

MINUTES
Approved by the Commission
Commission for Reapportionment
Wednesday, September 08, 2021
1:00 P.M.
State Capitol Building, Room WW17
Boise, Idaho

Members: (Commissioners) Cochairs Bart Davis and Dan Schmidt, Commissioners Thomas Dayley, Nels Mitchell, Amber Pence, and Eric Redman; (Commission Staff) Paul Boucher, Elizabeth Bowen, Keith Bybee, and Todd Cutler

Absent/Excused: None

Also present (Signed in): Clark Corbin, Tyler Kelly, and Matt Wolfe

The meeting was called to order by Cochair Bart Davis at 1:03 p.m. A silent roll call was taken.

Opening Remarks

- Cochair Davis proposed an agenda of reviewing the talking points for upcoming meetings while traveling, look at the modified calendar, and the process for creating plans, before drafting plans. **Without objection, the agenda was amended to reflect this plan.**

Committee Discussion

- Cochair Davis opened discussion by asking what the commissioners should have prepared for meetings on the road with constituents. He proposed using handouts or PowerPoints so that citizens could understand the legal standards for redistricting. Commissioner Mitchell asked if Ms. Bowen could assist. Cochair Schmidt requested that the guidelines for mapmaking, published on the website, be utilized. Ms. Bowen agreed to provide a draft for review. Cochair Schmidt suggested that the commission should create a plan to function as a starting point for discussion during public meetings. Commissioner Mitchell wanted to know if they would be taking physical or digital versions of the plans with them. Mr. Bybee replied that it would be somewhat dependent on the venue, but that digital versions of the plans were available online. Commissioner Mitchell approved, as he wanted the public to see the deficiencies in the current plans and possible alternatives.
- Regarding the calendar, Commissioner Redman noted that the commission had discussed the calendar last week and it looked good to him.
- Cochair Schmidt reaffirmed that the committee's goal was to be accessible to the public, so he questioned meeting times on days when there were hearings in multiple towns. He wanted to ensure that there would be enough time to have meaningful dialogue with the public. Mr. Bybee said that there might be a time crunch on certain days depending on citizen attendance, but they would be holding those meetings at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. to ensure there would be enough time. Cochair Schmidt noted that the commissioners could attend remotely, so they could be more flexible with physical attendance. Cochair Davis suggested they go over the calendar week by week starting with the meetings in the Treasure Valley. Commissioner Redman noted that certain members of the commission would need to book flights to attend the meeting in Eagle. Mr. Boucher replied that the meeting was scheduled at Eagle City Hall at 7 p.m., however he would see if it could be held earlier in the day. Mr. Bybee mentioned certain interested constituents might miss a meeting for high school football.
- Cochair Davis reviewed the meetings scheduled in north Idaho, inquiring into the proposed time of the Lewiston meeting. Mr. Boucher replied that the time had not been established, so it could be based on the commission's needs. Cochair Schmidt wondered whether the meeting would be held

in Lewiston proper or the Clearwater Casino. Mr. Boucher said it was undecided. Cochair Schmidt stated that he thought they might need to have meetings in both venues.

- Moving on to the last week of September, Cochair Davis again invited the commission to share their thoughts. Commissioner Pence mentioned that the library room in Hailey might be too small. Mr. Bybee clarified the meeting was going to be held in the Minnie Moore Room at Hailey's Community Campus. Cochair Davis asked if that week would have evening meetings. Mr. Bybee said evening meetings would work well. Discussion was held on the location for that Friday's meeting, October 1. The commission established it would have to be in Mountain Home, Burley, or Challis. Mr. Bybee suggested they could have a meeting in Challis before the meeting in Hailey. Commissioner Dayley said Burley was a large population center, so that was where it should be. **Cochair Davis moved that the commission hold the meeting for October 1st in Burley; without objection, the motion passed. Commissioner Redman moved the commission accept the calendar as written. The motion passed by voice vote.**

- The commission moved on to the process of drawing plans. Cochairs Davis and Schmidt discussed how best to create a "default" plan for meetings on the road. Commissioner Redman asked Mr. Bybee and Mr. Cutler for their thoughts. Mr. Bybee stated he thought that it was feasible to have something that meets legal requirements to use as a blueprint in the next two days.

- Cochair Davis mentioned the use of subcommittees by the last commission. Cochair Schmidt stated he was comfortable drawing lines in northern Idaho, and he considered sitting down with Commissioner Redman to work on that region. He suggested other commissioners might have familiarity with other portions of the state, so it could be beneficial to proceed as such. Cochair Davis agreed, as he and Commissioner Pence were familiar with eastern Idaho, while Commissioners Mitchell and Dayley were familiar with the Treasure Valley.

- Cochair Davis raised the concern that subcommittees might create plans with conflicting zones. Mr. Bybee shared that the previous commission solved those problems by creating multiple configurations of the plans. It would come down to the population splits, particularly in northern Idaho.

- Cochair Davis concluded that these "pro forma" plans might not work, so they should be candid with the public in creating a conversation about the ultimate lines.

- Commissioner Pence wanted to know if she needed to create two accounts with Maptitude in order to see the online ones. Mr. Bybee replied that the publicly submitted plans were not ready for review yet, but they were implementing a process to make them available on the Legislature's website. Mr. Cutler added that he would create a catalog of the plans submitted for public viewing. He would also create a Maptitude database that would allow the plans to be seen on the desktop app.

- Cochair Davis wanted to establish where the subcommittees should focus their efforts and create general guidelines to ensure that all areas of the state were covered without redundancy or getting in the way of one another. Cochair Schmidt agreed, but noted that subcommittees should collaborate to see where the lines meet. Cochair Davis agreed.

- Commissioner Redman noted how beneficial the large screen was for creating plans. Cochair Schmidt wondered if there were other rooms with projectors they could use. Mr. Bybee said that there were, and that staff could assist the subcommittees with the actual drawing of the plans. Cochair Davis believed that to be a good plan.

- Cochair Schmidt believed they should all work to have a progress report for the next morning.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:52 p.m.