



## INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE

### Minutes – October 11, 2021

Regular Members:				Alternate Members:	
X	Jennifer Waggoner (District 1)	X	James Torrey (District 4)	X	1.Laura Fenimore (District 4)
X	Alan Laisure (District 1)	X	Stefan Ostrach (District 4)	X	2.Ellen McKean (District 5)
	LaRece Rivera (District 1)	X	Linda Hamilton (District 4)		
X	Natalie Fisher (District 2)	X	Madison Newell (District 4)		
X	George Grier (District 2)	X	Tony Corcoran (District 5)		
X	Morgan Munro (District 3)	X	Ashley Pelton (District 5)		
X	Natalie Dybens (District 3)	X	Kevin Cronin (District 5)		
	Vincent Murphy (District 3)	<b>13</b>	<b>Total Regular Members</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Total Alternates as Regular</b>

Staff:

X	Judy Williams, IRC Liaison		Cheryl Betschart, County Clerk		Steve Dingle, County Counsel
	Laura Holtgrieve, Minutes	X	Kyle Overstake, LCOG GIS		Bob Denouden, LCOG GIS

1. Call to Order:  
Chair Munro called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.
  
2. Introductions and Credentialing:  
Vice Chair Dybens led introductions. Member Ostrach is now a regular member. Ms. DesPerez resigned due to time constraints. Alternate Members Fenimore and McKean will be voting members during tonight's meeting.
  
3. Public comment:  
There were no public comments.
  
4. Approval of Draft Minutes:  
Chair Munro asked if there was any discussion or adjustments on the draft committee minutes from October 6, 2021. The minutes were unanimously approved among voters present.
  
5. Poll Results: Schedule and Future Meetings  
Judy reviewed the committee meeting poll results. Member Torrey moved and Member Laisure seconded the new Monday and Thursday meeting schedule from 6:00-8:00 p.m. The schedule was unanimously approved among voters present. Chair Munro stated that this new schedule will start Thursday, October 14, 2021.
  
6. Timeframes/Benchmarks:  
October 18, 2021 will be the last day the committee will accept new maps. Favorite maps will be discussed on October 21, 2021, with the possibility of weighting/ranking the maps prior to voting. The goal is to present final recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners on October 26, 2021. However, the committee can vote to extend that deadline. Chair Munro asked the committee to block out Monday and Thursday in the first week of November in case the committee needs to continue meeting.

7. Reaction to October 6 Maps:

Alternate Member Fenimore: There is significant disagreement on whether I5 is going to be a barrier with incursions around Harlow Road and needs more discussion. How to treat Junction City and the River Road/Bethel area also needs more discussion. She liked the changes in the Churchill area.

Member Cronin: Bethel has been redlined in the past and suggests keeping Bethel and River Road together. The population growth outdates what the County Charter illustrates (two rural districts). The current district's largest cities are Eugene and Springfield. Rural areas are over represented because of lower population.

Member Ostrach: River Road and Santa Clara should be kept together since the City of Eugene and neighborhood associations have been working together on plans for those areas. He's not clear why school districts should play a key role.

Member Grier: Agrees with keeping neighborhoods together and that school district boundaries shouldn't play a role, as people can switch school districts if they choose.

Member Torrey: There is a difference between rural and urban in the county. These citizens are most concerned with issues such as not having a Sheriff's presence. Housing issues in urban areas are different than in rural areas. Committee needs to ensure that districts in rural areas are interested in the issues that are in that area. Commissioner will have more impact on public safety, issues of income inequality and access to services. He is okay with school district boundaries taking a non-key role. The make-up of income level and ethnicity is different in school districts. There is an opportunity to look within 4J to ensure there is representation for communities of color and the income levels that exist.

Member Ostrach: The County Charter includes two districts that are mostly unincorporated. With the increase in population growth, we can't have two districts mostly unincorporated. The committee should focus on population growth if we're going to have numerically balanced districts. The growth has been in Eugene and Springfield.

8. Review Maps:

Member Grier reviewed his revised map and shared that District 2 was 99% in Laural Hill. Either an error was made in underlying boundaries for the neighborhood association or the census track that bleeds into the neighborhoods.

Alternate Member Fenimore shared that people who need more room will migrate eastward as there is a significant difference in housing policies in Springfield versus Eugene.

Member Ostrach stated that the committee is not supposed to consider the future - the County Clerk is supposed to do that in addition to drawing the precinct boundaries. The Committee is mandated to consider only population data from the Census. Ms. Williams will research the answer and report back to the committee at the October 14, 2021 meeting.

9. Criteria to Solicit for Public Comment:

- Impact on east and west from a standpoint of Lane County Charter and population growth.
- Legislature's house districting changes

- Whether Springfield stretches over Interstate 5
- River Road / Santa Clara area
- Interstate 5 and Coburg Road
- Other parts west of Interstate 5

10. Staff Updates:

- Judy reviewed where to find the maps on the county website - [Redistricting Maps](#)
- New committee invites will be sent (new meeting series)
- Mr. Overstake showed the committee how to add the new house and senate layer to their maps. He'll add this layer to existing maps.

11. Items for Next Agenda

- Precincts
- County commissioners and redistricting
- Review maps
- Role of forecasting

Member Ostrach motioned for a 1% variance (over/under) in the population in the maps. Member Cronin seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously among voters present.

The meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.