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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 6th of December, 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 WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this December 12, 2011.


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

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WASHINGTON STATE REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

SPECIAL MEETING

December 6, 2011

Cherberg Building
Olympia, Washington

Taken Before:

SUE E. GARCIA, CCR # 2781, RPR
Registered Professional Reporter
of
Capitol Pacific Reporting, Inc.

2401 Bristol Court SW, #A-104, Olympia, WA 98502
Tel (360) 352-2054 Fax (360) 705-6539
Toll Free (800) 407-0148

Tacoma (253) 564-8494	Seattle (206) 622-9919	Aberdeen (360) 532-7445	Chehalis (360) 330-0262	Bremerton (360) 373-9032
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e-mail: admin@capitolpacificreporting.com
www.capitolpacificreporting.com

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APPEARANCES

- LURA POWELL - CHAIRWOMAN
- TOM HUFF - COMMISSIONER
- TIM CEIS - COMMISSIONER
- SLADE GORTON - COMMISSIONER (by telephone)
- DEAN FOSTER - COMMISSIONER
- RUSTY FALLIS - ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL
- GENEVIEVE O'SULLIVAN - COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR
- RYAN WILKE - PROJECT ANALYST

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

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1 BE IT REMEMBERED that on Tuesday, December 6, 2011, at
2 10:31 a.m., at 304 15th Avenue, Olympia, Washington,
3 the following proceedings were had, to wit:

4
5 * * * * *

6
7 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: well, good morning, and
8 welcome this meeting of the Washington State
9 Redistricting Commission. My name is Lura Powell, and
10 I'm chair of the Commission.

11 And I'd like to have everyone introduce
12 themselves. I'd like to start with Commissioner
13 Gorton, who is calling in by phone from the East Coast.

14 COMM. GORTON: Hi, Slade Gorton rep --
15 appointed by Senate Republicans.

16 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: And, Dean?

17 COMM. FOSTER: I'm Dean Foster appointed by
18 the House Democrats.

19 COMM. HUFF: Tom Huff appointed by the House
20 Republicans.

21 MS. O'SULLIVAN: Genevieve O'Sullivan,
22 Communications Director.

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

25 MR. FALLIS: Rusty Fallis, general counsel to

1 the Commission.

2 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. The first order of
3 business is approval of the minutes of November 22nd
4 and 29.

5 So let's start with November 22nd minutes. And
6 I'd like to ask if there's any additions or corrections
7 to those minutes.

8 COMM. HUFF: Move we approve.

9 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. Have a motion to
10 approve.

11 Any other discussion?

12 All those in favor say "aye."

13 COMMISSION MEMBERS: Aye.

14 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. Opposed?

15 Okay. Next one is November 29th minutes. And
16 I'd like to ask if there's any additions or corrections
17 to those minutes.

18 If not, can I hear a motion for approval?

19 COMM. FOSTER: So moved.

20 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. It's been moved to
21 approve the minutes of November 29th.

22 Any additional discussion?

23 All those in favor?

24 COMMISSION MEMBERS: Aye.

25 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. So we have

1 minutes.

2 And now, Dean?

3 COMM. FOSTER: Madam Chair?

4 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Yes.

5 COMM. FOSTER: I would like to take a point
6 of personal privilege to recognize a person that many
7 of us have known for a long time, Joan Thomas, who died
8 last week.

9 Joan -- I first met Joan in 1963 during a
10 redistricting process, and she was on the board of the
11 League of Women Voters at the time, later became
12 president, throughout her career did a lot of things.
13 There was an obituary this morning in *The Seattle Times*
14 by Lynda Mapes that covers her career. But I just
15 wanted to say something about her involvement in
16 redistricting.

17 The League of Women Voters at that time had just
18 come off an initiative a few years earlier, and then
19 1963 there was -- there was a lot of things going on.
20 And Joan Thomas was the kind of person who strongly
21 pushed for redistricting reform and yet was always
22 trusted by, I believe, both political parties to
23 represent the League of Women Voters and the progress
24 that was about to happen in restricting.

25 I think she and Kitty Prince and Lois North and

1 Mary Ellen McCaffree all were -- were real giants in
2 the development of the redistricting process in this
3 state. A couple of them went on to be elected
4 legislators. A couple, including Joan and Kitty, did
5 their work more in private or volunteer.

6 And I just think that people need to know that we
7 lost somebody last week who was very strong in this
8 state and made a difference. And I just thank Joan and
9 her family for all of the time that she spent on the
10 redistricting process and throughout the rest of her
11 career.

12 Thank you.

13 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. Thank you.

14 COMM. GORTON: I'd like to -- I would like to
15 add to that. Dean, that was a great tribute.

16 I met Joan Thomas under the same circumstances and
17 at the same time. And I think -- she and the people
18 who worked on that there in the 1960s have a great deal
19 to do with the fact that we have a commission system
20 now. And I agree with you that she'll be greatly
21 missed.

22 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. Thank you both for
23 that nice tribute.

24 Okay. Our next item on the agenda is to review
25 and approve a contract for map design. And I would

1 like to call on Ryan Wilke of -- one of our GIS
2 analysts, to discuss that. You have that in your
3 packet; it is the salmon-colored sheet.

4 MR. WILKE: Madam Chair, Commissioners, I'm
5 here to seek your approval of a small contract, a copy
6 of which has been supplied in the packet the commission
7 staff has given to you, that we would like to use to
8 help the -- with the design of the final map, which
9 will be the communication tool in place until the next
10 commission is convened ten years from now. We are
11 capable of making a map, to be sure, but we think the
12 addition of consultation from a map-design and
13 communications professional will allow the map to do an
14 excellent job of informing and educating a range of
15 audiences over the next decade.

16 The commission staff is recommending that the
17 commission contract with freelance graphic and map
18 designer Luis Prado in order to help produce a final
19 map that is clear and user-friendly. We would be
20 contracting Luis Prado for the amount of \$4,900 at \$100
21 an hour.

22 The process in which we've prepared the contract
23 is in line with best practices and ethics law. The
24 contract has been reviewed by Assistant Attorney
25 General Rusty Fallis as well as the ethics board

1 commission.

2 Following Rusty's review, he has referred us to a
3 section in the Washington Administrative Code
4 417-01-155(2) that states, "The votes of any three of
5 the commissioners shall be required for any official
6 action of the Commission."

7 with your approval we'll be able to move forward
8 in the contracting of Luis Prado and the final map
9 production.

10 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Thank you, Ryan.

11 Are there any questions for Ryan?

12 COMM. HUFF: Is this an open bid, or how was
13 this arrived at?

14 MR. WILKE: I'm sorry. Can you --

15 COMM. HUFF: Was this an open bid?

16 MR. WILKE: It was not. Because the contract
17 was under \$5,000, an open bid was not necessary.

18 COMM. FOSTER: Can you give us a little
19 background on Luis Prado or what he's done or why he
20 knows about maps?

21 MR. WILKE: For the past, I believe, 20 years
22 or so he's been working with the DNR producing maps for
23 them. And he's also worked as a freelance designer
24 producing maps for other companies. And we believe his
25 work is -- is -- is much better than any other

1 candidates we've took a peek at.

2 COMM. FOSTER: So you did interview other
3 potential contractees?

4 MR. WILKE: We -- we looked around on résumé
5 websites to see if there were any other graphic
6 designers that had similar map experience, and we did
7 not find other candidates with similar experience.

8 COMM. HUFF: The only man in town, huh?

9 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: From my understanding
10 from talking with Bonnie, who regrettably can't be here
11 'cause she had surgery last Friday --

12 COMM. HUFF: Oh.

13 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: But she -- she has been
14 familiar with his work from a past experience and
15 seeing some of what he has done. And it's -- he does
16 very high quality work, which is what's important.

17 Rusty, did you have any other comments from your
18 review, or . . . ?

19 MR. FALLIS: No.

20 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. Unless there's
21 some other questions or comments, can I hear a motion
22 for approval?

23 COMM. FOSTER: I move we approve the contract
24 as on the pink sheet or orange or whatever color it is.

25 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Salmon.

1 COMM. FOSTER: what color is that?

2 COMM. HUFF: Salmon.

3 COMM. FOSTER: Salmon. Salmon.

4 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. we have -- we have
5 a motion for approval of the personal-services contract
6 under discussion.

7 Is there -- are there any further questions or
8 comments?

9 Hearing none, I'd like to take a vote. All those
10 in favor say "aye."

11 COMMISSION MEMBERS: Aye.

12 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Opposed?

13 Okay. Thank you.

14 Okay. Our next item of business is matters
15 pertaining to redistricting. And I think, as many of
16 you are aware, you know, we have -- our commissioners
17 have split into bipartisan teams and are working on
18 different sections of the state. And then we'll bring
19 their work together to try to merge it in a -- during a
20 commission meeting.

21 So I would like to sort of get an update from the
22 various teams and see how -- what progress you've made.

23 And let's see. who did we start with the last
24 time? I can't remember.

25 COMM. HUFF: The House.

1 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: We started with the
2 House. So the Senate. So Slade and Tim.

3 COMM. CEIS: So I think we reported last time
4 to you that we were working on districts from the
5 Pierce County boundary north to Canada, west of the
6 Cascades to Puget Sound, and that we had narrowed our
7 issues down to just a handful of districts we were
8 struggling with and trying to resolve our differences.

9 Travel schedules limited our ability to have any
10 discussions beyond a couple of meetings. But I will
11 report that we have narrowed our differences even
12 further, and we are now down to just a couple of issues
13 that we need to resolve before we're prepared to move
14 on to the next assignment.

15 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. And do you think
16 that will be this week you'll be able to --

17 COMM. CEIS: I'm hopeful. I'll let
18 Commissioner Gorton speak to his schedule when he --
19 when he -- I know that we're going to try to get
20 together at the end of this week and see if we can't
21 resolve that finally and then be ready to go.

22 I will say that I will be not in attendance at
23 the -- at the Commission meeting next week. I'll have
24 to phone in I'll be in D.C. myself. So I --

25 COMM. GORTON: We should have been in D.C. at

1 the same time, Tim. That's where I'm calling from now.

2 COMM. CEIS: Yeah, I know. So, bad
3 scheduling, Slade.

4 COMM. GORTON: Yes, sir, it sure is.

5 I would just -- you know, I would agree with Tim.
6 We're down to just a couple of issues. There --
7 they're tough. I'll be home by noon on Thursday. And
8 we'll keep our fingers crossed that we'll have
9 something positive to report to you next week.

10 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. That would be very
11 good news.

12 COMM. GORTON: I'm sure, Madam Chairman.

13 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. So the House side,
14 who would like to start?

15 COMM. HUFF: Well, we continue making nominal
16 gains, and we have some tentative agreements. There --
17 as the other two gentlemen have mentioned, we have a
18 few bottlenecks. And I think this week will be an
19 important week to get moving on to bigger and better
20 things. Certainly our sessions have been congenial,
21 but without total progress.

22 And I know we got 25 days left, which isn't a
23 whole lot, and so I'm really looking forward to a
24 really meaningful week of negotiating and getting
25 around some of these bottlenecks that we've been faced

1 with.

2 COMM. FOSTER: I was thinking about
3 suggesting that, since Tim and Slade are going to
4 Washington, D.C., maybe Tom and I should go to Hawaii
5 and we could wrap this up. But . . .

6 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: If that's what it takes,
7 Dean.

8 COMM. FOSTER: We'll --

9 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: I'll give you --

10 COMM. FOSTER: We'll be here a lot this week,
11 and the phones work back and forth between here and
12 Tom's place. So I think we're making progress.

13 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. So do you think
14 maybe, like the Senate two, that you'll have something
15 for us concrete by next Tuesday?

16 COMM. HUFF: You're asking Dean?

17 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: I'm asking both.

18 COMM. FOSTER: This is a long process, and I
19 always -- I started hoping that a long time ago. But
20 we're not there yet. I'm not going to make any
21 promises.

22 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Well, I'm not asking for
23 promises. I'm just --

24 COMM. FOSTER: Well, sounded --

25 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: -- asking for --

1 COMM. FOSTER: It sounded pretty definitive.

2 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: I'm asking for -- for
3 hopeful, "We're going to try real hard."

4 COMM. FOSTER: We are trying hard. Let me --
5 let me assure you the frustration that people might
6 have is equal on this side. And we're trying as best
7 as we can to represent our -- represent our positions
8 as well as we can, and sometimes we run into
9 bottlenecks.

10 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. Is there any --
11 anything else to come under this section of business?

12 I mean, I am -- I'm pleased to hear that things
13 are moving along after the impasse of last week. So
14 that's -- that's very good. And I -- I'm hoping that
15 we will have something very positive by next Tuesday.

16 Okay.

17 COMM. FOSTER: Nobody used the word "impasse"
18 this week either.

19 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: That -- that's what I
20 mean. Yeah. But I would like to get rid of the
21 "nominal."

22 Okay. Okay. Our next section of business is
23 public comment. And do we have anyone signed up to
24 speak?

25 MR. ANDERSON: May I?

1 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. Please come
2 forward. Make sure you state your name and spell it
3 for the record.

4 MR. ANDERSON: Madam Chair, Commissioners,
5 thank you for this opportunity to comment. My name is
6 David Anderson, D-a-v-i-d A-n-d-e-r-s-o-n.

7 And since last week's comment about impasse I've
8 been wondering about what it is that is making this so
9 hard to do and why is it taking so long to get through
10 the first section of your districting plans and not --
11 and why is -- why is it dragging on.

12 And it's fairly apparent to me that it is -- what
13 is causing these -- these bottlenecks, these conflicts,
14 is that your focusing on doing what you're -- doing
15 what you're not supposed to do, basically, and that's
16 protecting incumbents, protecting political parties,
17 and focusing on creating some token districts that
18 would be minority-majority districts.

19 I think that what has been asked of you by the
20 legislature is to -- is more of an administrative task,
21 that just to create a plan instead of a -- a political-
22 design task. You're not here to design our -- redesign
23 out state but just administratively redistrict what
24 we're supposed to do with what we're supposed to have
25 and be constitutional.

1 I think it's kind of -- what is dragging this
2 process out is the fact that you've taken it behind the
3 curtain of public meetings, taken it behind the public
4 record, and you're -- and it's -- it's forcing you to
5 put your egos into this process, and you're not in the
6 public light, the sunshine, and negotiating out in
7 public.

8 I think the people of Washington state would be
9 better served if you all four sat down, or five sat
10 down, and just hash it out. This is a plan that could
11 be done by this Friday if you wanted to get it done. I
12 think you'd all have a better Christmas, I'm sure, and
13 I think that the voters in Eastern Washington, where
14 30 percent of the voters live, would feel better that
15 they saw how this plan was negotiated. I think that
16 the vote -- the districts that are not be districted
17 right now would see what is drawing their lines.

18 Right now we have no idea what is causing these
19 bottlenecks, what you are negotiating. You've been
20 silent about that matter. I think it's the People's
21 business. So I hope you choose to bring it forward and
22 put it in the sunshine, open it up to public
23 disclosure. And -- and good luck. It's tough work.

24 I've brought some little Washington state salmon
25 quarters. Give you something to -- a coin to flip and

1 make a decision. But I'm happy to give those to you if
2 you'd like.

3 But I hope you really seek more help from the
4 public. People here are rooting for you and really
5 want you to succeed here. But I think that when you
6 isolate yourselves from the -- the rest of the public
7 and the public input, it -- it creates a lot of
8 cynicism.

9 So that's all I have to say. Thank you.

10 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Thank you for your
11 comment.

12 Anyone else like to speak?

13 Okay. Is there any other business to come before
14 the Commission today?

15 Okay. Hearing none, we are adjourned.

16 COMM. GORTON: Thank you.

17 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Thank you, Slade, for
18 calling in.

19 (Proceedings concluded at 10:48 a.m.)
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