



Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission

Commission members:

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Staff:

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Research Analyst
Joe Kolman
Research Analyst
Ginger Aldrich
Attorney
Laura Sherley
Secretary

MINUTES LOG

August 1, 2019
Room 137, Capitol Building
Helena, Montana

Please note: This document is a Minutes Log and provides a notation of the time elapsed between the beginning of the meeting and the time at which the item was presented or discussed, a motion was made, or a vote was taken. The narrative presented here is provided only as a guide to the audio or video record of the meeting. The official discussion, motion, or vote is available on the audio or video archive of this meeting. The Legislature does not prepare a transcript of meeting activities. The time designation may be used to locate the referenced discussion on the audio or video recording of this meeting.

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Please contact the Legislative Services Division at 406-444-3064 for more information.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Sheila Stearns - Chair
Jeff Essmann
Joe Lamson
Dan Stusek
Kendra Miller

COMMITTEE MEMBERS EXCUSED

STAFF PRESENT

Rachel Weiss, Research Analyst
Joe Kolman, Research Analyst
Ginger Aldrich, Attorney
Laura Sherley, Secretary

VISITORS' LIST ([Attachment 1](#))

AGENDA ([Attachment 2](#))

COMMISSION ACTIONS

CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL

13:30:19 Commissioner Stearns called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. The commission secretary took roll ([Attachment 3](#)).

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

13:32:00 Commissioner Stearns asked staff to introduce themselves and reviewed commission meeting guidelines.

Member Introductions

13:35:30 Commissioner Essmann
13:38:19 Commissioner Lamson
13:41:03 Commissioner Miller
13:44:31 Commissioner Stusek
13:47:16 Commissioner Stearns reviewed member title protocols and voting procedures.

Public Introductions

13:49:45 Leonard Wortman, Jefferson County Commissioner
13:49:54 Tom Cherry, Helena
13:49:58 Dan Ellison, Helena
13:50:10 Tim Ravndal, Redoubt News

RECAP OF LESSONS LEARNED AT RECENT REDISTRICTING SEMINAR

13:51:02 Commissioner Stearns ([Exhibit 1](#))

Commission Questions/Discussion

14:23:43 Commissioner Lamson and Commissioner Essmann reviewed talking points from the redistricting seminar.
14:34:37 Commissioner Stearns asked Ms. Weiss to share her observations from the seminar.
14:36:20 Commissioner Stusek asked how the Supreme Court's districting decisions affected the seminar presentations.
14:39:03 Commissioner Miller asked for clarification on how overseas military members are counted in the census.
14:40:46 Commissioner Stearns asked Ms. Weiss to clarify the definition of resident population.

BREAK (Reconvened at 2:49 p.m.)

MONTANA CENSUS & ECONOMIC INFORMATION CENTER (CEIC)

14:49:36 Mr. Kolman

Commission Questions

14:52:30 Commissioner Stearns asked what the subcommittees are under the CEIC.

14:52:55 Mr. Kolman continued his presentation.

Commission Questions

14:53:23 Commissioner Essmann asked how many staff members are on the CEIC board.

OVERVIEW OF OPEN MEETING AND PUBLIC RECORDS REQUIREMENTS

14:54:39 Ms. Aldrich ([Exhibit 2](#))

Commission Questions

15:04:55 Commissioner Lamson asked for clarification on commission work emails.

15:06:01 Ms. Aldrich continued her presentation.

Commission Questions

15:11:40 Commissioner Essmann asked for clarification on the email retention policy and what constitutes commission business.

15:13:52 Commissioner Miller asked for clarification on what constitutes commission business within member only email chains.

15:14:37 Commissioner Lamson asked for clarification on articles shared to members via email.

15:15:43 Commissioner Essmann commented on what constitutes commission business.

15:16:41 Commissioner Stearns asked if email communication with a constituent is considered commission business and needs to be retained.

15:17:58 Commissioner Essmann asked for an update on the status of a legal case and asked for a copy of the case details to be delivered to the commission.

15:18:37 Commissioner Stusek asked if there have been public records requests made of members in past commissions and what retention policies did past commission's follow.

15:20:12 Commissioner Miller asked what a public record request can look like and what information can be asked.

15:21:40 Commissioner Lamson asked if telecom or public comment over phone will be accepted in this commission ([Exhibit 3](#)).

INITIAL REVIEW OF DRAFT GLOSSARY

15:23:20 Commissioner Stearns ([Exhibit 4](#))

PUBLIC COMMENT

15:24:12 Leonard Wortman, Jefferson County Commissioner

15:25:04 Commissioner Lamson commented on Mr. Wortman's work.

COMMISSION DISCUSSION

15:25:40 Commissioner Stearns asked the commission to comment on possible agenda items and focused study topics for future commission meetings.

15:29:20 Ms. Weiss reviewed previous commission's meeting dates, the commission's draft time line, and staff availability for meetings dates ([Exhibit 5](#)) ([Exhibit 6](#)) ([Exhibit 7](#)).

15:32:53 Commissioner Stearns asked the commission to share any comments, questions, or advise they might have on future agenda items.

15:33:29 Commission discussion on future agenda items and the commission's draft meeting and work time line.

15:52:58 Commissioner Stearns reminded the members to fill out their forms for business cards and asked Ms. Weiss when the members should deliver their expense forms ([Exhibit 8](#)) ([Exhibit 9](#)).

- 15:54:26 Commissioner Essmann commented on the overview of open meeting and public records requirement presentation ([Exhibit 10](#)) ([Exhibit 11](#)).
- 15:55:41 Commissioner Essmann asked if the commission needs copies of the Rules, Procedures, and Guidelines for Interim Committees that was adopted by Legislative Council (see Exhibit 3).
- 15:57:25 Commissioner Lamson asked Ms. Weiss if the previous commission adopted the Mason's Manual of Procedure meeting requirements.
- 16:00:19 Commissioner Stearns asked Ms. Weiss to send a copy of the Commission Operating Procedures to the commissioners ([Exhibit 12](#)).
- 16:00:52 Commissioner Essmann asked for a list of interested parties emails.

ADJOURNMENT

- 16:01:58 Commissioner Stearns adjourned the meeting at 4:01 p.m.

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