

**MINUTES OF THE
REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, July 13, 2011 – 6:00 p.m. – Ben Lomond High School Auditorium, Ogden, Utah

Members Present:

Sen. Ralph Okerlund, Senate Chair
Rep. Kenneth W. Sumsion, House Chair
Sen. Gene Davis
Sen. Benjamin M. McAdams
Sen. Stuart C. Reid
Sen. Kevin T. Van Tassell
President Michael G. Waddoups
Rep. Melvin R. Brown
Rep. Gage Froerer
Rep. Francis D. Gibson
Rep. Neal B. Hendrickson
Rep. Don L. Ipson
Rep. Brian S. King
Rep. Todd E. Kiser

Speaker Rebecca D. Lockhart
Rep. Merlynn T. Newbold
Rep. R. Curt Webb

Members Absent:

Rep. Roger E. Barrus
Rep. Christine F. Watkins

Staff Present:

Mr. John Q. Cannon, Policy Analyst
Mr. Leif Elder, Policy Analyst
Mr. Richard C. North, Policy Analyst
Ms. Emily R. Brown, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Kimberly A. Heiner, Legislative Secretary

Note: A list of others present, a copy of related materials, and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

1. Committee Business

Chair Sumsion called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Members of the Committee introduced themselves and indicated the areas of the state that they represent.

2. Overview of Redistricting

Mr. North gave a presentation on what redistricting is, why it is done, and the redistricting principles that were adopted at the May 4, 2011 meeting.

Mr. Elder gave an overview of the redistricting public website, RedistrictUtah.com and demonstrated the online redistricting tool that allows the public to create redistricting plans.

3. Presentation of Redistricting Plans

Rep. Froerer presented "Complete House Plan Version 2" and explained the rationale of the plan.

Rep. Kiser showed the "District Population Map - House" and explained the population shift from the past ten years in Salt Lake City. He then presented the Salt Lake County portion of "Complete House Plan Version 2" and explained the rationale of the plan.

Sen. Okerlund discussed a randomly selected senate statewide map entitled "Steven Clark_Senate I" that was submitted on RedistrictUtah.com. He explained that the drawer tried to keep the geopolitical areas in place and all seated senators in a senate seat.

Sen. Reid discussed "Senate - Okerlund Plan B." He asked for a show of hands of who would prefer the pizza slice verses the doughnut hole approach and by a slight majority, people preferred the pizza slice approach to drawing congressional maps.

Rep. Gibson presented a randomly selected School Board Plan entitled "La Escuela Board" submitted by Trevor Tidwell on RedistrictUtah.com.

Mr. James Humphreys, citizen, presented his congressional plan entitled "James Humphreys Congressional 1," which he submitted on RedistrictUtah.com. He said he took into account population, roads, and waterways. He responded to questions from the Committee.

4. Public Comment and Committee Discussion About Redistricting

Ms. Marla Young, Box Elder County Clerk, asked the Committee to keep the precincts intact as much as possible.

Rep. Ryan Wilcox, House District 7, thanked the Committee for coming to Ogden.

Mr. Dan Deuel, citizen, said he agrees with Mr. Humphrey's plan because it focuses on natural boundaries. He said lines should be drawn without any consideration of where incumbents live.

Ms. Terri McCulloch, League of Women Voters, said her organization believes that a democracy is based on citizens freely choosing their elected officials and asked for an end to partisan practices. She asked the Committee to not focus on incumbency when drawing lines.

Ms. Marilyn O'Dell, citizen, said she does not agree with Sen. Knudson's comment that multiple people representing an area is a good thing.

Ms. Sue Connor, Represent Me Utah, asked the Committee to keep cities and communities together. She asserted that Rep. Newbold had a quote in today's UtahPolicy.com that was not correct.

Ms. Patsylee Pearce, citizen, said that maps should be drawn without considering where incumbents live.

5. Adjourn

MOTION: Sen. VanTassell moved to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Sumsion adjourned the meeting at 7:19 p.m.