



# MINUTES

## Temporary Redistricting Advisory Commission

February 11, 2011

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### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rose Brown  
Lance Ehmcke

Matt Paul  
Eric Turner

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## MEETING IN BRIEF

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Organizational staffing provided  
by: Ed Cook, Senior Legal  
Counsel,  
(515) 281-3994

Minutes prepared by: Tim  
McDermott, Senior Legal  
Counsel,  
(515) 281-8090

- I. Procedural Business.
- II. Introductions.
- III. Overview of Process and Duties.
- IV. Procedure Rules — Temporary Chairperson.
- V. Election of the Fifth Member.



## Temporary Redistricting Advisory Commission

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### **I. Procedural Business.**

**Call to Order.** The first meeting of the Temporary Redistricting Advisory Commission was called to order at 1:33 p.m., Friday, February 11, 2011, in Room 102 of the State Capitol Building.

**Next Meeting.** The Commission agreed to schedule the next meeting for Thursday, February 17, 2011, at 9:00 a.m. in Room 300 of the Miller Building.

**Adjournment.** The Commission adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

### **II. Introductions.**

Mr. Ed Cook, Legislative Services Agency, introduced Mr. Gary Rudicil and Ms. Jodi Flory, Legislative Services Agency, as the employees along with Mr. Cook who have been assigned redistricting duties within the agency. Each of the members introduced themselves to other Commission members.

### **III. Overview of Process and Duties.**

Mr. Cook explained that census data for Iowa had just been released and that the first redistricting plan would be publicly released on Thursday, March 31, 2011. The plan will be a combined Congressional and General Assembly plan. The Commission will conduct a series of public hearings the following week. Mr. Cook stated that following the public hearings, the Commission will submit a report to the General Assembly regarding the information collected at the public hearings and the conclusions of the Commission. The General Assembly is prohibited from taking action on the redistricting plan until three days after the submission of the report by the Commission. The Commission has the additional duty of answering questions of the Legislative Services Agency during the drafting of any of the redistricting plans.

Mr. Cook described how to locate data and information on the General Assembly Website regarding the redistricting process in 1981, 1991, and 2001.

Mr. Cook explained that the first duty of the Commission is to elect a fifth member of the Commission to serve as the Chairperson. Due to gender balance requirements in Iowa Code section 69.16A, Mr. Cook indicated that the fifth member should be a woman. Iowa Code section 42.5 includes additional criteria that the fifth member must meet.

Mr. Cook stated that after the fifth member is elected, the Commission must shift focus to the duty of conducting the public hearings. The Commission must determine the number of hearings to be held and the time, location, and format of the hearings. Mr. Cook stated that the Iowa Communications Network was used during one of the 2001 hearings and that it could be used again by the Commission if the Commission determined it was necessary.

Mr. Cook stated that in 2001, three meetings of the Commission were held prior to the public hearing. First, the Commission held an organizational meeting. The second meeting, the Commission elected the fifth member. The third meeting was for purposes of organizing the public hearings.



Mr. Cook explained the role of the Legislative Services Agency and the Commission members in the production of the Commission's report following the public hearings. Mr. Cook explained that following the submission of the report, the Commission's duties are completed with the exception of being available to answer questions of the Legislative Services Agency during the drafting of any necessary subsequent plans.

#### **IV. Procedural Rules — Temporary Chairperson.**

The Commission declined to adopt formal procedural rules for purposes of Commission operation. The Commission also declined to elect a temporary Chairperson for the Commission.

#### **V. Election of the Fifth Member.**

The Commission discussed the procedure for electing the fifth member of the Commission. The Commission discussed the need to gain the approval of each of the nominees prior to submitting the nominees' names to the Commission. The Commission determined that the nominees would be submitted to the Legislative Services Agency prior to the second meeting of the Commission for publication on the General Assembly's Website. Election of the fifth member will take place at the second meeting.

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