



# **MINUTES**

## **Temporary Redistricting Advisory Commission**

**Tuesday, August 17, 2021**

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### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Sue Lerdal, Chairperson  
Chris Hagenow  
Jazmin Newton-Butt

David Roederer  
Ian Russell

LSA CONTACTS: Organizational staffing provided by: Ed Cook, Senior Legal Counsel, 515.281.3994; Minutes prepared by: Joe Simpson, Legal Counsel, 515.725.2251

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## Temporary Redistricting Advisory Commission

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### I. Procedural Business

**Call to Order and Adjournment.** The meeting of the Temporary Redistricting Advisory Commission was called to order at 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, August 17, 2021, as a videoconference meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:41 a.m.

**Introduction of New Member.** Ms. Newton-Butt was introduced as the member appointed in place of former commissioner Ms. Deidre DeJear.

**Approval of Minutes.** The minutes of the March 8, 2021, meeting of the commission were approved.

**Next Meeting.** The commission agreed to schedule the next meeting for Monday, August 23, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. as a videoconference meeting.

### II. Discussion and Election of Fifth Member of Commission

Mr. Russell nominated Ms. Sue Lerdal as the fifth member and chairperson of the commission. Upon motion and unanimous vote of the commission, the commission elected Ms. Lerdal as fifth member and chairperson.

### III. Additional Discussion

Ed Cook, Senior Legal Counsel, Legislative Services Agency (LSA), described the next steps that the commission needs to take now that LSA has received the census data necessary to begin redistricting. Mr. Cook stated that LSA intends to deliver its first redistricting plan to the General Assembly by September 16, 2021. The commission has 14 days to conduct at least three public hearings and submit a report with recommendations to the General Assembly. In the past, the commission has also received comments submitted online. The report will include the comments received, whether online or during a public hearing. The General Assembly cannot vote on a plan until at least three days after receiving the commission's report.

Commissioners asked questions about the potential timeline for their role in the process. Commissioners raised concerns about balancing the timeline to make sure that the public has sufficient notice to review the proposed plan before any public hearings while remaining cognizant of legislative deadlines and potential involvement from the Iowa Supreme Court. Mr. Cook stated that LSA is unlikely to deliver a plan to the General Assembly significantly before September 16, 2021. Mr. Cook acknowledged the constitutional deadlines for completing legislative redistricting but noted that the Iowa Constitution and Iowa Code do not provide a similar deadline requirement for Congressional redistricting.

The commissioners expressed a desire to wait until the next meeting to determine dates and formats of public hearings. Commissioners also requested that Mr. Cook provide an overview at the next meeting explaining how LSA creates a plan after receiving census data.