

Minutes of Meeting

**ARIZONA INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION**

April 8, 2011

The public meeting of the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission was called to order at 400 W. Congress Street, Room 222, on Friday, April 8, 2011 at 1:00 p.m. by Colleen Coyle Mathis who then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present:

	Colleen Coyle Mathis, Chair
Richard Stertz, Commissioner	José M. Herrera, Vice Chair (telephonic)
Scott D. Freeman, Vice Chair	Linda McNulty, Commissioner

Ms. Mathis informed the public if they would like to address members of the commission during public comment to please fill out a request to speak form on the table in the back of the room.

Ms. Mathis takes roll call. Legal counsel, assistant Attorney General Jim Barton, also present.

Item II – Approval of the March 24, 2011 minutes in the form of a meeting transcript and approval of March 31, 2011 minutes. Ms. Mathis asks if everyone received and reviewed the March 24<sup>th</sup> transcript. Ms. Mathis goes over corrections on transcript and asks if everyone has any other corrections. A motion to pass the transcript is made and passed unanimously with corrections as noted.

Ms. Mathis asks if everyone had a chance to review the March 31, 2011 minutes and if any corrections are made. Mr. Freeman asks that Mr. Herrera and himself should both be listed as chair and not commissioner. Second correction on #4 publication of Arizona Eagletarian. Mr. Freeman suggests striking last sentence in item 11. Ms. McNulty suggests using middle initials and inserting “as revised”. In second line in paragraph 4 should be “recommending”. Judith Darkin is spelled Dworkin. Mr. Stertz states for sake of consistency that his middle initial is P. Mr. Stertz says he does not recall paragraph six of mapping services being discussed and asks that it be stricken. Ms. McNulty states that they did talk about that. Suggested changing word “project” to “process”.

Ms. Mathis changes Marcia Busching spelling. Under item 5, hiring processes, last name is Susan Laurence. On item six, Ms. Mathis suggests that last sentence should say draft RFP to be ready by next meeting as opposed to the final draft will be ready for approval by next meeting, just to make it clear.

Motion was made to approve March 31<sup>st</sup> minutes as amended. The motion carried.

Call for public comment, item III on agenda. Ms. Mathis introduces speaker, Chris Campus, Vice Chairmen representing Arizona Democratic party. Chris Campus informs that he is not

representing on official business and that he is here representing the Hispanic Community and the Hispanic Caucus. Mr. Campus explains his concern for Hispanic districts are unhealthy for democracy. He explains that Nogales and Douglas should not be in same district.

Ms. Mathis introduces speaker, Steve Meratori, publisher of the Arizona Eagle-Tribune. Mr. Meratori discusses packet of expenditures/spreadsheets for fiscal year. Explains that it needs to be labeled correctly to avoid confusion. He also expresses concern by reporters about potential hiring for Executive Director. Expresses concern that whoever is hired is not personal friend of any commissioners.

No other requests to speak forms filled out.

Item IV: Ms. Mathis states Susan Lawrence is helping with the process. Explains that the position remains on state.gov website and will be posted until position is filled. Ms. Mathis calls Susan up to provide information on process.

Susan Lawrence speaks on good response to add and states that the next step is to identify candidates to interview. The commission should schedule interview date, time, and place. The boards or commissions will identify candidate in first round and explains that sometimes a second interview is needed. Explains a verbal offer will be extended, as well as a written offer letter and start date designated.

Mr. Stertz asks if they will be creating short list today and moves to go into Executive session to decide recommendations for short listing candidates. Moved seconded and passed unanimously.

Mr. Herrera speaks out regarding short list. Mr. Barton explains that once commission designs list of candidates, list is subject to public records. Mr. Barton recommends not to release names from larger pool because it encourages people to apply for state jobs. Explains that it protects confidentiality of people who are not interviewed.

Ms. Mathis asks if another qualified candidate comes forward they can still be considered for position.

Motion made to go into executive session and passed unanimously at 1:22 p.m. Public is asked to step out.

Public session reconvenes at 2:40 p.m.

Ms. Mathis informs the public of a good executive session meeting in which they discussed numerous candidates that applied for the Executive Director position and that they had a lot of great candidates to choose from. Tells the public that they are in the process of contacting the individuals and asks that the press not contact them before they do. Ms. Mathis lists the candidates.

Mr. Herrera confirms that David Lujan is not former state legislature to which Ms. Mathis agrees. Mr. Stertz moves that these five candidates be contacted to begin the interviewing process. Motion carried.

Ms. Mathis opens the floor for discussion on how to proceed with the process of interviewing the candidates. Mr. Stertz recommends interviewing five candidates in executive session and make final two interviews in public session. Mr. Herrera states that he feels that process should be done in public. Says to use executive session sparingly. Mr. Stertz says that there will be questions asked pertaining to current status of employment and he does not want to jeopardize candidates. Mr. Freeman says he would not ask scripted questions, but it would make a difference knowing if it will be public or executive session. Ms. McNulty thinks it is balanced and balance is achieved.

Ms. Mathis says it sounds like the majority of the commissioners prefer to have the initial phases interviews conducted in executive session. Ms. McNulty says time is of the essence and they do have detailed applications from the candidates. Ms. Mathis says we decided on the process and are moving forward. Ms. Mathis makes a motion to proceed with process. Mr. Stertz suggests an amendment in that the interviews take place one week from yesterday.

Motion made, all in favor. Mr. Herrera states that for the record he thinks it is premature. Mr. Barton clarifies that Commissioner Herrera's vote is against the amended motion.

Ms. Mathis says they are still on agenda item IV and other issues need to be addressed. Ron who is an Information Technology Specialist.

Ron discusses general IT person to do just about everything the commission asks for. Says the pay raise is rather broad. Once approved the PDQ we can get it official and start advertising for position. Mr. Stertz asks about ability to be bilingual and would like to add it as a preference. Mr. Stertz moves to recommend adoption of PDQ with single amendment adding preference for bilingual capacity. Mr. Herrera seconds motion. Ms. Mathis confirms Spanish language. Ms. Mathis calls for second motion on the floor to move forward for title of Information Technology Specialist with one addition of preferred qualification of ability to speak Spanish. The motion carried.

Item V on agenda started at 3:06 p.m.

Ms. Mathis says documents are confidential and Commission can elect to go into executive session for discussion. Motion to go into executive session to discuss drafts. Mr. Herrera

questions reasoning for executive session. Mr. Barton explains reason for going into executive session is confidential. Perhaps commission wants to hear from John Red Horse.

Motion made to go into executive session and motion carried at 3:14 p.m.

Public session reconvened at 5:10 p.m.

Ms. Mathis made a motion to finalize the draft and Ms. McNulty moves to work with executive director to finalize. All in favor and motion carried.

Ms. Mathis made a motion for request for proposed mapping services. All in favor and motion carried.

Ms. Mathis thanks Mr. Red Horse for being present and explains that, given the late hour, there are no other items that will be discussed today. Motion to table the rest of the agenda for next meeting at items VI to XI. Motion carries.

Ms. Mathis skips to agenda Item 12 and explains the rest of agenda will be covered at the next meeting.

Mr. Stertz suggests beginning the next meeting at 10 a.m. on Thursday. Ms. Mathis confirms next meeting will start at 10 a.m. in Phoenix and start with agenda item VI.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 PM