

**MINUTES OF THE
REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE**

Thursday, September 22, 2011 – 9:00 a.m.– House Building Room 30

Members Present:

Sen. Ralph Okerlund, Senate Chair
Rep. Kenneth W. Sumsion, House Chair
Sen. Gene Davis
Sen. Benjamin M. McAdams
Sen. Kevin T. Van Tassell
President Michael G. Waddoups
Rep. Roger E. Barrus
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
Sen. Stuart C. Reid
Rep. Christine F. Watkins
Rep. R. Curt Webb

Staff Present:

Mr. John Q. Cannon, Managing Policy Analyst
Mr. Leif G. Elder, Policy Analyst
Mr. Joseph T. Wade, Policy Analyst
Mr. Richard C. North, Policy Analyst
Mr. John L. Fellows, 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 9:16 a.m.

MOTION: Sen. Davis moved to approved the minutes of the September 12, 2011 Redistricting meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Van Tassell absent for the vote.

2. Redistricting Plans - Committee Discussion and Action

SENATE PLANS

Mr. Glen Wright, Fair Boundaries, said that the Fair Boundaries proposed maps are better than the Committee proposed maps. He referred to a spreadsheet measuring the compactness of the Fair Boundaries proposed map. Mr. Fellows asked him if the only measure of compactness used by Fair Boundaries was the number of miles of the perimeter of a district. Mr. Wright said that it was. Mr. Fellows asked if using other measurements of compactness might yield a different result. Mr. Wright agreed that they might yield a different result, but not substantially different. Mr. Wade asked Mr. Wright what datum projections were used for the perimeter boundaries to measure the compactness and said that the type of projection used would have a significant impact on the numbers. Mr. Wright said that he was not sure, but could provide the contact information of the person who came up with the measurements.

Mr. Ken Froehle, Represent Me Utah, said that he supported Rep. Fred Cox's Senate map because it best represented the Native American population in Utah.

HOUSE PLANS

Chair Sumsion distributed a map showing the modifications made to the base House map.

MOTION: Rep. Newbold moved to adopt the changes made to the base House map.

Rep. Newbold explained the modifications made to the Salt Lake County portion of the base House map.

Rep. Webb explained the modifications made to the Cache County and Box Elder County portions of the base House map.

Rep. Froerer explained the modifications made to the Weber County portion of the base House map.

Rep. Ipson explained the modifications made to the Washington County portion of the base House map.

Rep. Brown explained the modifications made to the additional rural areas of Utah on the base House map. He responded to questions from the Committee on Summit County.

Rep. Barrus explained some modifications made to the Davis County portion of the base House map.

Chair Sumsion said there were not any changes to Utah County on the House base map.

Mr. Glen Wright, Fair Boundaries, asked the Committee if the Utah State University campus was divided on the map. Rep. Kiser said that the campus was not divided. Mr. Wright also said that he was concerned with the modified map because it divided Summit County too many times.

Ms. Mary Bishop, Salt Lake County Democratic Party Chair, said that several boundaries on the proposed House map could be cleaned up. She also said that she prefers to keep boundary lines clean over having the deviations as low as possible. Speaker Lockhart asked her if she was speaking for herself or for the Democratic Party of Salt Lake County when she said that it was better to keep the lines more clean over having the deviations as low as possible. Ms. Bishop said she was speaking for both.

Sen. McAdams said that keeping acceptably low deviations while keeping logical boundaries is the challenge of the Redistricting Committee.

Ms. Irene Hansen, Duchene County, Economic Development Office, said that she understands how difficult it is to draw the lines in redistricting but asked that the House base plan keep Roosevelt City in one district. Rep. Brown said that there was no intention to divide Roosevelt City on the map and that it would be held whole.

Mr. Steven Clark, Sanpete County Republican Chair, spoke in favor of the "Joint Petition of Sanpete and Tooele County Governments and Political Organizations to Amend the Proposed District 68 and 73 Boundaries," which was distributed to the Committee. He said that the proposed House base plan divides Sanpete County three times, which he said is unacceptable because it would remove the voice of Sanpete County on Capitol Hill. He also said the previous version of the base House plan divided Sanpete County two times, and said that while the County would prefer to remain whole, they could live with being divided only twice.

Mr. Chris Sloan, Tooele County Republican Chair, said that he came to speak in support of the "Joint Petition of Sanpete and Tooele County Governments." He also said that while the current proposed House

base map does not do any additional damage to Tooele County in comparison to the original base House plan, he is concerned that the modified plan divides Sanpete County three times.

Mr. Arlyn Bradshaw, Salt Lake County Council, thanked the Committee for keeping Rose Park whole in the House and Senate base maps. He said that a deviation of zero is less important to him than keeping communities with common interests together. He responded to questions from the Committee.

Mr. Chad Smith, West Valley City resident, asked why the districts in 33, 34, and 39 were divided the way they were on the proposed plan. Rep. Newbold explained that census blocks could not be divided. Rep. Hendrickson also explained that a canal running along those areas explained some of the odd shaped lines.

Rep. Gibson said that it was tough to keep the deviations close to zero as well as keeping communities of interest together, but said that the Committee would continue to work the maps and listen to public input.

The Committee voted on Rep. Newbolds motion to adopt the proposed changes to the House map as the new base House map. The motion passed unanimously.

CONGRESSIONAL PLANS

Mr. Glen Wright, Fair Boundaries, presented a Fair Boundaries congressional map and said that the map presented has a near zero deviation.

Speaker Lockhart asked Mr. Wright how Fair Boundaries defined "communities of interest." Mr. Wright said that they used census definitions of political subdivisions to determine communities of interest.

Rep. Barrus asked Mr. Wright if they considered military bases in their maps. Mr. Wright said that they considered Hill Air Force Base, but not the testing ranges.

Rep. Gibson asked Mr. Wright how they considered the Fair Boundaries Map to be compact, especially considering the rural areas of Utah being spread out on the plan. Mr. Wright said that he did not see the rural areas of Utah being represented by one representative covering a large area of land any differently than Wyoming, a largely rural state, having only one representative.

Mr. Wright responded to further questions from the Committee.

Ms. Kelli Lundgren, Represent Me Utah, said that she would prefer to keep communities of interest together over keeping the lowest possible deviations. Speaker Lockhart asked her if she was speaking for herself or for her organization. Ms. Lundgren said that she was speaking for her organization. Ms. Lundgren also said that Represent Me Utah would not challenge a plan in court based on deviations of population.

Mr. Fellows reminded that Committee that there is a difference in the way that the courts will view Congressional and Legislative plans.

Ms. Lundgren discussed her Congressional plan entitled "Kelli Lundgren - U.S. Congress" submitted on RedistrictUtah.com. She said that her plan keeps the majority of the Salt Lake County together. She

responded to questions from the Committee.

Rep. Fred Cox, House district 32, presented and distributed a congressional plan he created for the Committee to consider. He said that the goal of his plan was to keep cities and counties as whole as possible. He also said he tried to create a map that would not favor one political party over another.

Ms. Dee Rowland, Utah Citizens Counsel, said that her organization created four Congressional plans. She discussed the "Utah Citizens Counsel Congress Plan A" plan and said that the main principles followed in drawing the maps not to consider the residence of incumbents. She responded to questions from the Committee.

Mr. Bill Conder, Salt Lake County, said that he supported the Sumsion_05 congressional plan because it keeps the geographic areas of the state in logical areas. He also said that he liked how this map divides Salt Lake City because it balances out the ability for rural and urban to have representation in all areas. He said that keeping Salt Lake County together, no matter how it is divided, would smack of partisanship.

Mr. Steven Clark, Sanpete County Republican Party, said that rural counties do not like the doughnut hole congressional plans because they deny rural representation for Utah. He said that he supports the "Sumsion_05" congressional plan because it would give rural Utah better representation. He also said Rep. Cox's proposed map would also be acceptable. He responded to questions from the Committee.

Mr. Alan Crooks, CSS, asked to withdraw the information he distributed to part of the Committee about the "Sumsion_07" plan. He said that his information was distributed without the chair's knowledge and that the data and information came from himself.

Chair Sumsion reminded the public that any information distributed to the Committee needed to have the approval of the Chair.

Ms. Susan Connor, Represent Me Utah, said that public documents and surveys indicate that the people of Utah want to keep rural and urban issues separate. She also said that the Committee had no information indicating that the people of Utah wanted an urban/rural mix, or a pizza slice approach, to congressional redistricting. She asked the Committee to have at least three of the six congressional maps adopted today support a doughnut hole approach to congressional redistricting.

Speaker Lockhart asked Ms. Connor if her organization had data of where respondents to the Represent Me Utah's on-line survey lived to give a better understanding of what area of the state the responses are reflecting. Speaker Lockhart said she wanted to make sure that any data the Committee responds to is reflective of the views of Utah as a whole, and not simply from specific regions of the state.

Sen. Reid said that, in the Redistricting meetings held throughout the state, he asked the public in attendance to raise their hand to indicate if they would prefer a pizza slice or a doughnut hole approach to Congressional redistricting. He said that the majority of people from the rural areas supported the pizza slice approach, indicating a preference for rural and urban mix in their Congressional districts.

Mr. Fellows questioned Mr. Connor about the need to have a statistically significant sample, with a disbursement of urban and rural respondents, in order to accurately apply the survey results to the

population as a whole.

Ms. Connor said that there are stringent statistical standards in research and medical fields, but for newspaper polls, there are a variety of ways to conduct polls. She said that having a poll that allows people to self select is still a valid poll.

Rep. Gibson said that, at the Redistricting meetings he attended, there were very few times that a majority of the attendees preferred a doughnut hole over a pizza slice approach to congressional redistricting.

Chair Okerlund gave an overview of Bob Bernick's congressional map "Bobcong2_Congressional Plan." Chair Okerlund said he liked that the map keeps Utah County whole. Additional Committee members commented on the map.

Mr. Robert Walton, Summit County resident, said that Summit County would like to remain whole, but if Summit County needed to be divided, dividing it through the east and west would be the best place to divide the County.

MOTION: Rep. Kiser moved to recess until 12:30 p.m. for lunch. The motion passed unanimously.

The Committee recessed at 11:53 a.m. and reconvened at 12:56 p.m.

Rep. Ipson said that during recess, he had asked Committee staff to pull together from the minutes how the public answered when asked if they preferred a pizza slice vs. a doughnut hole Congressional district. Rep. Ipson said that the public responded six out of the eight times that they preferred a pizza slice over the doughnut approach to redistricting. He also distributed a handout with excerpts from the meeting minutes indicating this response.

Sen. McAdams said that he sensed some confusion in the audience when they were asked if they preferred an urban vs. rural split and was not sure that everyone understood the question as it was asked.

Sen. Davis discussed his "Davis_01" plan that he introduced at a previous Redistricting Committee meeting.

Chair Sumsion distributed and discussed his "Sumsion_05" congressional plan. He said that this plan would create a congressional delegation that would represent all of the needs of Utah. He said he views congressional delegates as representing Utah as a whole at the federal level, and not as much individual districts. He also distributed and discussed his "Congressional: Sumsion_06_Salt Lake City Whole" plan.

Rep. Newbold said that she would like to consider "Congressional - Garber D," which was submitted by a citizen on RedistrictUtah.com. She said that she liked this map because it only split Salt Lake County two times. Copies of this map were distributed by the Committee staff.

Rep. Barrus said that he is concerned about the "Sumsion_07" map because it splits Davis County, which affects Hill Air Force Base.

Chair Okerlund nominated President Waddoups' military and modified doughnut plans as well as the "Okerlund Congressional Plan - F" to be included in the six congressional plans to be considered for the Committee recommended congressional maps.

President Waddoups discussed his "Waddoups Military Map." He said that this plan keeps Salt Lake City together. He said the only cities split in his map are the cities of the Midvale, Sandy, Draper and a piece of West Valley and Saratoga Springs.

Chair Sumsion discussed and distributed "Harper_02 Congressional" plan. President Waddoups said he thinks this plan has a lot of merit.

Chair Okerlund listed 15 plans for the Committee to narrow down to be considered as one of the six Committee recommended maps. He said the maps for consideration were "Fair Boundaries," "Kelli Lundgren - U.S. Congress," "Utah Citizens' Counsel," "Davis_01," "Rep Cox - Congressional," "Bobcong2_Congressional Plan," "Sumsion_05," "Congressional: Sumsion_06_Salt Lake City Whole," "Waddoups Military," "Okerlund Plan F," "Congressional - Garber D," "Harper_02 Congressional," "Congressional: Sumsion 07 - Utah Even Divide," "Sanpete Man_01 Congressional, and "Waddoups Modified Doughnut."

Chair Sumsion instructed the Committee to raise their hand if they wanted the congressional maps to be considered as part of the six congressional recommended Committee maps.

The following Committee members expressed support for the following plans:

"Fair Boundaries" - Sen. Davis, Sen. McAdams, Rep. King

"Represent Me Utah - Kelli Lundgren - U.S. Congress" - President Waddoups, Sen. McAdams, Sen. Van Tassell, Chair Okerlund, Rep. Sumsion, Rep. Newbold, Speaker Lockhart

"Utah Citizens' Counsel" - Sen. Davis, Rep. King, Rep. Hendrickson

"Davis_01 Map" - Sen. McAdams, Sen. Davis, Sen. Van Tassell, Rep. Watkins, Rep. King, Rep. Hendrickson, Chair Okerlund, Rep. Froerer, Rep. Ipson, Rep. Webb, Speaker Lockhart, Rep. Newbold, Rep. Kiser

"Rep. Cox - Congressional" - Rep. Gibson, President Waddoups, Sen. Van Tassell, Rep. Watkins, Rep. King, Sen. McAdams, Rep. Hendrickson, Chair Okerlund, Chair Sumsion, Sen. Reid, Rep. Brown, Rep. Ipson, Rep. Froerer, Rep. Webb, Speaker Lockhart, Rep. Barrus

"Bobcong2_Congressional Plan" - Sen. Van Tassell, Rep. King, Rep. Hendrickson, Sen. Okerlund, Chair Sumsion, Sen. Reid, Rep. Brown, Rep. Ipson, Rep. Froerer, Rep. Webb, Rep. Newbold, Rep. Kiser, Rep. Barrus, Rep. Watkins

"Sumsion_05" - President Waddoups, Chair Okerlund, Chair Sumsion, Rep. Brown, Rep. Ipson, Rep. Froerer, Rep. Webb, Rep. Newbold, Rep. Kiser

"Congressional: Sumsion_06_Salt Lake City Whole" - President Waddoups, Sen. Van Tassell, Rep. Watkins, Chair Okerlund, Chair Sumsion, Sen. Reid, Rep. Ipson, Rep. Froerer, Rep. Kiser, Speaker Lockhart

"Waddoups Military" - Rep. Gibson, President Waddoups, Sen. McAdams, Sen. Davis, Sen. Van Tassell, Rep. King, Chair Okerlund, Sen. Reid, Rep. Froerer, Speaker Lockhart, Rep. Newbold, Rep. Barrus

"Okerlund Plan F" - President Waddoups, Sen. Davis, Sen. Van Tassell, Rep. Watkins, Chair Okerlund, Chair Sumsion, Sen. Reid, Rep. Brown, Rep. Ipson, Rep. Froerer, Rep. Newbold, Rep. Kiser

"Congressional - Garber D" - Rep. Gibson, President Waddoups, Rep. Watkins, Rep. King, Rep. Hendrickson, Chair Okerlund, Chair Sumsion, Rep. Brown, Rep. Ipson, Rep. Froerer, Rep. Webb, Rep. Newbold, Rep. Kiser, Rep. Barrus, Sen. McAdams

"Harper_02 Congressional" - Rep. Gibson, President Waddoups, Rep. Watkins, Rep. King, Rep. Hendrickson, Chair Okerlund, Chair Sumsion, Sen. Reid, Rep. Ipson, Speaker Lockhart, Rep. Newbold, Rep. Kiser, Rep. Barrus

"Congressional: Sumsion_07" - Rep. Gibson, Rep. King, Rep. Hendrickson, Chair Sumsion, Rep. Ipson, Rep. Froerer, Rep. Newbold

"Sanpete Man_01 Congressional" - President Waddoups, Sen. McAdams, Sen. Davis, Sen. Van Tassell, Rep. Watkins, Rep. King, Rep. Hendrickson, Chair Okerlund, Chair Sumsion, Rep. Brown, Rep. Ipson, Rep. Froerer, Rep. Newbold, Rep. Kiser, Rep. Barrus

"Waddoups Modified Doughnut" - President Waddoups, Chair Okerlund, Chair Sumsion, Sen. Reid, Speaker Lockhart, Rep. Newbold, Rep. Barrus

The Committee discussed when would be the best time to hold the next Redistricting meeting. Chair Sumsion said that the Redistricting meeting scheduled for Monday, September 26, would be cancelled to give the public time to respond to the six congressional maps recommended by the Committee. He said that the next Redistricting meeting would be on Tuesday September 27 and, if a further meeting became necessary, on Wednesday September 28th.

The chairs announced that the nine maps that received majority support from the Committee were "Davis_01," "Rep. Cox - Congressional," "Bobcong2_Congressional Plan," "Congressional: Sumsion_06-Salt Lake City Whole," "Waddoups Military," "Okerlund Plan F," "Congressional - Garber D," "Harper_02 Congressional," and "Sanpete Man_01 Congressional."

Committee staff distributed to the Committee a list of the top nine maps that received the most votes. The chairs directed the Committee to vote by written ballot for up to six maps.

MOTION: Speaker Lockhart moved to recess for 10 minutes to look at the nine maps before voting on them. The motion passed unanimously with President Waddoups absent for the vote.

The meeting recessed at 2:18 p.m. and reconvened at 2:49 p.m.

Chair Sumsion distributed a sheet showing the vote tally of the Committee. He announced that the top six maps were "Rep Cox's Plan," "Congressional: Sumsion_06_Salt Lake City Whole," "Okerlund Plan F," "Congressional - Garber D," "Harper_02 Congressional," "Sanpete Man_01."

MOTION: Sen. Davis moved to adopt the top six plans as Committee recommended maps for further consideration. The maps adopted were "Rep Cox - Congressional," "Congressional: Sumsion_06_Salt Lake City Whole," "Okerlund Plan F," "Congressional - Garber D," "Harper_02," and "Sanpete Man_01 Congressional."

Mr. Froehle said that he does not like the maps being looked at because the Native American lands are divided up.

Mr. Brandon Mark, citizen, asked if anyone on the Committee still had the handout that was distributed and then recalled earlier in the meeting, and also asked if that information was going to part of the meeting record. Chair Sumsion said that the Committee does not have that information.

Mr. Fellows explained that the person who distributed the information was told that he would have to have the approval of the Committee Chairs before distributing his handout. Mr. Fellows said that the person who distributed the information chose instead to withdraw the handout. Mr. Fellows indicated that the information would not be part of the Committee record.

Sen. Davis's motion was voted on. The motion passed unanimously, with President Waddoups, Rep. Gibson, and Rep. Hendrickson absent for the vote.

Rep. King asked for the six congressional maps to be posed on RedistrictUtah.com in a distinct location. Mr. Cannon said that the maps would be clearly posted on RedistrictUtah.com.

3. Adjourn

MOTION: Rep. Ipson moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. with President Waddoups and Rep Gibson and absent for the vote.

Chair Sumsion adjourned the meeting at 2:49 p.m.