

**MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING OF THE
ARIZONA INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION
February 16, 2001**

A public meeting of the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission was convened on Friday, February 16, 2001, 10:00 a.m., at the Capitol Center, Basement Conference Room B, 15 South 15th Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona, pursuant to public notice duly given.

Members Present: Steven W. Lynn, Tucson
Dan Elder, Tucson
Joshua Hall, St. Johns
Andrea (Andi) Minkoff, Phoenix
James Huntwork, Phoenix

Others: Scott Bales, Solicitor General
Joseph A. Kanefield, Assistant Attorney General
Terri Skladany, Attorney General's Office
Elaine LeTarte, Governor's Office
Christine Bronson, Arizona Department of Administration
Claudia Smith, Arizona Department of Administration
Robert A. Patterson, Arizona Department of Administration
Karen Osborne, Maricopa County Elections Department
Tim Johnson, Maricopa County Elections Department
David Mendoza
Matt Montoya, St. Johns
Bart Turner, League of Women Voters Valley Citizens League
Steve Gallardo, Latino Coalition for Political Action
Tony Sissons, Research Advisory Services, Inc.

- I. Chairman Steven W. Lynn called the meeting to order at approximately 10:00 a.m.
- II. Approval of the February 13, 2001 minutes. A motion was made by Commissioner Minkoff and seconded to accept the minutes as corrected. Motion unanimously carried.
- III. **Selection of Vice Chair.**

A motion was made by Commissioner Hall and seconded by Commissioner Elder to elect Commissioner Minkoff as Vice Chair. Unanimously carried.

IV. Public Service Orientation

Scott Bales introduced Elaine LeTarte from the Governor's Office to speak about matters pertaining to government ethics. Mr. Bales informed the Commission that Arizona statutes require a public service orientation that addresses a large number of topics. Because the program takes about four hours, the Commission will need to schedule training for later date.

Elaine LeTarte - Hands out packet from previous public service orientation.

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V. Presentation by Department of Administration

Mr. Bales introduced Christine Bronson, Claudia Smith, and Robert Patterson of the Arizona Department of Administration.

Christine Bronson, Personnel Manager - Explained her function as personnel manager and outlines the process by which the Commission would hire support staff and how the Department of Administration could assist in the hiring process.

Claudia Smith, Employee Relations Unit - Primarily responsible for strategic planning for personnel, employee relations, legislation review and monitoring. Ms. Smith explained the difference between uncovered employees and covered employees.

Robert A. Patterson, Tenant Improvement Manager, Building and Planning Services - Mr. Patterson described office space availability and informed the Commission of the services available by his department.

VI. Presentation by Arizona Attorney General's Office.

Mr. Bales provided and gave a brief description of the following materials to the Commission:

- List containing the Commissioners phone number and e-mail addresses
- Memo regarding "Communities of Interest" and Proposition 106
- Memo outlining Redistricting Timetable
- Memo regarding election law and the Attorney General's Office
- District-By-District Analysis of Arizona's 1992 Legislative Redistricting Plan as Proposed by the Legislature
- District Court Decision (828 F. Supp. 684 (D. Ariz. 1992))
- Summary of election law work performed in the Attorney General's Office

VII. Information about Census.

Materials provided by Mr. Bales to the Commission:

- Census 2000 Materials from the National Redistricting Seminar

Mr. Bales discussed how the Census Department will provide census information.

Public Comments

David Mendoza - Mr. Mendoza stated the Commission should consider hiring minorities to work for the Commission.

Matt Montoya - Mr. Montoya stated he was glad to have someone from his district on the Commission because felt better represented.

Bart Turner - Mr. Turner informed the Commission he was a lobbyist for the League of

Women Voters and worked to get Proposition 106 on the ballot and invited the Commission to use him as a resource. He urged the Commission to refrain from going into executive session as a way to gain the public's confidence.

VIII. Presentation by Maricopa County Elections Department.

Karen Osborne - Ms. Osborne explained her role as the Elections Director for Maricopa County and gave some history on the census data and redistricting boundaries.

Tim Johnson - Gave a presentation regarding computer software technology and how Maricopa County has merged the computerized census data with the Geographic Information System's computerized map-making data.

Recess for Lunch

IX. Presentation by Terri Skladany.

Ms. Skladany provided the following materials to the Commission:

- Statutory Conflicts of Interest with Conflict of Interest Disclosure Memorandum
- Public Records -- The Written and Spoken Word
- Handbook for Statewide Elected Officials

Ms. Skladany also discussed aspects of ethical decision-making.

Ms. Skladany explained the two sunshine laws (Open Meeting Law and Public Records Law) and their purpose. She further identified the two types of calls to the public and explained the differences.

In her presentation on public records, Ms. Skladany gave an overview of the law, discussed the application, scope, and effect of the legal standards, the different reasons for denying access to public records and the ramifications for refusal to disclose records. She further discussed the time frame for responding to requests and charges for copies.

In her presentation on statutory conflicts of interest, Ms. Skladany described the statutory standard and the reasons for the standard, the elements to evaluate in identifying a conflict of interest and what steps to take when a conflict occurs, and the ramifications for violating the conflict of interest prohibitions.

X. Selection of Counsel.

Discussion by the Commission on the hiring of counsel. Commissioner Hall asked that the matter be placed on the next agenda. Motion was made by Commissioner Hall to interview ten independent attorneys. Discussion on the motion. A motion was made by Commissioner Hall and seconded by Commissioner Minkoff that Commissioner Lynn work with Mr. Bales in preparing a solicitation for counsel and identify ten names - five Republicans and 5 Democrats who qualify with respect to election law for the Commission's determination.

Commissioner Elder modified the motion to reduce them to three names. Discussion on the motion. Commissioner Hall amended his motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Minkoff to request applications from counsel from both parties and to have all applications sent to every member of the Commission, which will convene at a future date for decision. Discussion on the amended motion. Amended Motion carried unanimously.

XI. Public Comment.

Tony Sissons - Research Advisory Services, Inc. - Mr. Sissons discussed his concerns with the election results data base format. Commissioner Lynn asked Mr. Sissons to put his concerns in writing for review and future discussion. Mr. Sissons provided the Commission with a one page fact sheet and four illustrations of the problem.

Steve Gallardo - Latino Coalition for Political Action - Mr. Gallardo suggested the Commission create a minority advisory committee to help with public outreach.

There was further discussion of selection of office space by the Commission. Commissioner Hall made a motion to accept the Department of Administration's proposed office space. Motion did not carry. Commissioner Hall made a motion that was seconded by Commissioner Elder that Commissioners Minkoff and Huntwork be the subcommittee to view the office space offered by the Department of Administration and make a determination. Motion carries unanimously.

XII. The next meeting is Friday, March 2, 2001, 9:30 a.m. Location to be determined.

XIII. Agenda items for next meeting:

- Presentation(s) from national consultants
- Technical support
- Historical perspectives
- Other redistricting commissions
- Presentation from Maricopa County Elections Department
- Election Representatives from 15 other locations
- Presentation by Department of Administration
 - Personnel: Hiring executive director, legal counsel, and staff
 - Office space
- Public Comment

XIV. Adjournment

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