



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

CITIZENS INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

Summary of Proceedings 2020 Citizens Independent Redistricting Commission

Date: **Wednesday, April 21, 2021**
Time: **6:00 PM – 8:28 PM**
Place: **Remote Virtual Participation Only**

Recordings of the Commission Meetings, Agendas, Supplemental Materials and Minutes of the Citizens Independent Redistricting Commission are available on the internet at:
www.countyofsb.org/redistricting.sbc

BOARD ACTION SHOWN IN CAPS

1. Commission Convened

Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Bradley, Bray, McClintock, Morris, Ochoa, Olmedo, Rios, Trosky, Turley, Twibell

Commissioners Absent: None

CHAIR MORRIS ANNOUNCED THAT ITEM 8 WILL BE HEARD AFTER ITEM 4.

2. Commissioner disclosure of ex parte communications pursuant to County Ordinance Code Sec. 2-10.9A(5)(h) are posted on the commission website at www.countyofsb.org/redistricting.sbc.

CHAIR MORRIS DISCLOSED AN EMAIL COMMUNICATION WITH TOM WOODROW, SANTA BARBARA COUNTY TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION, REGARDING THE PROCESS RELATED TO FILLING A COMMISSION VACANCY (ITEM 5).

3. Public Comment

The Public Comment period is reserved for comments on items not on the Agenda and for matters within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Citizens Independent Redistricting Commission. The Commission may adopt reasonable regulations, including time limits, on public comments. The Commission may not discuss or take action on any matter raised during the public comment section, except to decide whether to place a matter on the agenda of a future meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

LEE HELLER, HEARD REGARDING A CONCERN ABOUT HEARING ITEM 8 EARLIER IN THE AGENDA.

GAIL TETON-LANDIS, HEARD REGARDING COMMISSIONER HUDLEY'S RESIGNATION LETTER, AND REQUESTED THAT LETTERS AND OTHER MATERIALS BE POSTED WITHOUT DELAY, AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BROWN ACT.

LATA MURTI, HEARD REGARDING WRITTEN COMMENT PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED ABOUT THE SUGGESTED OUTREACH LIST AND FORM ACCESSIBILITY, AND AGREED WITH THE PREVIOUS PUBLIC COMMENT.

LINDSEY BAKER, LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS, HEARD REGARDING TRANSPARENCY AND CONCERNS ABOUT THE RECEIPT AND POSTING OF COMMISSIONER HUDLEY'S RESIGNATION LETTER, AND REQUESTED TO RECEIVE NOTIFICATION OF COMMISSION MEETINGS.

WRITTEN COMMENTS:

LATA MURTI, WROTE REGARDING IDEAS FOR IMPROVING THE SUGGESTED OUTREACH LIST USE.

JOE PIERRE, SANTA BARBARA DEMOCRATIC PARTY, WROTE REGARDING FILLING COMMISSIONER HUDLEY'S VACANCY.

CHAIR MORRIS ANNOUNCED A LETTER WAS RECEIVED VIA EMAIL FROM CHARLES BELL REGARDING FILLING THE DISTRICT 3 VACANCY, AND THE EMAIL REPORTED EARLIER UNDER EX PARTE DISCLOSURE, WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE NEXT AGENDA.

DR. JOHNSON CLARIFIED THAT COMMISSIONER HUDLEY'S RESIGNATION LETTER WAS POSTED WHEN IT WAS RECEIVED.

4. Approval of Minutes of April 7, 2021.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF APRIL 7, 2021.

MOTION CARRIED: 10 AYES

ITEM 8 WAS TAKEN OUT OF ORDER, DUE TO MR. BECKER'S EAST COAST LOCATION AND THE 3 HOUR TIME DIFFERENCE.

8. Training 5: Federal Voting Rights Act, by David Becker

David Becker has over two decades of experience in the law of voting rights, election administration, and redistricting. In addition to founding the nonpartisan nonprofit Center for

Election Innovation and Research to serve election officials of both parties, he led the Pew Elections team for The Pew Charitable Trusts, and served for seven years as a senior trial attorney in the Voting Section of the Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division. That service included a redistricting cycle, including DOJ preclearance review under the Voting Rights Act of redistricting plans in multiple jurisdictions, and litigation under the Voting Rights Act in federal court. In this role, he led investigations of potential federal voting rights violations in more than a dozen states, and served as lead trial counsel for the United States in approximately a dozen federal voting rights cases.

MR. BECKER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR ELECTION INNOVATION AND RESEARCH, PRESENTED INFORMATION ON THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT AND OTHER CONSIDERATIONS IN REDISTRICTING, AND COVERED THE FOLLOWING TOPICS:

WHERE TO DRAW THE LINES?

- EQUAL POPULATION
- RACE AND ETHNICITY
- CONTIGUITY
- NEIGHBORHOODS AND COMMUNITIES
- CITY OR CENSUS DESIGNATED PLACE
- IDENTIFIABLE BOUNDS
- COMPACTNESS
- PARTISAN FAVORITISM

MRS. TILTON ANNOUNCED THAT MR. BECKER'S PRESENTATION WILL BE POSTED ON THE WEBSITE.

LEE HELLER, HEARD REGARDING CONSIDERATION OF PRESENTATION TIMES WHEN PREPARING THE AGENDA, AND THE VALUE OR DESIRABILITY OF HAVING MORE THAN ONE SUPERVISOR REPRESENT A CITY.

ANDY CALDWELL, HEARD REGARDING SPLITTING CITIES.

SPENCER BRANDT, HEARD REGARDING COUNTING COLLEGE STUDENTS, AND MENTIONED THAT UC SANTA BARBARA CONDUCTS ANNUAL SURVEYS OF WHERE STUDENTS LIVE.

COMMISSIONER BRADLEY ASKED IF COMPACTNESS INCLUDES CONSIDERATION OF TRANSPORTATION CORRIDORS, AND IF IT IS RELEVANT. MR. BECKER STATED IT IS RELEVANT AND SHOULD BE CONSIDERED.

5. Receive and file letter of resignation submitted by James "Chris" Hudley, Former Third District Commissioner, and possible action regarding filling vacancy.

MS. ORDIN REVIEWED THE ORDINANCE SUBSECTIONS AND THE BYLAWS PERTAINING TO FILLING A VACANCY.

DR. JOHNSON PRESENTED THE SELECTION POOL STATISTICS FOR DISTRICT 3.

CHAIR MORRIS RECOMMENDED DISCUSSING THE FOLLOWING:

- DETERMINE THE POOL
- WHICH REPRESENTATION FACTORS (PARTY PREFERENCE, RACE, ETHNICITY, ETC.) ARE PRIORITY
- TIME AND PROCESS

PUBLIC COMMENT:

JOE PIERRE, HEARD REGARDING THE IMPORTANCE OF FILLING THE VACANCY WITH A DEMOCRAT.

LEE HELLER, THANKED COMMISSIONER HUDLEY FOR HIS SERVICE, IN SUPPORT OF FILLING THE VACANCY WITH A DEMOCRAT, AND MOVING COMMISSIONER OLMEDO FROM AT LARGE TO DISTRICT 3.

ANDY CALDWELL, HEARD REGARDING THE VACANCY TIMELINE, CONCERNS ABOUT MOVING COMMISSIONER OLMEDO TO DISTRICT 3, AND LATINO REPRESENTATION.

SPENCER BRANDT, THANKED COMMISSIONER HUDLEY FOR HIS SERVICE, HEARD IN SUPPORT OF FILLING THE VACANCY WITH A DEMOCRAT, AND MOVING COMMISSIONER OLMEDO TO DISTRICT 3.

REBECA GARCIA, HEARD IN SUPPORT OF PREVIOUS COMMENTS, AND IN SUPPORT OF MOVING COMMISSIONER OLMEDO TO DISTRICT 3.

FOLLOWING DISCUSSION, THE COMMISSIONERS AGREED:

- STAFF TO REACH OUT TO THE LARGER POOL AND FIND OUT WHICH DEMOCRAT AFFILIATED CANDIDATES ARE INTERESTED IN BEING INTERVIEWED (INCLUDING FORMER COMMISSIONER KATZ AND GRAY)
- REPORT FINDINGS AT THE MAY 5 COMMISSION MEETING
- DETERMINE THE INTERVIEW SCHEDULE AND PROCESS
- SCHEDULE INTERVIEWS ON MAY 12 (AFTER 7PM) AND/OR MAY 19, DEPENDING ON THE NUMBER OF CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS

THE COMMISSIONERS DISCUSSED IN THE FUTURE, HAVING STAFF CANVAS ALL

CANDIDATES FROM THE LARGER POOL AND COMPILE A LIST TO IDENTIFY CURRENT/FUTURE INTEREST FOR CONSIDERATION, AND IF THERE IS INTEREST IN SERVING ON AN ADJUNCT COMMITTEE. NO DUE DATE FOR THIS ASSIGNMENT.

MOTION TO ACCEPT WITH REGRETS THE RESIGNATION OF COMMISSIONER HUDLEY.

MOTION CARRIED: 10 AYES

6. Review by legal counsel on the Ralph M. Brown Act, including ex parte disclosures, social media communications, and communications with the press.

NONE.

7. Outreach: Update on work on marketing materials.

MRS. TILTON GAVE AN UPDATE:

- CREATION OF THE OUTREACH SUBCOMMITTEE (VICE CHAIR TURLEY, COMMISSIONER BRAY, AND RIOS)
- THE OUTREACH SUBCOMMITTEE WILL BE FACILITATED BY TRIPEPI SMITH (MARKETING OUTREACH CONTRACTOR)
- SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS SUBMITTED THEIR MARKETING AND OUTREACH PRIORITIES TO TRIPEPI SMITH
- THE OUTREACH SUBCOMMITTEE AND TRIPEPI SMITH WILL DISCUSS THE WEBSITE AT THEIR MEETING ON APRIL 28
- TRIPEPI SMITH IS MAKING ARRANGEMENTS TO MEET WITH THE COUNTY'S WEBMASTER, AND PRIORITIZE THE LANGUAGE NEEDS AND ACCESSIBILITY FOR THE WEBSITE.
- TRIPEPI SMITH IS ALSO WORKING ON:
 - PROCESSES FOR LAUNCHING THE COMMISSIONERS SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS ON FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM, AND POSSIBLY ADVERTISING ON OTHER PLATFORMS SUCH AS WECHAT.
 - SOCIAL MEDIA CONTENT FOR USE ON COUNTY AND/OR COMMISSION ACCOUNTS
 - AN ANIMATED INFORMATIONAL VIDEO THAT CAN BE TRANSLATED IN SPANISH AND POSSIBLY OTHER LANGUAGES
 - TRIPEPI SMITH IN CONJUNCTION WITH NDC IS WORKING ON A GENERAL REDISTRICTING PRESENTATION FOR COMMISSIONERS

COMMISSIONER BRAY ASKED ABOUT THE GOVERNOR'S ESTIMATED JUNE 15, 2021 "OPENING UP" OF THE STATE AND ITS EFFECT ON THE COMMISSION'S OUTREACH AND COMMUNITY MEETINGS. MS. ANDERSON STATED MORE INFORMATION WILL

BE FORTHCOMING FROM THE COUNTY. MRS. TILTON COMMENTED THE COUNTY IS STILL VIRTUAL, AND A COMBINATION OF VIRTUAL AND IN-PERSON HYBRID MEETINGS IS POSSIBLE.

VICE CHAIR TURLEY SUGGESTED ALLOWING PUBLIC COMMENT ON MARKETING MATERIALS.

COMMISSIONER RIOS COMMENTED ABOUT ENGAGING ORGANIZATIONS THAT REACH OUT TO AND KNOW THE NEEDS OF THEIR COMMUNITY, AND KEEP THE NEEDS OF THE INDIGENOUS POPULATION IN MIND.

DR. JOHNSON MENTIONED THAT GOLETA HAS A PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE FOR THEIR REDISTRICTING OUTREACH THAT WILL APPEAR IN THE COMMISSION'S OUTREACH LIST.

9. Discussion and possible action regarding future training sessions and other future agenda items.
 - PRESENTATION BY THE MEXICAN AMERICAN LEGAL AND EDUCATIONAL DEFENSE FUND (MALDEF) – MAY 5
 - PRESENTATION BY THE ASIAN AMERICAN ADVANCING JUSTICE CENTER – MAY 5
 - MIXTECO INDIGENA COMMUNITY ORGANIZING PROJECT (MICOP) – FUTURE MEETING
 - ADD STANDING ITEM ON THE AGENDA DETAILING HOW TO NAVIGATE TO AND ADD INFORMATION TO THE OUTREACH LIST ON THE WEBSITE.

COMMISSIONER RIOS WILL PROVIDE MRS. TILTON WITH A LIST OF ORGANIZATIONS TO REACH OUT TO THAT WORK WITH OTHER INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES.

DR. JOHNSON ANNOUNCED THE WEBSITE WILL BE UPDATED TO INCLUDE THE PRESENTATION BY DR. PHILLIPS SOURCES OF DATA INFORMATION IN THE RESOURCE SECTION.

ADJOURNMENT – The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 5, 2021, at 6 p.m.

Agenda Packet Items:

Item 04 Minutes of April 7, 2021

Item 05 Commissioner James “Chris” Hudley Letter of Resignation

Item 09 Proposed Future Agenda Items