

REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE

**Mailing Packet for the August 9, 2001 Meeting
9:00 a.m. Room 129 State Capitol**

List of Enclosures

- Notice of Meeting
- Agenda
- Minutes of the July 12, 2001 Public Hearings in Price and Provo

NOTICE OF MEETING

TO: Redistricting Committee
FROM: Stewart E. Smith, Redistricting Team Manager
DATE: August 1, 2001
SUBJECT: August 9 Meeting

Sen. Michael G. Waddoups and Rep. Gerry A. Adair have scheduled a meeting of the Redistricting Committee as follows:

DATE: **Thursday, August 9, 2001**
TIME: **9:00 a.m.**
PLACE: **Room 129 State Capitol**

An agenda is included. If you are unable to attend, please call me or Alicia Gambles at 538-1032.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Sen. Michael G. Waddoups, Senate Chair
Rep. Gerry A. Adair, House Chair

Sen. Ron Allen
Sen. Beverly Evans
Sen. Pete Suazo
Sen. John L. Valentine
Rep. Patrice M. Arent
Rep. Chad E. Bennion

Rep. Ron Bigelow
Rep. Jackie Biskupski
Rep. Katherine M. Bryson
Rep. Don E. Bush
Rep. Brent H. Goodfellow
Rep. James R. Gowans

Rep. Wayne A. Harper
Rep. Thomas V. Hatch
Rep. Loraine T. Pace
Rep. Jack A. Seitz
Rep. LaWanna Shurtliff
Rep. Glenn L. Way

AGENDA
REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE

Thursday, August 9, 2001 – 9:00 a.m. – Room 129 State Capitol

1. **Call to Order** - Senator Michael G. Waddoups
2. **Committee Business**
 - Approval of Minutes of July 12, 2001(Price and Provo)
 - Review of Public Written Comment File
 - Meeting Schedule Update
3. **Redistricting Procedural Information**
 - Significance of District Numbering– Mr. Stewart Smith
 - Senate District Elections – Mr. John Fellows
 - Form of Redistricting Legislation – Mr. John Fellows
4. **Presentation of State School Board Plan(s)**
 - Representative Gerry A. Adair
5. **Presentation of Senate District Plan(s)**
 - Senator Michael G. Waddoups
6. **Introduction of Next Meeting Agenda**
 - House District Plan(s)
 - Four-district Congressional Plan(s)
7. **Adjourn**
 - Submitting comments to the Redistricting Committee
 - e-mail: Redistricting@le.state.ut.us
 - web site: www.le.state.ut.us/interim/2001/interim.html
 - fax: (801) 538-1712
 - address: Redistricting Committee
 - Rm 436 State Capitol
 - SLC, UT 84114

**MINUTES OF THE
REDISTRICTING PUBLIC HEARING
Thursday, July 12, 2001 - 12:00 p.m. – Courtroom, Price**

Members Present:

Rep. Gerry A. Adair, Chair
Sen. Ron Allen
Sen. Beverly Evans
Sen. Pete Suazo
Rep. Patrice M. Arent
Rep. Chad E. Bennion
Rep. Ron Bigelow
Rep. Jackie Biskupski
Rep. Katherine M. Bryson
Rep. Don E. Bush
Rep. James R. Gowans
Rep. Wayne A. Harper
Rep. Loraine T. Pace
Rep. LaWanna Shurtliff
Rep. Glenn L. Way

Members Excused:

Sen. Michael G. Waddoups, Chair
Sen. John L. Valentine
Rep. Brent H. Goodfellow
Rep. Thomas V. Hatch
Rep. Jack A. Seitz

Staff Present:

Mr. Stewart E. Smith, Redistricting Team Manager
Mr. Jerry D. Howe, Research Analyst
Mr. John Q. Cannon, Research Analyst
Mr. Mark J Allred, Technical Support
Mr. Joseph T. Wade, Research Analyst
Ms. Alicia Gambles, Legislative Secretary

Note: A list of others present and handouts distributed are on file in the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel.

1. Call to Order

Chair Waddoups called the public hearing to order at 12:05 p.m.

2. Introduction to Redistricting

Mr. Mark J Allred, Technical Support, Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel, presented an overview on the redistricting process including the 2000 census results and population shifts with an emphasis on the southern counties. He also presented the Senate Plan.

3. Public Input/Comments

Mr. Tom Matthews, Carbon County Commission, stated that in order to represent and serve the rural people fairly, legislators need to live close to their areas. He indicated that the landfill issue in Carbon County is a good example of not having a representative living close enough to work on that issue. He stated that if the House seat is divided, they will be better off going towards Emery County because of their common interests.

Sen. Mike Dmitrich, Senate District 27, said that if true rural representation is wanted the committee must leave the Wasatch Front Counties out of the issue. He indicated that Carbon and Emery County have common issues and will always stick together. He also indicated that Senate District 27 needs less than 5,000 people to make it whole. He said that the committee could bring in Washington City or Ivins and Torquerville to bring it into balance without disturbing Senate District 27. He requested that the committee strive to have the least amount of disruption. He also said that it would be very unfair to divide Carbon County and ask a senator from Carbon or Sanpete Counties to represent both counties. He indicated that the solution may be to take part of Washington County. He

concluded that Carbon County has had one senator since statehood and they would like to keep one forever.

Rep. Bigelow asked what the reason would be for keeping Emery and Carbon County, rather than Washington and San Juan counties. He asked what criteria the committee may use to decide which county gets divided. Sen. Dmitrich indicated that the power and resource production, and mining industries would be a good reason for keeping them together. He indicated that the industries are very similar in Emery and Carbon County, unlike the other rural counties in the state.

Rep. Bush stated that it isn't horrible to have your county split, because having 2 representatives fighting for your issue is better. He said that having two voices is better than one voice. Sen. Dmitrich said that a Sanpete senator could not fairly represent the interests of Carbon and Emery County. He stated that they are a very unique rural area to the state. Rep. Bush stated that he rejected the idea of assuming that a certain senator will not represent certain areas. He indicated that it is an unfair way of thinking.

Rep. Bigelow inquired of the difference between a county and a city line. He stated that people must be represented, not areas. He asked Sen. Dmitrich if he would accept not honoring a county line. Sen. Dmitrich said that in these small counties, that need 5 - 7,000 people, he believes the counties do not need to be divided.

Mr. Dennis Willis, Price resident, said that it will be virtually impossible to split some counties. He stated that travel and tourism are major issues for southeastern Utah with a whole host of challenges that need special representation. He requested that the committee consider looking at community planning concepts and economic geography before drawing the lines.

Mr. Jim Robertson, retired Carbon County sheriff, echoed Sen. Dmitrich's comments about splitting Carbon County. He mentioned the landfill issue in east Carbon County and requested that the committee listen to the remarks made previously. He said that it only seems fair to include east Carbon, Sunnyside, and Kennelworth areas with Senate District 27.

Mr. Bill Krompel, Carbon County Commissioner, stated that Carbon and Sanpete Counties have dissimilar economies, but indicated that Carbon and Emery County are the energy centers of the state. He asked the committee to do the most they can to keep Carbon and Emery County together.

Mr. Mike Milovich, Carbon County Commissioner, echoed the comments of Sen. Dmitrich and stated that if Carbon and Emery County are split, a tremendous disservice would result. He encouraged each of the committee members do what is right for the citizens in the communities of the state and suggested that those with similar economic and social interests be put together.

Mr. Bruce Funk, Emery County Clerk/Auditor, reiterated the comments of Sen. Dmitrich and indicated that there are pros and cons to each situation of keeping a county intact. He said that they have had excellent representation over the years, but asked the committee to take into consideration the issues of rural citizens and the representation they will need. He asked the committee not to combine urban and rural counties because the same depth of understanding of the rural issues does not exist in urban areas.

Rep. Pace emphasized the importance of not dividing precincts and the problems associated with that. She also indicated that a mix of urban and rural areas can be beneficial to everyone. The issues are different, but each representative is committed to their areas and work together to accomplish their goals.

Mr. Larry Ross, Duchesne County Commissioner, stated that Duchesne County has very specific and genuine interests. He indicated that they are very accustomed to working closely together with the cities and expressed his concern that Duchesne County or the Uintah Basin may be put with part of the Wasatch Front. He also indicated that the economic demands and issues are much different. Duchesne County is an agricultural community and more comfortable being involved with groups in rural Utah. He asked the committee to give serious consideration about including rural communities with metropolitan areas. He indicated that they prefer not to be divided politically or any other way. He concluded that he supports the comments of Sen. Dmitrich.

Mr. Willie Drawhon, Carbon County resident, discussed the issue of energy. He stated that with Carbon and Emery County being an energy hub for the state of Utah there are certain specific challenges ahead of them. He asked that the citizens be given the best opportunity to assist the interests of the nation in the issue of coal and oil development. He said that county residents feel very strongly about the development of laws that must be passed to protect the county. He asked that the committee consider all of their constituents and the possible effects redistricting would have on Carbon and Emery County by segregating them. He requested that the committee let them maintain their relationship with Emery County to effectively deal with the economic development issues and interests in the area.

Rep. Bush stated that a lot of legislators have rural roots and can represent them by learning about their specific problems.

Mr. Durwood Carter, Chair of Carbon City Republican Party, reemphasized the comments of Sen. Dmitrich. He discussed the water conflict between Carbon and Emery County and stated that someone from Sanpete County will not be able to be impartial on that issue. He indicated that it would be an extreme conflict.

Rep. Max Young, House District 71, said that each of the counties he represents are impacted by the same issues. They have many common interests and encouraged the committee to realize the importance of maintaining the cohesiveness of these counties. He said that the support they receive from the Wasatch Front is vital and that they would like to continue receiving that support and maintaining the relationship. He said that splitting the counties would diminish their ability to address their common interests.

Rep. Gordon Snow, House District 54, said that he has spent the last ten years trying to make sure his district stays whole. He requested that his district be left alone.

Rep. Brad King, House District 69, indicated the distinction between Carbon and Emery Counties that although they are rural, they are not primarily agricultural. He said that just because they are rural does not mean they have a lot in common with other rural areas. He indicated that there are no natural boundaries or barriers between Carbon, Emery, and San Juan Counties, which is a good reason to keep them together. He suggested combining the communities of Hunnington, Casteldale, and Orangeville into District 69 to make it whole. He also suggested that combining Ferrin, Emery, and Clausen would make Max Young's district whole and make sense geographically. He asked the committee to look at communities of interest while redrawing the lines and expressed his hope that the final decisions be made in the best interests of the state and not the best interests of a political party.

Mr. Guy Thayne, Duchesne County Commissioner, expressed his concern for the

congressional district realignment. He stated that if they end up with parts of Salt Lake City they will have lost representation because they will not have the votes to pass anything. He requested that the committee consider the remarks of Rep. King and thanked the committee for their efforts.

Ms. Fran Townsend, Grand County Clerk/Auditor, requested that when the committee makes the final decision that they contact the county clerks to make sure precinct lines are not crossed which will make the voting process easier.

Chair Adair stated that they will make every effort they can to not split precincts, but in some areas it will be inevitable.

Ms. Jackie Anderson, Sun Advocate reporter, asked the committee how a predominantly Republican state can defend dividing and diffusing one of the only Democratic strongholds in the state.

Rep. Bush said that the makeup of the committee has been decided by the voters of the state which is the balance of the political parties in the legislature. He indicated that the issue of dividing a county is something they must face all through the state. He indicated that divisions must be made regardless of party affiliations.

Rep. Bennion said that the committee does not have control of where people move or live, but they are entrusted to make certain that each person has a vote. He said that counties are divided because of the need to equalize population. He said that there is no way to make everyone happy, but that they are going to do the best they can to make certain that each community is represented.

Rep. Bigelow said that by the very question, both sides are justified. He said that if a district is maintained simply because it is Democrat, the opposite action is justified. He indicated that a good reason for keeping a county together is because of its common interests, not because a county is primarily Democrat. Rep. Bigelow said that people are represented by individuals, not by parties. They are represented by who they elect. He also said that the key to elected politics is that if the legislator does not represent their area, regardless of their party, they will not be reelected.

Sen. Allen said that one cannot justify a political reason for keeping or dividing a county because of the problems that will inevitably follow. He said that the committee is taking into consideration communities of interest.

Chair Adair said that Utah has a Republican form of government, which means the right of the minority to be heard and the will of the majority be done.

Rep. Pace indicated to the audience that a lot of counties are severely short of people based on the state average growth.

Mr. Lou Setrick, Emery County Commissioner, echoed Sen. Dmitrich's comments. He said that water is their number one factor and that he did not think Emery and Carbon County would mix well.

4. Adjourn

MOTION: Rep. Bennion moved to adjourn the public hearing. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Biskupski absent for the vote. Chair Adair adjourned the meeting at 2:25 p.m.

**MINUTES OF THE
REDISTRICTING PUBLIC HEARING
Thursday, July 12, 2001 - 6:00 p.m. – Utah County Administration Bldg., Provo**

Members Present:

Sen. Michael G. Waddoups, Chair
Rep. Gerry A. Adair, Chair
Sen. Beverly Evans
Sen. Pete Suazo
Rep. Patrice M. Arent
Rep. Chad E. Bennion
Rep. Ron Bigelow
Rep. Katherine M. Bryson
Rep. Don E. Bush
Rep. Brent H. Goodfellow
Rep. James R. Gowans
Rep. Wayne A. Harper
Rep. LaWanna Shurtliff
Rep. Glenn L. Way

Members Excused:

Sen. Ron Allen
Sen. John L. Valentine
Rep. Jackie Biskupski
Rep. Thomas V. Hatch
Rep. Loraine T. Pace
Rep. Jack A. Seitz

Staff Present:

Mr. Stewart E. Smith, Redistricting Team Manager
Mr. Jerry D. Howe, Research Analyst
Mr. John Q. Cannon, Research Analyst
Mr. Joseph T. Wade, Research Analyst
Ms. Alicia Gambles, Legislative Secretary

Note: A list of others present and handouts distributed are on file in the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel.

1. Call to Order

Chair Waddoups called the public hearing to order at 6:10 p.m.

2. Introduction to Redistricting

Mr. John Q. Cannon, Research Analyst, Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel, discussed the redistricting process including the 2000 census results, population shifts in the state with an emphasis on Utah and adjacent counties, and the effect the shifts will have on the redistricting process.

3. Public Input/Comments

Mr. Gary Herbert, Chair of Utah County Commission, said that fair and adequate representation should be the focus of redistricting.

Mr. Greg Duerden, 2000 legislative candidate, indicated that District 58 had a 40 percent growth rate and suggested that the committee adopt communities of interest as a guiding principle. He also indicated that Pleasant Grove is currently divided, but encouraged the committee to look at the cities before splitting them. Mr. Duerden also addressed congressional districts and said that Salt Lake County needs to be split up to create equal districts. He also said that making Salt Lake County part of all three congressional districts would be a clear way of gerrymandering.

Mr. James E. Sumsion, Spanish Fork resident, expressed his concern about an attempt to isolate Sen. Wright (Senate District 17) from Utah County in some kind of gerrymandering effort.

Mr. Richard Davis, Professor of Political Science at Brigham Young University, said that there are many factors to consider beyond population. He explained that the state is diverse in terms of partisanship and that redistricting might eliminate possibilities of Democratic representatives being elected. He suggested that a district be created for Salt Lake County which would ensure representation for those in the state who vote Democrat. He asked the committee to think about helping all who are a part of Utah's electorate to feel a part of the Congressional delegation.

Rep. Way asked Mr. Davis if he was asking the committee to ensure that a Democrat is elected to Congress. Mr. Davis emphasized his hope is that the committee not make it impossible for a Democrat to be elected. He said that there is a lack of competition on state and local levels of elections.

Mr. George H. Zinn, Salt Lake County resident, said that this matter has not been studied as effectively as it should be. He indicated that further study is needed in order to make the appropriate decisions on how to redistrict.

Chair Waddoups indicated that neither the political demographics or ethnicity of residents are listed on the state computer when redrawing the lines.

Mr. Gavin Grooms, Provo resident, said his belief that everyone is a Utahn, whether from urban or rural areas. He explained that the citizens of Utah should work together to vote for a representative that will represent the interest of all parties. He also said that the only way the system will survive, is to have equal representation for all parts of Utah.

Ms. Janet Kelsey, Orem resident, said her belief is that the legislature is looking out for itself and not the citizens. She said that she does not want to have to be politically affiliated to be represented. She presented a proposal for a legislative district representing Hispanic influences in Provo.

Ms. Peggy Burdett, Provo resident, said that Provo is not truly being represented. She said that it was not beneficial to combine Salt Lake County with Utah County.

Mr. Jess Adamson, Mayor of Highland, asked the committee to look at the communities that are not large enough to have representation of their own. He asked the committee not to split Highland and not to cross over into Salt Lake County.

Mr. George King, Utah County Republicans, discussed gerrymandering and asked if the committee thought it was unlikely that Utah will win the lawsuit.

Mr. D Christian Harrison, Provo resident, encouraged the committee to keep the districts as compact as possible.

Mr. Jim Bridgewater, Chair of Utah County Republican Party, addressed the issue of cynicism and said that many Utahns feel disenfranchised from the state.

Mr. Donald Dunn thanked the committee for serving in the legislature and stated that many Utahns are cynical about politics. He asked the committee to create districts with reasonable geographic boundaries. He addressed the congressional district issue and indicated that one solution would be to put Rose Park back with the 2nd District, and by doing so, it will create a community of interest with Salt Lake.

Rep. Matt Throckmorton distributed a copy of the plan developed for the 3rd Congressional District. He indicated that he has established a priority of not taking into consideration partisan politics and said that 27 counties remain whole in his plan.

Sen. Suazo said that what the people want is to keep their city whole. Rep. Throckmorton indicated that 97 percent of Salt Lake City is included in the 2nd Congressional district.

Rep. Arent referred to a letter received from a partisan group of mayors. She indicated that they would not be in agreement with the proposal and that they support unified congressional representation. She indicated that Mayor Stillman wants to be part of the 2nd Congressional district. Rep. Arent also said that the proposal is mixing up the roles of the US House of Representatives and the US Senate.

Rep. Throckmorton said that in politics the choices do not always mean wrong or right. He said that it really is not a matter of right or wrong, but that it comes down to equal representation.

Rep. Harper said that a principle has not been adopted to look at incumbency so that the process would be fair.

Mr. Dale Barney, Mayor of Spanish Fork, said that he would support whatever the committee decides to do. He indicated that he did not care about party affiliations.

Mr. Nancy Woodside, Chair of Utah County Democratic Party, indicated her support for the map that was proposed by Janet Kelsey. She asked the committee to consider dividing the city as an alternative and said that if her county needs to be split, she supports separating Utah County: by putting Orem, Provo, and everything south together; and then putting Alpine, Highland, and American Fork together.

Mr. Jeff Morris, Orem resident, asked the committee what guiding principles they have adopted for the process. He asked the committee to comment on what problems need to be solved.

Mr. Larry Ellertson, Mayor of Lindon City, encouraged the committee to do the right thing.

4. Adjourn

MOTION: Sen. Waddoups moved to adjourn the public hearing. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Adair adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.