



INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE  
Minutes – September 1, 2021

Regular Members:

Jennifer Waggoner (District 1)  
Alan Laisure (District 1)  
LaRece Rivera (District 1)  
Natalie Fisher (District 2)  
George Grier (District 2)  
Rebecca DesPrez (District 2)  
Morgan Munro (District 3)  
Natalie Dybens (District 3)

Regular Members:

James Torrey (District 4)  
Linda Hamilton (District 4)  
Madison Newell (District 4)  
Tony Corcoran (District 5)  
Ashley Pelton (District 5)  
Kevin Cronin (District 5)

Alternate Members:

Stefan Ostrach (District 4)  
Laura Fenimore (District 4)  
Ellen McKean (District 5)

Absent: Vincent Murphy (District 3)

Staff: Judy Williams, Strategy and Integration Manager, Laura Holtgrieve, Executive Assistant

Guests: Cheryl Betschart, County Clerk; Steve Dingle, County Counsel

1. Ms. Williams called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. and led introductions.
2. Public comment: There were no public comments.
3. Voting for a Chair and Vice Chair:  
Ms. Williams opened the floor for committee Chair nominations. Member Torrey nominated Morgan Munro. Member Corcoran seconded the motion. Member Munro accepted the nomination. The motion was unanimously approved among voters present.

Chair Munro then led the meeting and opened the floor for committee Vice Chair nominations. Member Cronin nominated Member Dybens. Member Newell seconded the motion. Member Pelton nominated herself. Nominees stated why they'd be a good candidate for Vice Chair. The committee voted as follows:

Member	Candidate	Member	Candidate
Waggoner	Dybens	Laisure	Pelton
Rivera	Dybens	DesPrez	Pelton
Fisher	Dybens	Corcoran	Pelton
Grier	Dybens	Pelton	Pelton
Dybens	Dybens	Munro	Pelton
Torrey	Dybens		
Hamilton	Dybens		
Newell	Dybens		
Cronin	Dybens		

Member Dybens received the majority of the votes and will be the Vice Chair for this committee.

4. Minutes Approval:

Chair Munro asked if there was any discussion or adjustments on the draft committee minutes from August 27, 2021. Hearing none, she requested a verbal vote to approve the minutes. The minutes were unanimously approved among voters present.

5. Timelines:

Ms. Williams reported that the redistricting timeline is available on [lanecounty.org](http://lanecounty.org) on the Independent Redistricting Advisory Committee page. She reviewed the five phases, timeframes and tasks. There is a tentative date of September 21, 2021 to present the committee bylaws to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC).

Ms. Betschart reviewed the elections timelines and shared that she is expecting legislature to send the census data around September 27, 2021. Boundary lines start with the state, then county, then by school districts. The work the committee is doing is based on census data population. Elections work is based on the number of registered voters. County staff will work closely with the committee on the work that needs to be achieved during this redistricting process. Ms. Williams will send the committee a state website link with resources and videos regarding redistricting.

6. Draft Bylaws and Alternates Discussion:

Alternate member Fenimore asked what the process will be for the alternates. Counselor Dingle shared that it's up to the committee to decide. He recommends allowing the alternates to participate in the meetings and discussions so they are up-to-speed on matters should they need to sit in for a committee member.

Counselor Dingle reviewed the draft bylaws which will be presented to the BCC on September 21, 2021 for approval. Member Cronin stated that Article 2 states that there is a limited number of maps the committee can send to the BCC. In 2011 the committee sent seven maps to the BCC and the BCC came up with an eighth map. Does the committee want to limit the number of maps presented to the BCC? Counselor Dingle shared that the BCC has an ordinance for two to four maps. The BCC wants the committee to come up with plans, rank the choices and provide pros, cons and rationale.

Chair Munro asked what reporting frequency (Article 2d) the committee wanted to report to the BCC. After discussion, Chair Munro suggested monthly.

Article 2a: Member Cronin shared that Article 2a should be amended to state three to five plans to match the ordinance.

Article 3: Member Corcoran pointed out the typo's in Article 3B1 (an ability not and ability); B3 (An ability.)

Article 4: Member Cronin recommended when vacancies occur, alternates should be seated in the order they were ranked by the committee. The committee agreed.

- Member Cronin stated that alternates should be able to stand in for members in case they run into a quorum issue. The committee agreed.
- The committee discussed issues around proposed meeting schedules.
- Member Cronin requested revising the wording to, "vacancies and absences" for the purpose of promoting alternates. And update the wording (for quorum purposes) that alternates would stand in if a voting member was absent (not just to make a quorum).
- Members Fisher and Cronin asked if a quorum had been identified. After discussion, Chair Munro stated that in the case of an absence by one of the 15 full committee members, the

alternate would stand in and would be able to vote. The alternate would be pulled in by the order they were ranked. Member Torrey approved the recommendation. Ms. Hamilton seconded. Chair Munro took a verbal vote. The recommendation was unanimously approved by the committee.

Article 4B – no edits.

Article 5 – Member Rivera requested that this section be eliminated since the committee won't have a Secretary and will be utilizing staff for committee support.

Article 6A - Member Newell stated that Article 6a states that no more than three meetings can be cancelled. Chair Munro recommended removing the word monthly from the second sentence and removing the entire third sentence from this section. The committee unanimously agreed.

Article 6C – Member Corcoran stated that a quorum of eight seems appropriate. Alternate member Fenimore asked if alternates, regardless of their voting status, should be included in discussions or remain silent. Chair Munro asked the committee for head nods in agreement of alternates' participation in meetings. The committee unanimously agreed.

Article 7 – no changes.

Article 8 – no changes.

Article 9 – no changes.

Article 10 – no changes.

An edited version of the bylaws will be presented at the next committee meeting for a vote.

7. Schedules and Future Meetings:

Chair Munro requested Ms. Williams to bring back a proposed meeting schedule with evening and day options, based on the tasks needing to be accomplished. Member Torrey suggested having meetings at 7:00 p.m. Ms. Betschart will check with LCOG regarding their staff availability for evening meetings.

The committee selected Friday, September 10, 5:30 p.m. as the next meeting date.

8. Public Meetings Law:

Councilor Dingle reviewed the public meetings law and explained that the process must be transparent, open to the public, and recorded. He explained serial meetings and how the committee needs to communicate with each other. Members can speak with multiple members, but can't do a formal/informal vote without a public process.

Public Records: If you're conducting public business, everything is public record, including meeting chats, texts, and email. Keep communications related to the meeting subject.

As a precaution, Ms. Williams will address members in the bcc: line in emails to limit their ability to reply to all.

9. Conflict of Interest:

Ms. Williams reported that there are two employees on the committee, Members Rivera and Hamilton. She explained that Lane Manual has a rule for county employees that are on advisory committees. Each employee will need to share why they want to serve on the committee. Ms. Williams will provide the employee statements to the committee at a later date.

10. Next Meeting Agenda

Ms. Williams reported that the next agenda will include:

- Minutes (9/1/21)
- Future meeting list
- Amended bylaws
- Software vendor's ability to attend 9/10 meeting. Discuss bigger picture items for process/boundaries prior to when we receive data.

Alternate member Ostrach asked when the committee could expect to receive population information for current commissioner districts. Ms. Williams stated that census data is available now and the state will provide additional boundary adjustments September 27 – October 18, 2021.

Ms. Betschart reported that the legislature is making current boundaries available and she'll review the information with the committee at the September 10, 2021 meeting.

Alternate member Fenimore asked if the committee could receive the analysis on the Census rationale for any changes the state made in the boundaries.

Member Cronin requested a list of precinct boundaries that are split up already. Ms. Betschart will have Ms. Williams send the information to the committee.

The meeting adjourned at 2:28 p.m.