



OHIO REDISTRICTING COMMISSION
MINUTES – MARCH 23, 2022 @ 5:00 PM
OHIO STATEHOUSE, ROOM 313
ONE CAPITOL SQUARE, COLUMBUS, OHIO

Members Present:

- Governor Mike DeWine, member of the Ohio Redistricting Commission pursuant to Article XI, Section 1 of the Ohio Constitution
- Auditor of State Keith Faber, member of the Ohio Redistricting Commission pursuant to Article XI, Section 1 of the Ohio Constitution
- Secretary of State Frank LaRose, member of the Ohio Redistricting Commission pursuant to Article XI, Section 1 of the Ohio Constitution
- Speaker of the House of Representatives Robert R. Cupp, appointed to the Ohio Redistricting Commission by the Speaker of the House of Representatives pursuant to Article XI, Section 1 of the Ohio Constitution
- Minority Leader Allison Russo, appointed to the Ohio Redistricting Commission by the Acting Minority Leader of the House of Representatives pursuant to Article XI, Section 1 of the Ohio Constitution
- Senate President Matt Huffman, appointed to the Ohio Redistricting Commission by the President of the Senate pursuant to Article XI, Section 1 of the Ohio Constitution
- Senator Vernon Sykes, appointed to the Ohio Redistricting Commission by the Minority Leader of the Senate pursuant to Article XI, Section 1 of the Ohio Constitution

Members Absent:

None

A. Call to Order

Co-Chair Cupp called the meeting to order.

B. Roll Call

With seven members in attendance, Co-Chair Cupp declared a quorum present.

C. Minutes

Co-Chair Sykes made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 22, 2022 meeting. The motion was seconded by President Huffman. Without objection, the minutes were approved.

D. Approval of Expenditures

Co-Chair Cupp asked that the expenses be approved Commission approve payments for \$7,500 to Caliper Corporation for Maptitude and \$3,059.87 to Micro Center for computer equipment. The motion was seconded by Co-Chair Sykes. With no objections, the motion passed and the expenditures were approved.

E. Update on Federal Mediators

Co-Chair Cupp stated that Commission members' packets included the letter from Chief Judge Sutton to the two Co-Chairs formalizing the engagement of the mediation services of the 6th Circuit Court. Co-Chair Sykes stated that the mediators were reaching out to each Commission member to set up an informal interview.

F. Introduction of Independent Map Drawers

Co-Chair Cupp invited the two independent map drawers, Dr. Michael McDonald from the University of Florida and Dr. Douglas Johnson with National Demographics, to introduce themselves.

G. Discussion of Ground Rules for Independent Map Drawers

Co-Chair Cupp called on President Huffman to offer the ground rules draft ("Proposal A") that had been circulated to Commission members prior to the meeting. President Huffman moved that the Commission adopt Proposal A as the rules for the independent map drawers. Co-Chair Sykes noted that he had also circulated a list of proposed ground rules ("Proposal B") and asked for a recess to review both proposals. Leader Russo stated that she would like the input of the independent map drawers as well.

H. Recess

Co-Chair Cupp recessed the meeting for 15 minutes.

I. Reconvene

Co-Chair Cupp called the meeting back to order.

J. Adoption of Ground Rules for Independent Map Drawers

Co-Chair Cupp stated that the motion on the table was to adopt the rules in Proposal A. Co-Chair Cupp seconded the motion and stated that the Commission would consider the rules in Proposal A one at a time, and then consider the rules in Proposal B, and then proceed to other rules proposed by Commissioners.

- **Rule 1:** President Huffman moved that the Commission adopt Rule 1 of Proposal A, seconded by Co-Chair Cupp. Leader Russo moved to amend Rule 1 by striking "seven" and inserting "Commissioners" in its place. With no objections, the amendment to Rule 1 was adopted. With no further discussion or objections, Rule 1 as amended was adopted.
- **Rule 2:** President Huffman moved that the Commission adopt Rule 2 of Proposal A. President Huffman moved to amend Rule 2 as proposed by Co-Chair Sykes in Proposal B to say that "the independent map drawers shall draft any General Assembly district plan at the direction of the Redistricting Commission and in accordance with the Ohio Constitution and the Supreme Court's order." Without object, the amendment to Rule 1 was adopted. With no further discussion or objections, Rule 2 as amended was adopted.
- **Rule 3:** President Huffman asked to hold discussion on Rule 3 from Proposal A until the Commission discussed Rules 14-16 of Proposal A.
- **Rule 4:** President Huffman moved that the Commission adopt Rule 4 of Proposal A. Michael McDonald and Douglas Johnson offered comments on Rule 4. With no objections, Rule 4 of Proposal A was adopted.

- **Rules 5-6:** President Huffman noted that there were no objections to Rules 5 and 6 on Proposal A. Without objection or amendments, Rules 5 and 6 of Proposal A were adopted.
- **Rule 7:** President Huffman moved to adopt Rule 7 from Proposal A. Following discussion, Co-Chair Cupp suggested the rule should be amended to read as “Any General Assembly district plan shall be drawn in Maptitude.” Without objection, Rule 7, as amended, was adopted.
- **Rule 8:** President Huffman moved to adopt Rule 8 from Proposal 8. After discussion from Commission members, President Huffman moved to amend Rule 8 to add the sentence at the end: “Two additional computers may be used for preparation purposes by the independent map drawers on site.” Without objection, the amendment was adopted. Without further discussion or amendments, Rule 8 as amended was adopted.
- **Rule 9:** President Huffman moved to adopt Rule 9 from Proposal A. President Huffman moved to amend Rule 9 to add an “s” after “computer.” With no objections, the amendment was adopted. Without no further discussion or amendments, Rule 9 as amended was adopted.
- **Rule 10:** President Huffman moved that Rule 10 from Proposal A be adopted with the suggestion from Co-Chair Sykes to add “independent” before “map.” Without objection, Rule 10 from Proposal A was adopted, with the additional of “independent” before “map.”
- **Rule 11.** President Huffman moved that Rule 11 from Proposal A be adopted with the suggestion from Co-Chair Sykes to add “independent” before “map” on the first line. Without objection, Rule 11 from Proposal A was adopted with the addition of “independent” before “map.”
- **Rule 12:** President Huffman moved that Rule 12 from Proposal A be adopted with the suggestion from Co-Chair Sykes to add “independent” before map.” Without objection, Rule 12 from Proposal A was adopted with the addition of “independent” before “map.”
- **Rule 13:** President Huffman moved that Rule 13 from Proposal A be adopted with the suggestion from Co-Chair Sykes to add “independent” before map.” Without objection, Rule 13 from Proposal A was adopted with the addition of “independent” before “map.”
- **Rules 14-16:** President Huffman moved that Rules 14-16 from Proposal A be adopted together. The Commission stood at ease. Upon reconvening, Rules 14-16 from Proposal A were accepted without objection.
- **Rule 17:** Secretary LaRose spoke to Rule 17 of Proposal A. President Huffman moved to adopt Rule 17 from Proposal A with the following amendments: (1) insert “legal” before “description”; (2) insert “shape files, equivalency files, county population and the filing location of the most populous county” in Line 3 after the word “district” ; and (3) add “within ten days” at the end of the fourth line. Without objection, Rule 17 from Proposal A, with the additional language described by President Huffman, was adopted.
- **Rule 18:** President withdrew his motion to adopt Rule 18 of Proposal A and deferred to Auditor Faber to offer a motion. President Faber moved to adopt Proposal C, with the following amendment: strike the word “crafting” in Line 5 and replace it with the word “substance.” Without objection, Proposal C – as amended - was adopted as Rule 18.
- **Rules 19-23.** Commission members discussed changes to the five rules in Proposal D submitted by Co-Chair Sykes. After member suggestions were incorporated, Co-Chair Cupp moved that the Commission adopt the five rules in Proposal D. Without objection, the six rules in Proposal D, as amended, were adopted as Rules 19-23.

- **Rule 24.** Co-Chair Cupp moved that the Commission adopt a rule that “Public access will be only be available in a nearby room where video from the work room will be broadcast.” Without objection, the rule was adopted as Rule 24.

K. Discussion of Conflict of Interest

Commission members and the independent map drawers discussed disclosure of conflicts of interest by the independent map drawers.

L. Adoption of Rule 3 of the Ground Rules for Map Drawers

President Huffman moved that Rule 3 of Proposal A (as previously held) be adopted. With no objections, the rule was adopted as Rule 3.

M. Designated Staff Contacts

Douglas Johnson asked for a list of designated staff contacts so that the independent map drawers would know who to contact if they had a dispute that needed resolution Co-Chair Cupp stated that a list of designated staff contacts would be distributed.

N. Approval of Additional Expenditures

Co-Chair Sykes moved that the Commission approve the purchase of two desktop computers and the required software licenses. President Huffman seconded the motion. Without objection, the motion passed and the expenditures were approved.

O. Recess

Co-Chair Cupp moved that the Commission recess in case the Commission needed to convene before the next scheduled meeting on Thursday, March 24 at 7:00 P.M. Co-Chair Sykes stated that members who indicated that they would be participating virtually would receive the login information from staff. Without objection, the motion was accepted. Co-Chair Cupp recessed the meeting until 7:00 P.M. the following evening or earlier at the call of the Co-Chairs.