

Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission

Virtual Meeting via Zoom Webinar. Full agenda, presentations, and video recordings are available at Michigan.gov/MICRC

Thursday, September 29, 2022

10:00 a.m. – 12:01 p.m.

MINUTES

PRESENT: Douglas James Clark (*remotely from Huntington Beach, California*)
Juanita Curry (*remotely from Detroit, Michigan*)
Anthony Eid (*remotely from Detroit, Michigan*)
Brittini Kellom (*joined remotely at 10:25 a.m. from Wayne County, Michigan*)
Rhonda Lange (*remotely from Lake County, Michigan*)
Steven Terry Lett (*remotely from Grand Traverse County, Michigan*)
Cynthia Orton (*remotely from Battle Creek, Michigan*)
MC Rothhorn (*remotely from East Lansing, Michigan*)
Rebecca Szetela (*remotely from Wayne County, Michigan*)
Janice Vallette (*remotely from Highland Township, Michigan*)
Erin Wagner (*remotely from Eaton County, Michigan*)
Richard Weiss (*remotely from Saginaw Township, Michigan*)

ABSENT: Dustin Joseph Witjes

OTHERS PRESENT: Edward Woods III, Executive Director
Michigan Department of State (“MDOS”) staff
David and Nate Fink of Fink Bressack.

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Commissioner Rothhorn, Chair, called the meeting of the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission (MICRC) to order at 10:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL

MDOS staff called roll. A quorum was met.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: Commissioner Rothhorn, Chair, called for a motion to approve the agenda. **Moved by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Curry. Commissioner Rothhorn, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION APPROVED.**

PUBLIC COMMENT PERTAINING TO AGENDA TOPICS

Commissioner Rothhorn, Chair, put the motion "to begin the public comment pertaining to agenda topics portion of the agenda" which was adopted. Two individuals provided remote public comment: Anthony Scannell, and James Gallant.

A full inventory of live and written public comments is available at www.michigan.gov/micrc.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Draft Lessons Learned Report. The Commission discussed a draft report and dissenting reports.

MOTION: Approve the lessons learned report and recommendations draft report, with the removal of a quote from Commissioner Szetela regarding the VRA, "Szetela says while she approves the maps in agreement with the Voting Rights Act..." **Motion by Commissioner Szetela. Supported by Commissioner Rothhorn. Commissioner Rothhorn, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION APPROVED.**

Voting no: Rhonda Lange, Erin Wagner, Rebecca Szetela

b. Draft Lessons Learned Video. The Commission discussed a video about lessons learned.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Increase Contract Values

i. Baker Hostetler.

MOTION: Approve the Second Amendment to the contract to extend the contract with Baker Hostetler until the next Commission is seated on or before October 15, 2030, and increase the contract amount by an

additional \$2 million and all other terms and conditions of the contract remain the same. **Moved by Commissioner Clark. Supported by Commissioner Lett. Commissioner Rothhorn, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION APPROVED.**

Voting no: Rhonda Lange, Erin Wagner

ii. Fink Bressack

MOTION: Approve the third amendment for the Fink Bressack contract to extend the contract until the next Commission is seated either on or before October 15, 2030, and increase the contract amount by \$500,000 and all other contract terms and conditions remain the same. **Moved by Commissioner Clark. Supported by Commissioner Lett. Commissioner Rothhorn, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION APPROVED.**

Voting no: Rhonda Lange, Erin Wagner

iii. Election Data Services

MOTION: Approve a contract change notice for Election Data Services to extend the contract until the next Commission is seated either on or before October 15, 2030, and increase the contract amount by an additional \$500,000. All other contract terms and conditions remain the same. **Moved by Commissioner Clark. Supported by Commissioner Lett. Commissioner Rothhorn, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION APPROVED.**

Voting no: Rhonda Lange, Erin Wagner

iv. VRA Legal Counsel

MOTION: Approve a contract change notice to extend the contract until the next Commission is seated either on or before October 15, 2030, and increase the contract amount by an additional \$150,000. All other contract terms and conditions remain the same. **Moved by Commissioner Clark. Supported by Commissioner Lett. Commissioner Rothhorn, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION APPROVED.**

Voting no: Rhonda Lange, Erin Wagner

b. August Financial Report. The Commission discussed the August Budget Financial Report.

MOTION: Accept the August Financial Report as presented by Executive Director Woods. **Moved by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Curry. Commissioner Rothhorn, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

c. FY 22 Budget Executive Director Woods presented the FY22 revised budget.

MOTION: Adopt the FY22 revised budget. **Moved by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Clark. Commissioner Rothhorn, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

d. FY 23 Budget Executive Director Woods presented the FY23 budget.

MOTION: Adopt the FY23 budget. **Moved by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Clark. Commissioner Rothhorn, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

MOTION: Empower Executive Director Woods to encumber the remaining funds for FY22 and investigate the validity of encumbering the funds. **Moved by Commissioner Szetela. Supported by Commissioner Lett. Commissioner Rothhorn, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION APPROVED.**

Voting No: Erin Wagner

e. Arizona Amicus Brief Commissioner Eid presented on filing an Amicus Brief for the Arizona Citizens Redistricting Commission.

MOTION: Approve an amicus brief for the Arizona Redistricting Commission. **Moved by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Eid. Commissioner Rothhorn, Chair, held a vote by roll call.**

Voting Yes: Commissioners Orton, Rothhorn, Vallette, Weiss, Curry, Eid, Kellom, Lett

Voting No: Commissioners Szetela, Wagner, Clark, Lange

MOTION APPROVED.

f. MICRC Part-time Executive Director contract. Commissioner Lett presented on a part-time contract for Executive Director Woods.

MOTION: Adopt resolution 2022.09.08. **Moved by Commissioner Szetela. Supported by Commissioner Orton. Commissioner Rothhorn, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. MOTION APPROVED.**

Voting No: Rhonda Lange

g. Chair and Vice-Chair Elections. The Commission discussed nominations for the Chair and Vice-Chair positions.

Commissioner Rothhorn, Chair, called for nominations for the Chair.

Commissioner Witjes was nominated for Chair by Commissioner Eid.

Commissioner Witjes accepted the nomination in absentia.

Commissioner Orton was nominated for Chair by Commissioner Lett.

Commissioner Orton declined the nomination.

MOTION: That nominations for chair be closed. **Moved by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Weiss. Commissioner Rothhorn, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

Commissioner Rothhorn, Chair, held a vote for Dustin Witjes for Chair by show of hands. MOTION APPROVED.

Voting No: Rhonda Lange

Commissioner Rothhorn, Chair, called for nominations for Vice-Chair.

Commissioner Orton nominated for Vice-Chair by Commissioner Szetela.

Commissioner Orton accepted the nomination.

Commissioner Clark nominated for Vice-Chair by Commissioner Orton.

Commissioner Clark accepted the nomination.

MOTION: That nominations for chair be closed. **Moved by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Weiss. Commissioner Rothhorn, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

Commissioner Rothhorn, Chair, held a vote for Vice-Chair by stating the name of the preferred candidate. Commissioner Clark was selected as Vice-Chair.

Voting for Commissioner Cynthia Orton: Rebecca Szetela, Erin Wagner, Brittni Kellom

Voting for Commissioner Doug Clark: MC Rothhorn, Janice Valette, Richard Weiss, Doug Clark, Juanita Curry, Anthony Eid, Cynthia Orton, Steve Lett

STAFF REPORTS

Executive Director. Executive Director Woods provided a report.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Adjourn the Meeting. **Moved by Commissioner Lett. Supported by Commissioner Weiss. Commissioner Rothhorn, Chair, held a vote by show of hands. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:01 p.m.