.

20 COMM. FOSTER: 31?

21 COMM. CEIS: Yeah.

22 COMM. FOSTER: I had them out of order. I
23 read them out of order. So 2, 25, 27, 29 -- 28, 29,
24 and 31.

25 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Is 27 one or is 20 --

1 COMM. FOSTER: 27.

2 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: 27, 28, and I'm sorry.

3 COMM. FOSTER: 29 and 31. There's six of
4 them.

5 COMM. HUFF: I guess the question there is:
6 who would deal with 30? We had an original list, and
7 I don't know --

8 COMM. GORTON: I think 30 was on your list
9 originally, wasn't it?

10 COMM. HUFF: Originally, yeah. But I -- but
11 that's been added back to --

12 COMM. FOSTER: It seems to me like 30's more
13 of a King County district, and 31 sort of probably
14 overlaps the -- the two.

15 COMM. GORTON: We're going to have to meet --

16 COMM. CEIS: Have to meet somewhere, so --

17 COMM. FOSTER: Somewhere we have to meet.

18 Yeah.

19 COMM. CEIS: So 30's fine if you had to put
20 it in our group.

21 COMM. GORTON: But we'll work south towards
22 that.

23 COMM. HUFF: Yeah.

24 COMM. CEIS: Okay.

25 COMM. HUFF: It's a race to the finish.

1 COMM. CEIS: It's a race to the Pierce County
2 line, the King-Pierce line.

3 COMM. HUFF: Yeah. There you go.

4 COMM. CEIS: And so then we would be
5 proposing to take all those districts in King County,
6 at least --

7 Is that what you're suggesting, Dean?

8 COMM. HUFF: That --

9 COMM. FOSTER: I was -- I wasn't proposing
10 that you take, I guess I'd call them, the Seattle
11 districts; although, you might need to work on 11. I
12 would have left the Seattle districts to finish up with
13 Eastern Washington. But I'm not hung up on either one
14 of that.

15 COMM. CEIS: We can do that. That's --

16 COMM. GORTON: That's fair.

17 COMM. HUFF: When you start looking at the
18 numbers, there's a considerable difference between the
19 number you would take care of versus us. So there
20 might be a meeting of minds on a couple of those areas.
21 But I'd --

22 COMM. GORTON: First.

23 COMM. HUFF: No big bag with me.

24 COMM. CEIS: We can start there.

25 COMM. GORTON: Yeah.

1 COMM. CEIS: And if we finish, we'll let you
2 know.

3 COMM. GORTON: Yeah.

4 COMM. CEIS: And we'll still go off to the
5 races.

6 So that would be 45, 41 -- I'm not doing this in
7 order.

8 COMM. GORTON: 48.

9 COMM. CEIS: 48.

10 COMM. GORTON: 5.

11 COMM. CEIS: 5, 47.

12 COMM. GORTON: 47.

13 COMM. FOSTER: 30?

14 COMM. CEIS: 30.

15 COMM. GORTON: No.

16 COMM. CEIS: That would bring you --

17 COMM. FOSTER: And 11 maybe.

18 COMM. CEIS: Definitely needs to be 11.

19 COMM. GORTON: Probably 11.

20 COMM. CEIS: Yeah. 11 needs to be in that
21 group. 5.

22 COMM. FOSTER: So repeat that again.

23 COMM. CEIS: 5, 11, 41, 45, 47, 48.

24 COMM. GORTON: Yeah.

25 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: And then you're both

1 going to look at 30?

2 COMM. FOSTER: Do you have 44?

3 COMM. GORTON: I think probably when we --

4 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: who did 30?

5 COMM. GORTON: -- start running into each
6 other --

7 COMM. FOSTER: Yeah.

8 COMM. GORTON: -- we're going to have to do
9 it a little differently.

10 COMM. CEIS: Yeah. It'll be a little --
11 we'll leave 30 out there and figure it out.

12 I'm sorry, Dean. You had --

13 COMM. FOSTER: No. I was thinking aloud.

14 COMM. CEIS: Okay. Yeah. That's six
15 districts.

16 If we have to take a look at 30, you guys won't
17 object, will you?

18 COMM. FOSTER: No. Or I don't object.

19 COMM. HUFF: I'm -- fine with me.

20 COMM. CEIS: Okay. So add 30 to our list?

21 COMM. GORTON: If we get there.

22 COMM. CEIS: If we get there, yeah.

23 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: So at what point do you
24 think you'll have some sort -- something to actually
25 visually show?

1 COMM. HUFF: well, I think we hope to have it
2 by the next commissioner meeting, which will be
3 Tuesday, for the north.

4 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay.

5 COMM. HUFF: we're going to make every effort
6 to do that.

7 COMM. GORTON: We would like to do that.

8 COMM. CEIS: we'll see. Yeah. Maybe.
9 Depends on how much progress we make again and what
10 we're ready to present.

11 COMM. GORTON: Yeah.

12 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. what's your --
13 what are your thoughts on the congressional and taking
14 a look at that? Because it just -- it just seems to me
15 that you're almost -- it'd be easier -- maybe that's a
16 naïve thought on my part -- to, you know, sort of --

17 COMM. GORTON: To draw 10 rather than 49?

18 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Huh?

19 COMM. GORTON: To draw 10 rather than 49?

20 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Yes. And, you know,
21 some -- I mean, some of the -- the issues will be
22 different, obviously, but some of them may have similar
23 connotations. So . . .

24 COMM. FOSTER: well, I think we're all
25 thinking legislative right now. And we shouldn't

1 interrupt that pattern. And we still have two -- two
2 sections of the state to do, even after we've divvied
3 up our second round of assignments. And we'll get to
4 congressional.

5 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: well, I mean, any
6 thoughts?

7 I mean, I guess one of the things that I -- if
8 things move along real quickly on the legislative --
9 and I'm hoping they will -- I think that's great. I
10 just was thinking that if indeed it's going to be a
11 slower process, it might be good if the congressional
12 could be considered a little bit earlier. At least
13 then we have something out before the public that they
14 can be taking a look at.

15 COMM. GORTON: well, of course, that's the
16 whole -- was our whole reason for a November goal.
17 So -- you know, so that there would be a gap. As my
18 fellow commissioners know, I would have liked to have
19 done congressional first. The others don't. And now
20 we're on legislative, and we're making progress on it,
21 and I think it probably ought to have priority.

22 COMM. HUFF: well, I would tend to agree
23 because right now we have got 49 districts that are a
24 pretty full plate to be dealing with. And the
25 congressional, of course, I think, is another plate

1 that we need to deal with. And I don't know if we
2 would necessarily want to have both plates on the table
3 at the same time. So I tend to think that we're on the
4 right course of doing the legislative and -- and making
5 progress and getting that out of the way and then --
6 and then doing the congressional. But time will tell,
7 I guess.

8 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Yeah. well, as long as
9 we're making good progress, I think that that will
10 work.

11 COMM. CEIS: And we -- you know, we still
12 have not agreed to what the process for dealing with
13 the congressional map is going to be. So I don't think
14 we can assume it's this same process. So we're going
15 to have to have some discussion of that, as well.

16 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Yeah.

17 COMM. CEIS: I just agree with all the other
18 commissioners. we're focused on the legislative map.
19 It's making some progress, pretty good progress. I
20 think we should stick with it.

21 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. well, you can just
22 keep it -- noodling on it in the back of your minds.

23 COMM. GORTON: Okay.

24 COMM. CEIS: Never far from our minds.

25 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: That's good to hear.

1 COMM. HUFF: I put it under my pillow every
2 night.

3 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: That's good.
4 Redistricting version of the Tooth Fairy will come and
5 deliver you a plan.

6 COMM. FOSTER: And I'd be happy to call you
7 in the middle of the night when I wake up thinking
8 about this if you'd like a -- a nightly report. I
9 don't usually start till 4:00.

10 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Oh, that's good, Dean.

11 COMM. FOSTER: Yeah.

12 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: I'll just wait.

13 Okay. Is there -- are there any other matters
14 that anyone would like to have considered at this time
15 or talk about?

16 Okay. So you ready to get back to work?

17 COMM. GORTON: Yes.

18 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Good. Okay. Any
19 other --

20 Okay. Let's -- we just have one person signed up
21 for public comment today, and that is John Milem.

22 So, John, if you'd like to come forward.

23 Oh, yeah. I do have a couple of comments, also,
24 on the web, but I'll cover them after.

25 Go ahead, John. You can start.

1 MR. MILEM: My name is John Milem, J-o-h-n
2 M-i-l-e-m. I live in Vancouver, and I am an advocate
3 for redistricting in the public interest.

4 I have today for you the beginning of my analysis
5 on the legislative -- on the legislative plans that
6 you've offered -- that is not the four individual plans
7 but the two plans offered by the pairs of
8 commissioners -- comparing those with mine. And
9 basically it's the same song, just another verse.

10 There are provisions in the state constitution and
11 in the state redistricting statute that are intended to
12 discipline this process. And I would just like to
13 encourage you to comply with them.

14 Thank you.

15 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Thank you.

16 And we have two comments online. And one is from
17 Chad Lupkes. And his -- he says, (as read) "My comment
18 on whether the Commission should address the CD plans
19 is that once the LD plans are completed it might be
20 easier to create the Congressional Districts based on
21 those lines."

22 And one came from Amanda Taub, who said, "Douglas
23 County is almost ready to comment on the Legislative
24 plans for Districts 12 and 13. We are anxious to see
25 the 2 options for the Congressional plans." So . . .

1 COMM. CEIS: (Indiscernible).

2 COMM. GORTON: Yes.

3 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: And that's -- that's it.

4 COMM. FOSTER: With regard to that first
5 comment, of course, we're -- we have 49 legislative
6 districts and 10 congressional districts, and you just
7 can't draw 'em by legislative lines. When we had seven
8 legis- -- congressional districts, that was done that
9 way. But it -- it's pretty difficult now to
10 superimpose congressional lines on legislative lines.

11 He's got -- in other states where -- where it
12 evens up, I think that probably happens, but . . .

13 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Uh-huh.

14 COMM. CEIS: I would also -- I thought I
15 heard that correctly. They're just getting ready to
16 comment on the legislative plans from Douglas County's
17 perspective? Is that what they said?

18 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Yes.

19 COMM. CEIS: I would encourage them to hurry
20 up. We're moving quickly to that area.

21 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. I think that's it
22 for our public comment.

23 Are there any other issues to come before the
24 Commission today?

25 COMM. HUFF: We're planning on having meeting

1 a week from this coming Tuesday, right?

2 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Yes. We will have it
3 next -- next Tuesday at 10:30 a.m.

4 COMM. HUFF: 10:30? Okay.

5 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Yes.

6 COMM. HUFF: Same place, same station, right?

7 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: I believe so.

8 MS. BUNNING: Not exactly.

9 MS. BOE: Next door, hearing Room 4.

10 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: It will be Hearing Room 4
11 at 10:30 a.m. next Tuesday.

12 COMM. HUFF: Okay.

13 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. Well, thank you
14 all for coming. And we are adjourned.

15 (Proceedings concluded at 10:50 a.m.)
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