



PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES - OCTOBER 28, 2021
9:37am

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, Michele Crank
Community Outreach Coordinator, Marie Chapple

Roy Herrera, Esq. Ballard Spahr
Danielle Arrelano, Esq. Ballard Spahr
Brett Johnson, Esq. Snell & Wilmer
Eric Spencer, Esq. Snell & Wilmer
Kim Portik & Angela Miller, Transcriptionists

Mark Flahan, Timmons
Brian Kingery, Timmons
Doug Johnson, NDC Research

I. Call to Order and Roll Call *(1:39 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. 26, 2021 *(3:09 YouTube)*

- A. General Session
- B. Executive Session

Commissioner Mehl motioned to approve the General Session and Executive Session Minutes from Oct. 26, 2021, and Vice-Chair Watchman seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0.

III. Opportunity for Public Comments *(3:54 YouTube)*

At 9:39am 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. 28, 2021 meeting. *(4:36 YouTube)*

The legal team provided an update as to several meetings that took place within the last week. A meeting with the Arizona Latino Coalition, the legal team, staff, and Chair Neuberg was held, in which information was obtained and solicited related to the Coalition's proposed districts.

The legal team had a conference this week with the legal team for the Navajo Nation, to hear their concerns and proposals for the maps.

The Commissioners thanked the public for their engagement, and advised the more data they receive, the better.

V. Potential update, discussion, and potential action concerning polarization data and report presentation from mapping consultants regarding U.S. and Arizona Constitutional Requirements. *(13:41 YouTube)*

The Commissioners received a Polarized Data report from the mapping team at Tuesday, October 26th meeting, and was presented with a supplemental analysis.

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

(21:26 YouTube)

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

The mapping team presented the requested changes to the Legislative maps to the Commission.

Commissioner Mehl motioned to move into Executive Session to obtain legal advice regarding VRA compliance and polarization. Commissioner Lerner seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0.

Upon returning from Executive Session, Chair Neuberg advised that the Commission received legal advice regarding VRA Compliance and polarization in regards to the Latino Coalition and Navajo Nation's requests.

After discussion on the updated versions of the Legislative maps, Commissioner Mehl motioned to approve Legislative Map 9.2 as a starting point, and Commissioner York seconded the motion. The motion did not pass, 2-3.

After further discussion, Commissioner Lerner motioned to approve Legislative Map 9.0 as a starting point for the day, and Vice Chair Watchman seconded the motion. The motion did not pass, 2-3.

After deliberation, Commissioner Mehl motioned to that Legislative Map 9.2 be a starting point for the day, and Commissioner York seconded the motion. The motion was approved, 3-2.

Moving on to Congressional maps, Commissioner York motioned to go into Executive Session to obtain legal advice regarding VRA compliance, polarization and performance as it pertains to the Congressional maps. Vice-Chair Watchman seconded the motion, and the motion was approved 5-0.

Upon returning from Executive Session, Chair Neuberg advised that the Commission received legal advice as to VRA compliance and polarization regarding the Congressional maps.

The mapping team presented the requested changes to the Congressional maps, and after discussion, Commissioner Lerner motioned to adopt Congressional Map 7.1. Vice-Chair Watchman seconded the motion, and the motion passed, 5-0.

Moving back to the Legislative maps, the mapping team presented the requested changes to the maps, and after discussion, Commissioner York motioned to adopt Legislative Map 10.0. Vice-Chair Watchman seconded the motion, and the motion was approved 5-0.

VII. Executive Director's Report and discussion thereof. *(7:11:03 YouTube)*

- A. 30 day public comment Listening Tour update
- B. Discussion of Final Map deliberation dates.

Staff is working on securing locations and dates for the draft map listening tour and will post to the website as soon as possible. The meetings that take place on Saturday's will begin at 10:00am, and the weekday meetings will begin at 6:00pm. Staff advises that the first meeting will take place on Sat. Nov. 6, 2021.

VIII. Next Meeting Date and Future Agenda Items. *(7:13:24YouTube)*

The first public hearing will be held on Saturday, Nov. 6, 2021 at 10:00am. The next business meeting will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 9, 2021 at 8:00am. (no business meeting Nov. 2, 2021).

IX. Closing of Public Comments *(7:14:18 YouTube)*

Public Comments closed at 4:50pm.

X. Adjournment. *(7:14:44 YouTube)*

Commissioner Lerner motioned to adjourn the meeting, and Commissioner Mehl seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 4:50pm.

Minutes taken by Valerie Neumann, Executive Assistant 10/28/21