



**PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES – December 9, 2021
9:03am**

In Attendance:

Location: Snell & Wilmer
400 E. Van Buren St., Phoenix, AZ 85004

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

Roy Herrera, Esq. Ballard Spahr
Danielle Arellano, Esq. Ballard Spahr
Brett Johnson, Esq., Snell & Wilmer
Eric Spencer, Esq., Snell & Wilmer
Debbie Wilks, Transcriptionist (AM)
Angela Miller, Transcriptionist (PM)

Mark Flahan, Timmons
Brian Kingery, Timmons
Parker Bradshaw, Timmons
Doug Johnson, NDC Research
Ivy Bellar-Sakansky, NDC Research

I. Call to Order and Roll Call *(1:02 YouTube)*

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

Present:

Chairwoman Neuberg
Vice-Chair Watchman
Commissioner Lerner
Commissioner Mehl
Commissioner York

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 Dec. 6, 2021 *(2:34 YouTube)*

- A. General Session
- B. Executive Session

Commissioner Lerner motioned to approve the General Session and Executive Session Minutes from Dec. 6, 2021; Commissioner York seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0.

III. Opportunity for Public Comments *(3:40 YouTube)*

At 9:06m 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 today's (Dec. 9, 2021) meeting. *(4:22 YouTube)*

The Commission spoke about how some of the comments suggest certain groups are partisan, and many of the comments and maps submitted by these groups are, and the Commission should not view these submissions as non-partisan. Protecting communities of interest is the driving force of the Commission, and the Commissioners state it can be done, but with impacts to the other constitutional criteria. The Commission will honor all six Constitutional Criteria and create as many competitive districts as possible.

V. Potential update, discussion, and potential action concerning polarization data and report presentation from mapping consultants regarding U.S. and Arizona Constitutional Requirements. *(12:05 YouTube)*

Doug Johnson from Timmons/NDC advised that there were no updates at this time for this item.

VI. Draft Map decision discussion *(12:27 YouTube)*

- Legislative Map Drawing
- Congressional Map Drawing

Vice-Chair Watchman moved to go into Executive Session to receive legal advice on polarization data; Commissioner Mehl seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously 5-0.

Upon returning from Executive Session, Chair Neuberg advised the public that the Commission received legal advice on polarization data and VRA compliance regarding the Congressional and Legislative maps.

Discussion was held about suggested changes to the Congressional maps.

Chair Neuberg motioned to go into Executive Session to receive legal advice on procedural issues; Commissioner Mehl seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0.

Upon returning from Executive Session Chair Neuberg advised the Commissioners received legal advice on a procedural issue with the maps.

After discussion, Commissioner Mehl motioned to adopt Congressional Map 8.1 as a starting point; Commissioner York seconded the motion. The motion was approved 3-2.

The Commissioners discussed and advised the mapping team to make CD Map 8.1 and directed the mapping team to make the specified changes to the Congressional maps for the Commissions review.

After discussion, Commissioner Mehl motioned to adopt Legislative Map 11.3 as a starting point; Commissioner York seconded the motion. The motion was approved 3-2.

After discussion, the Commissioners provided suggested changes to be made to the Legislative maps for their review.

VII. Next Meeting Date. *(7:43:12 YouTube)*

The next deliberation meeting will be held at 8:30am on Monday, December 13, 2021, at the Palomar Hotel in Phoenix.

VI. Closing of Public Comments *(7:43:55 YouTube)*

Public Comments closed at 4:46pm.

VII. Adjournment. *(7:44:20 YouTube)*

Commissioner Lerner motioned to adjourn the meeting; Commissioner Mehl seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 4:46pm.

Minutes taken by Valerie Neumann, Executive Assistant 12/09/21