



Minutes of the Redistricting Commission Special Meeting
December 13, 2011

Hearing Room A,B,C, John A. Cherberg Building, 304 15th Ave, Olympia, Washington
Webcast Live on TVW

Commission Members Present:

Lura Powell, Chair	Dean Foster	Tom Huff
Tim Ceis (Phone)	Slade Gorton	

Commission Members Absent:

None

Commission Staff Present:

Bonnie Bunning	Genevieve O'Sullivan	Nick Pharris
Heather Boe	Rachel Gay	Ryan Wilke

Other Attendees:

David Anderson, Citizen	Joann Poysky, Citizen
Adam Bartz, House Democratic Caucus	Brad Shannon, The Olympia
Rusty Fallis, Assistant Attorney General	Kelly Singh, Senate Republicans Caucus
Steve Garrett, Senate/House Democratic Caucus	Don Skillman, House Republican Caucus
John Milem, Citizen	K-Y Su, House Republican Caucus
Ryan Moore, Senate Republican Caucus	Emily Walters, Senate Democratic Caucus

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:32 a.m. with Lura Powell presiding as Chair.

2. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 6, 2011 MEETING MINUTES

The minutes for December 6, 2011 were presented by the Chair for approval.

Motion: Commissioner Foster moved to approve the minutes.

In favor: Commissioners Ceis, Foster, Gorton, and Huff.

Against: None.

3. APPROVAL OF DRAFT RESOLUTION

Ms. Bonnie Bunning, Executive Director, presented a draft resolution and explained that the first page had no changes since the last time it was presented. She explained that there were changes on the second page to eliminate the fifth paragraph which is an apparent holdover from earlier decades. She said there was also a subtle change to the sixth paragraph with changing the word "intends" to "recognizes." This change more accurately reflects the role of the Commission acting within its given authority. The rest of the changes are just renumbering the resolution clauses. There were no changes to the attachment. The new

wording reflects changes pursuant to discussion with Mr. Rusty Fallis, Assistant Attorney General. Commissioner Dean Foster expressed concern about removing the paragraph. Mr. Fallis said he was not concerned with the removal of the paragraph and makes the document more efficient. He said the change in wording was subtle but important.

The Commissioners were in general consensus with the document but agreed that it should remain a draft. Commissioner Tim Ceis will review the document and let Ms. Bunning know if there are any further suggested changes.

4. MATTERS PERTAINING TO REDISTRICTING

Commissioner Foster said the House subcommittee made fantastic gains this last week despite the fact that their staff had major computer problems over the weekend. He thought they were within a final quality control check of being done in their assigned area, which was Western Washington, south of King County and the Peninsula down to Clark County. Commissioner Tom Huff agreed. He said they should complete their assignment today and will be ready to work with the Senate team.

Commissioner Slade Gorton said the Senate subcommittee is ready to present their proposal to the House team as soon as they are ready. He said they are ready to move on to their next assignment. Commissioner Tim Ceis said he agreed with Commissioner Gorton. He suggested scheduling another special meeting for this Friday, December 16. Commissioner Gorton suggested the meeting be at 9:30 a.m. or 1:45 p.m. Commissioner Foster said he preferred the morning. Chair Powell suggested the Commission meet at 9 a.m. to make sure there is adequate time. Ms. Bunning confirmed that staff would be available to help and would have adequate time to be ready.

Commissioner Foster suggested assignments for the remaining legislative and congressional districts. Commissioner Gorton said he and Commissioner Ceis will move on to congressional while Commissioners Foster and Huff will finish the legislative districts that include Eastern Washington.

Chair Powell suggested that additional maps would be welcome on Friday.

Chair Powell also discussed the timeline and what the January 1 deadline really means and Ms. Bunning discussed the statutes which call for the deadline.

Commissioner Huff asked how much time the staff would need to finalize the plan after they have signed the resolution. Ms. Bunning said it would be best if the Commission had the plan finalized by Christmas and that it would take a week to prepare the plan for final adoption.

Commissioner Ceis thought a week was too generous. He wanted to come back to this on Friday with the minimum amount of time needed to turn the plan around.

Commissioner Foster said they have to sign the resolution by midnight on January 1. Commissioner Gorton asked if that is what happened ten years ago. Commissioner Foster said they met on January 1 and approved the plan. Ms. Bunning repeated the statutory requirement.

Chair Powell said though we don't have to let the auditors' review the plan, she would like to see that happen.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

John Milem

Duane Berg (Online)

Paul Wagemann (Online)

A transcript of the public testimony will be published on the Commission's website at <http://www.redistricting.wa.gov/forums.asp> and can be viewed as a webcast at http://tvw.org/index.php?option=com_tvoplayer&eventID=2011120001.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned at 11:08 a.m.