



**PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES - OCTOBER 15, 2021**  
**8:36am**

**In Attendance:**

**Location:** Sheraton Crescent Hotel  
2620 W. Dunlap Ave.  
Phoenix, AZ 85021

Chairwoman Erika Neuberg  
Vice-Chair Derrick Watchman  
Commissioner Shereen Lerner  
Commissioner David Mehl  
Commissioner Douglas York

Executive Director, Brian Schmitt  
Deputy Director Lori Van Haren  
Public Information Officer, Michelle Crank  
Community Outreach Coordinator, Alex Pena

Roy Herrera, Esq. Ballard Spahr  
Danielle Arrelano, Esq. Ballard Spahr  
Brett Johnson, Esq. Snell & Wilmer  
Eric Spencer, Esq. Snell & Wilmer  
Mark Flahan, Timmons  
Brian Kingery, Timmons  
Doug Johnson, NDC Research  
Ivy Bellar-Sakansky, NDC Research  
Debbie Wilks (AM) Angela Miller (PM) Transcriptionists

I. Call to Order and Roll Call ([:35 YouTube](#))

- A. Call for Quorum
- B. Call for Notice

Present:

Chairwoman Neuberg  
Vice-Chair Watchman  
Commissioner Lerner  
Commissioner Mehl

A quorum is present.

Executive Assistant Valerie Neumann confirmed that the meeting agenda was properly posted at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

II. Approval of minutes from Oct. 12, 2021 *(2:11 YouTube)*

A. General Session

B. Executive Session (none)

Commissioner Mehl motioned to approve the General Session Minutes from Oct. 12, 2021, and Vice-Chair Watchman seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0.

III. Opportunity for Public Comments *(3:04 YouTube)*

At 8:39am Chairwoman Neuberg opened public comments and indicated that public comments would be open for a minimum of 30 minutes and would remain open until the adjournment of the meeting.

IV. Discussion on Public Comments received prior to the Oct. 15, 2021 meeting. *(3:49 YouTube)*

Commissioner Mehl addressed several comments made regarding the IRC holding one of the public hearings at a hotel he owned, which Mehl stated was sold 31 years ago. The Commissioners commented on the volume of feedback that has been submitted by the public and how appreciated it is.

V. Potential update, discussion, and potential action concerning polarization data and report presentation from mapping consultants regarding U.S. and Arizona Constitutional Requirements. *(6:08 YouTube)*

Doug Johnson from Timmons/NDC stated that he is hopeful to have the Polarization Report ready for the Commission on Monday, Oct. 18, 2021.

VI. Potential report from staff and mapping consultants regarding public outreach, utilization of mapping software, and report on public map submissions. *(7:09 YouTube)*

Mark Flahan from Timmons/NDC stated that there are currently 80 published maps that have been submitted digitally. Flahan demonstrated how to use the mapping software competitive and demographics metrics.

VII. Draft Map decision discussion and possible action concerning revisions to the Grid Map.

[\(32:23 YouTube\)](#)

- A. Legislative Map Drawing
- B. Congressional Map Drawing

The mapping team introduced the changes directed by the Commission at the last meeting to the Legislative map.

Commissioner Lerner motioned to approve the Legislative Map 2.0 as a starting point for the day, and Vice-Chair Watchman seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously, 5-0.

The mapping team introduced the changes directed by the Commission at the last meeting to the Congressional map.

A motion was made to make Congressional map 2.1 a starting point for deliberation by Commissioner Lerner, and seconded by Commissioner York. The motion was approved 5-0.

VIII. Executive Director's Report and discussion thereof. [\(4:21:05 YouTube\)](#)

- A. Draft Map Public Comment Meeting Discussion
- B. Public Records Update
- C. Budget Report
- D. Potential schedule of public comment period post Draft Map approval

A more thorough presentation of the items listed above will be addressed at a meeting next week.

IX. In Person Public Comments [\(23:40 YouTube\)](#)& [\(4:16:24 YouTube\)](#) *This item was addressed out of order*

Several members of the public attended the meeting to testify.

X. Next Meeting Date [\(6:22:16 YouTube\)](#)

The next meeting will take place on Monday, Oct. 18, 2021 from 8:00am until 4:00pm.

XI. Closing of Public Comments [\(6:22:28 YouTube\)](#)

Public Comments were closed at 2:28pm.

IX. Adjournment. [\(6:22:58 YouTube\)](#)

The meeting was adjourned at 2:59pm

Minutes taken by Valerie Neumann, Executive Assistant 10/15/21