



Minutes of the Redistricting Commission Meeting  
December 29, 2011

Hearing Room 4, John A. Cherberg Building, 304 15th Ave, Olympia, Washington  
*Broadcast and Webcast Live on TVW*

**Commission Members Present:**

Lura Powell, Chair  
Tim Ceis

Dean Foster  
Slade Gorton

Tom Huff

**Commission Members Absent:**

None

**Commission Staff Present:**

Bonnie Bunning  
Heather Boe

Genevieve O'Sullivan  
Rachel Gay

Nick Pharris  
Ryan Wilke

**Other Attendees:**

David Anderson, Citizen  
Adam Bartz, House Democratic Caucus  
Tim Burns, 30<sup>th</sup> Legislative District  
Cherry Cayabyab, United for Fair  
Representation  
Richard Champion, Citizen  
John Paul Chaisson-Cordenas, Latino  
Community Fund  
George Cheung, United for Fair  
Representation  
Ross Gallagher, Mason County  
Steven Garrett, House/Senate Democratic  
Caucus'

Lorena Gonzalez, Latino PAC  
Douglas Kerley, Lynnwood  
Fe Lopez, Latino Bar Association of WA  
Geoffery McAnallo, 30<sup>th</sup> Legislative  
District  
Sharon Maeda, Citizen  
John Milem, Citizen  
Joann Poysky, Citizen  
Amy Ruble, House of Representatives  
Don Skillman, House Republican Caucus  
Jim Troyer, Senate Republican Caucus  
David Vain  
Emily Walters, Senate Democratic Caucus

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 10:39 a.m. with Lura Powell presiding as Chair. Chair Powell provided a brief update on the status of the Commission's deliberations and the process being used to compile the current legislative and congressional district proposals. She also provided a summary of requirements the Commission is to use in creating districts.

**2. MATTERS PERTAINING TO REDISTRICTING**

Commissioner Huff presented a proposal (Commissioner Huff Legislative Plan December 29) along with demographic information and handouts. Commissioner Huff indicated that his proposal was the same proposal that had been presented to him on the previous day by Commissioner Foster, December 28, 2011 (Tentative Agreement with Foster Proposal LD 14-15 Legislative Plan 28 December), with one exception. Commissioner Huff said he

replaced that portion of the December 28<sup>th</sup> proposal that had come from Commissioner Foster's September 13, 2011 map (Commissioner Dean Foster Legislative Plan #1) with the map of where the two commissioners had been with their most recent negotiations. Commissioner Huff also made a presentation showing the development of negotiations up to the point where he and Commissioner Foster were before Commissioner Foster decided he wanted to go public with a new map on December 28<sup>th</sup> (December 28 Eastern Washington Foster Proposal.) Commissioner Huff indicated that he and Commissioner Foster had good negotiations up to that point, but that the discussions about the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> legislative districts were contentious. Commissioner Huff indicated that he had no problem with the 15<sup>th</sup> legislative district including a majority of Hispanic people.

Commissioner Foster stated the map Commissioner Huff presented (Commissioner Huff Legislative Plan December 29) was new to him. Commissioner Foster presented his map (December 28 Eastern Washington Foster Proposal) and demographic data (including handouts) dated December 28, 2011. Commissioner Foster pointed out an error on the demographic spreadsheet, indicating that the title "City Splits" should have read "County Splits."

Commissioner Ceis also handed out a proposal (Ceis-December 29 Eastern Washington Reintroduction: Joint Dem-October 14) which he stated may look familiar to the other commissioners. He wanted to illustrate that with the 15<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> legislative districts they were able to create compact contiguous districts that respected communities of interest. They used public testimony from the Tri Cities and it also resulted in two majority Latino legislative districts. He put this back on the table to illustrate that it is possible to create logical contiguous, compact, boundaries and recognize the growth in Latino population in central Washington.

Commissioner Huff thought they needed more background. Within a few days of the January first deadline, he said they were within 1% of final agreement on the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> districts when Commissioner Foster decided he wanted walk away and go public. Commissioner Huff said Commissioner Foster's decision to walk away was a surprise. Commissioner Huff stated that the tactic was a major setback and could jeopardize 11 months of Commission work. Commissioner Huff said that in the initial roll out he had proposed five majority minority legislative districts which were Districts 11, 15, 29, 33, and 37. Commissioner Foster proposed four which were 9, 11, 15, and 37. Commissioner Huff supports bringing the 29<sup>th</sup> legislative district back into the discussion.

Commissioner Foster said his map includes Sunnyside and Grandview, but does not include Prosser. He didn't think splitting Spokane County into five legislative districts was necessary. Commissioner Foster said he doesn't believe he would use the word "agree" with where they were in their negotiations.

### **3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chair Powell read Webcast comments from December 28.

**Congressional:**

Ryan (Online)  
Sue Lani Madsen (Online)  
Amanda Taub (Online)

**Comments received during today's meeting:**

**Congressional**

Douglas Kerley, Lynnwood  
John Milem  
Ross Gallagher, Mason County  
Collin Jergins (Online)  
Brian Goss (Online)

**Legislative**

Douglas Kerley, Lynnwood  
Richard Champion  
Tim Burns  
Amanda Taub (Online)

**Legislative:**

Matt Watkins (Online)  
Sue Lani Madsen (Online)  
Patty Enzer (Online)  
Ryan Grant (Online)

Geoffery McAnallo  
David Anderson  
Matt Watkins (Online)  
George Cheung, Win/Win Network  
Lorena Gonzalez  
Tino Gallegos (Online)  
Fe Lopez  
John Paul Chaisson Cardenas  
Sue Lani Madsen (Online)  
Karen Martin (Online)  
Cherry Cayabyab, Win/Win Network  
David Vain

Commissioner Ceis suggested a recess for lunch.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT (CONTINUED)**

Ryan Graham, Medical Lake (Online)

The Commission recessed from 12:35 p.m. to 3:05 p.m.

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\\_tvwplayer&eventID=2011120095](http://tvw.org/index.php?option=com_tvwplayer&eventID=2011120095).

**5. MATTERS PERTAINING TO REDISTRICTING (CONTINUED)**

Commissioners Ceis and Gorton, Senate team members, said they have been having some discussions but do not have recommendations yet. Commissioners Foster and Huff, House team members said they have also been having discussions but don't have any decisions yet.

Commissioners discussed and agreed to meetings on Saturday, December 31 at 10:30 a.m. and Sunday, January 1 at noon.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned at 3:09 p.m.