



## MONTANA DISTRICTING AND APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION

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### 67th Montana Legislature

#### COMMISSION MEMBERS

Commissioner Jeff Essmann  
Commissioner Joe Lamson  
Commissioner Kendra Miller  
Commissioner Maylinn Smith  
Commissioner Dan Stusek

#### COMMITTEE STAFF

K.V. Aldrich - Attorney  
Joe Kolman - Research Analyst  
Laura Sherley - Secretary  
Rachel Weiss - Research Analyst

## MINUTES LOG

October 19, 2021  
Capitol Room 102 and Video Conference  
Helena, Montana

Please note: This document is a Minutes Log and provides annotation of the time elapsed between the beginning of the meeting and the time at which the item was presented or discussed, a motion was made, or a vote was taken. The narrative presented here is provided only as a guide to the audio or video recording of the meeting. The official discussion, motion, or vote is available on the audio or video archive of this meeting. The Legislature does not prepare a transcript of the meeting activities. The time designation may be used to locate the referenced discussion on the audio or video recording of this meeting.

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#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Commissioner Maylinn Smith, Presiding Officer  
Commissioner Jeff Essmann  
Commissioner Joe Lamson  
Commissioner Kendra Miller  
Commissioner Dan Stusek

#### **STAFF PRESENT:**

Joe Kolman, Research Analyst  
Nadine Spencer, Secretary  
Rachel Weiss, Research Analyst

## **AGENDA** ([Attachment 1](#))

## **VISITORS' LIST** ([Attachment 2](#))

### **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

10:00:12 Commissioner Smith called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. The committee secretary took roll.

### **WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS**

10:00:39 Commissioner Smith

10:01:27 Commissioner Lamson acknowledged the passing of Earl Old Person.

10:02:48 Commissioner Smith echoed Commissioner Lamson's sentiments and said it is a huge loss to Indian country and to the state of Montana.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT ON SELECTING POTENTIAL CONGRESSIONAL MAPS FOR SPECIFIC**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Commission Proposals: CP1 ([Exhibit 1](#)), CP2 ([Exhibit 2](#)), CP3 ([Exhibit 3](#)), CP4 ([Exhibit 4](#)), CP5 ([Exhibit 5](#)), CP6 ([Exhibit 6](#)), CP7 ([Exhibit 7](#)), CP8 ([Exhibit 8](#)), CP9 ([Exhibit 9](#))

10:03:17 Rep. Robert Farris-Olsen, HD 79

10:06:01 Rep. Moffie Funk, HD 82

10:08:51 Mike Scheer, Great Falls ([Exhibit 10](#))

10:12:03 Dave Skinner, Kalispell

10:15:47 Rep. Derek Skees, HD 11

10:19:00 Troy Downing, State Auditor ([Exhibit 11](#))

10:20:49 Ruth Wardell, Great Falls

10:25:24 Ron Wirth, Ravalli County

10:26:36 James Reavis

10:30:06 Derek Ivester, Gallatin County

10:32:40 Jeanette Hall, Gallatin County

10:35:08 Rosanne Nash, League of Women Voters of Montana

### **Commission Questions**

10:39:53 Commissioner Essmann asked Ms. Nash to provide the sources for the data used to determine the competitiveness of the proposed maps. ([Exhibit 12](#))

### **Public comment continued**

10:40:41 Bethany Schatzke, Yellowstone County

10:42:17 Chris Goodridge, Billings

10:45:37 Anne Ready

10:47:28 Ron Szabo, Great Falls

10:50:49 Caroline Pharr, Helena

10:52:44 Mary Vandembosch, Helena

10:55:43 Rep. Jennifer Carlson, HD 69

**Commission Questions**

11:00:07 Commissioner Miller asked Rep. Carlson about aligning with the population in her congressional district and similarities between Bozeman and Missoula.

**Public comment continued**

11:02:39 Jeannie Poe, state committee woman, Ravalli County Republican Central Committee

11:03:16 Niki Sardot

11:05:03 Tammi Baer, Lake County

11:05:49 Kimberly Buck, Montanans for Freedom

11:06:30 Gail Asbury

11:10:57 Rep. Paul Fielder, HD 13

**Commission Questions**

11:14:12 Commissioner Miller asked Rep. Fielder if he had any concerns about CP1 and meeting the criteria in HB 506 (2021).

11:15:58 Commissioner Miller asked Rep. Fielder about HB 506 and why he ranked, following the lines of political subdivisions, above the measure of compactness.

**Public comment continued**

11:16:40 Ed Halland, Bridger

11:19:03 Tracy Sharp, Lake County

11:20:51 Marci Marceau

11:22:10 Annalese Warner, Missoula

11:25:43 Claire Conway, Whitefish

11:27:55 Linda Schmitt, Ravalli County

11:30:23 Betsy Swartz, Bozeman

11:32:46 Brook Schoenfield, Bitterroot

11:35:12 Mary Westwood, Billings

11:40:39 Jonathon Nehring, Helena

11:43:17 Tom Ross, Gallatin Gateway

11:45:34 Fred Van Valkenburg, Missoula ([Exhibit 13](#))

11:50:30 Richard Lyon, Gallatin County

11:55:30 Recess

12:08:55 Reconvene

**Public comment continued**

12:08:59 Darin Gaub, Helena

12:10:03 George Wardell, Great Falls

12:15:01 Ronalee Skees, Kalispell

12:16:29 Elizabeth Hogenson, Bozeman

12:18:52 Karen Cramer, Kalispell

12:19:28 Lyn Bennett, Whitefish

12:20:36 Rep. John Fuller, HD 8  
12:22:44 Sharon Nason  
12:24:35 Eileen Guthrie, Gallatin County  
12:26:02 Susan Smith, Helena  
12:27:13 Margaret MacDonald ([Exhibit 14](#))  
12:31:33 Keaton Sunchild, political director, Western Native Voice

**Commission Questions**

12:35:53 Commissioner Stusek asked Mr. Sunchild if he was speaking on behalf of tribal governments or on behalf of Western Native Voice.

**Public comment continued**

12:38:10 Deb Hansen, Gallatin River Ranch  
12:40:00 Robert Rydell, Bozeman  
12:42:24 Lynn Stanley  
12:45:10 Virjeana Brown  
12:47:00 SJ Howell, Montana Women Vote  
12:48:54 Dennison Rivera, chairman, Montana Young Republicans  
12:58:56 Whitney Tawney, executive director, Montana Conservation Voters

13:02:48 Recess for lunch

14:02:01 Reconvene

**Public comment continued**

14:02:34 Judith Mortensen  
14:04:39 Rep. Braxton Mitchell, HD 3; vice-president, Montana Young Republicans  
14:06:20 Kaitlyn Ruch  
14:07:26 Edward Byrne, Creston  
14:10:28 Linda Young  
14:12:14 Sen. Diane Sands, SD 49  
14:15:22 Rep. Denise Hayman, HD 66  
14:17:12 Rep. Ed Hill, HD 28  
14:18:32 Isaac Nehring, Montana Youth Action  
14:20:32 Rep. Mary Ann Dunwell, HD 84  
14:24:45 Karin Kirk  
14:27:49 Kimberly Dudik, former state representative  
14:32:06 Brian Hoffman, Marion  
14:33:06 Gordon Ash, Kalispell  
14:37:04 Alden Tonkay  
14:40:33 Ross Frazier, Whitefish

**Commission Questions**

14:43:27 Commissioner Stusek commented on the maps and the mandatory criteria for congressional districts.

**Public comment continued**

14:45:05 Anja Wookey-Huffman  
14:48:23 Kevin Hamm, Helena  
14:50:18 Michelle Daniels, Whitefish  
14:53:22 Mike Jopek, Flathead County  
14:57:26 Linda Beischel, Helena  
15:01:44 Linda Madsen, Great Falls  
15:03:29 Rep. Mark Thane, HD 99  
15:06:33 David Ingram, Kalispell  
15:08:28 Rep. Sue Vinton, HD 56

**Commission Questions**

15:10:40 Commissioner Miller asked Rep. Vinton about the historical precedent set when both universities were in the same congressional district.

**Public comment continued**

15:11:22 Donna Elford  
15:11:45 Debbie Churchill, Montana City

**Commission Questions**

15:18:38 Commissioner Miller asked Ms. Churchill about competitive districts.

**Public comment continued**

15:19:56 Terry Churchill, Jefferson City  
15:22:33 Pamela Raney, Clancy  
15:23:55 Theresa Holmes, Manhattan  
  
15:26:22 Recess  
15:35:13 Reconvene

**Public comment continued**

15:36:09 Samuel Neff, Whitefish  
15:38:40 Hannah Nash, Miles City  
15:41:13 George Real Bird, III, Big Horn County commissioner ([Exhibit 15](#))  
15:43:10 Melissa Hornbein, Helena  
15:47:05 Mark Good, Great Falls  
15:50:35 Linda Semones  
15:52:43 Rebecca Riedl, Billings  
15:55:09 Shelly Fyant, chairwoman, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes ([Exhibit 16](#))

15:59:25 Mary Sexton, Teton County  
16:01:41 Eric Matthews, Bozeman  
16:04:31 Rep. Brad Tschida, HD 97

**Commission Questions**

16:10:01 Commissioner Miller asked Rep. Tschida about highly competitive districts and empowering the voice of third-party candidates.

**Public comment continued**

16:15:24 Bart Crabtree, Great Falls; representative, Montana State Council on Judicial Accountability  
16:16:27 Suzeann Nordwick  
16:20:07 Brian Smith, Cascade County  
16:20:40 Elizabeth Hale, Helena  
16:21:50 Linda Daigle  
16:22:43 Devin Nelson, Ravalli County  
16:23:30 Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway, HD 22  
16:27:10 Rep. Mark Noland, HD 10

**Commission Questions**

16:29:33 Commissioner Lamson asked Rep. Noland about the reference in the Pledge of Allegiance “for liberty and justice for all.”

**Public comment continued**

16:30:09 Chris Shipp, Yellowstone County redistricting committee  
16:32:37 Terry Nelson, Hamilton; member, Montana GOP Redistricting Committee  
(Exhibit 17)

**Commission Questions**

16:49:45 Commissioner Miller asked Mr. Nelson about Republican statewide candidates in Montana.

**Public comment continued**

16:54:20 Debra McNeill, Bozeman  
16:57:11 Christina Granrud, Flathead  
17:02:41 Koi Woodson, Livingston  
17:04:58 Karla Johnson, Absorkee  
17:05:59 Tim Ravndal

Additional public comment received: (Exhibits 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25)

17:08:24 Commissioner Smith said additional public comments need to be submitted by 5:00 p.m. tomorrow.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY TOPIC UNDER THE COMMISSION'S JURISDICTION BUT NOT ON THIS AGENDA**

17:08:57 Terry Nelson asked Commissioner Smith about the format for the commission meeting on Thursday.

**Public comment continued**

17:10:03 J. Lee Cook, Polson

17:12:03 Commissioner Smith discussed the meeting on Thursday.

**ADJOURNMENT**

17:13:03 Commissioner Smith adjourned the meeting at 5:13 p.m.