
REDISTRICTING STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES OF MEETING

“Special Meeting”

March 29, 2011
11:30 a.m.

County Executive Office
4080 Lemon Street, 4th Floor
Conference Room C

Members Present:

Larry Ward
Jay Orr
Michelle DeArmond
John Field
Robin Hastings
Dave Stahovich
Verne Lauritzen

Chair, Assessor-Clerk Recorder
Co-Chair, Executive Office
4th District
2nd District
5th District
1st District
3rd District

Staff and Guests Present:

Dean Deines	Executive Office
Tina Grande	Executive Office
Ray Smith	Executive Office
David Huff	County Counsel
George Johnson	TLMA
Damian Laning	TLMA
JiHong McDermott	TLMA
Tom Mullen II	TLMA
Jeremy Clark	TLMA
Emily Lee	TLMA
Dave Downey	The Californian
Duane Gang	The Press-Enterprise
Joe Daugherty	Menifee Action Group
Eric Gosch	Hemet-San Jacinto Action Group
Gilberto Esquivel	LULAC
Yolanda Esquivel	LULAC
Jana Roush	Executive Office

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The Redistricting Steering Committee Meeting was called to order at 11:35 a.m. The roll call was conducted by Chairman Larry Ward.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR March 15, 2011:

MOTION: Robin Hastings moved to approve the March 15, 2011 minutes as stated.

Seconded by: John Field

Motion approved unanimously

3. PUBLIC FORUM UPDATE:

Dean Deines reiterated that public forums are planned for April 20, 21, and 27. At the last meeting there was discussion regarding sites for the forums in Riverside, Menifee, and Desert Hot Springs. There is ample space in the Board Chambers for the forum here in Riverside. Dean contacted the Perris Union High School District about using the theatre at Heritage high school. There are some fees involved as one of their staff must be present during the forum. The theatre holds approximately 400 people. Perris high school requires proof of insurance. Dean will coordinate that with Risk Management. Dean has also been trying to reach someone at the Desert Hot Springs high school, and will continue to work on that. Larry Ward asked that a press release go out, once the sites have been secured.

Larry Ward informed everyone that the State's redistricting community meeting would be held that same evening from 6:00-9:00 p.m., at the Orange Terrace Community Center. Larry planned to attend to see the format they were using. The idea is to educate and solicit input.

Verne Lauritzen, from the 3rd District, joined the meeting.

4. REVIEW PUBLIC SUBMITTALS:

Dean Deines had one public request from the Hemet-San Jacinto Action Group, with a request to keep Hemet and San Jacinto in one Supervisorial District. It was submitted prior to the final census numbers coming out, so the numbers used in the request were projected numbers. Staff's recommendation was to return the submittal and invite a revamped submittal in the future.

Jay Orr suggested we set up a process where when we receive a submittal, staff writes a cover summary, and then it gets distributed to all voting members for their review.

Jay thought we would need a public comment cut-off date because if a document should come in at the last minute, we would not have the ability to distribute it to the members.

David Huff suggested the cut-off date be set in early May, not long after the community meetings.

Dave Stahovich indicated that we should encourage comments early. The earlier we get them the more time we have to consider them, so they can be given the full value they are due.

Robin Hastings suggested that we set a May 28 deadline, which is 30 days prior to the staff report going to the Board.

Larry Ward would like to see the information distributed to the committee as quickly as possible. Larry asked that Dean Deines vet it initially. If a staff report is needed, send it back; otherwise just forward it on to the committee.

Dean discussed the three emails that came in on the website. One asked, "Are we going to have public meetings?" Another requested that the pass area be in one District. The other asked that Menifee be in the 5th District. Dave Stahovich proposed that those types of comments/requests be included in the meeting packet. Dean agreed to have them included in the meeting packet for presentation at the meetings.

5. ACTIVITY: MAPPING OF DISTRICT ALTERNATIVES:

Tom Mullen directed the committee's attention to maps of the County that show the census districts, the cities, and census defined places (CDPs). One map was displayed onscreen, and a second hard copy was placed on the tabletop. Different colored grease pens were distributed to each Chief of Staff to assist them in marking up the tabletop map.

The map onscreen was interactive. The Current Districts were shown in bold lines. Larry Ward recommended that the mapping alternatives begin with the Fourth District, as there is only one way to move in that District. Tom Mullen suggested that only census Tracts be used to rework the lines, as census Blocks were too small on this map.

As the work progressed, it became apparent that there was too much to be done in one meeting. Tom Mullen invited the Chiefs of Staff to meet with TLMA staff to work on alternatives. TLMA can then provide a variety of maps to share at the next meeting.

Tom Mullen agreed to schedule sessions with each Chief of Staff, individually, to do their research on the mapping alternatives, prior to the next meeting on April 12.

6. OTHER BUSINESS:

No other business was discussed at this time.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA:

Gilberto Esquivel, LULAC, asked whether he was in the right meeting. He thought he was attending a meeting for working on boundaries for assemblymen and senatorial districts. Larry Ward informed Mr. Esquivel that the State's Redistricting meeting would be held at the Orange Terrace Community Center that same evening.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: Jay Orr moved to adjourn the meeting.

Seconded by: Verne Lauritzen

Motion carried unanimously

The next regular meeting of the Redistricting Steering Committee Meeting is set for Tuesday, April 12, 2011, at 2:00 p.m. With no further discussion, the Redistricting Steering Committee Meeting was adjourned at 12:18 p.m.