



MINUTES

Temporary Redistricting Advisory Commission

Monday, August 23, 2021

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

I. Procedural Business

Call to Order and Adjournment. The meeting of the Temporary Redistricting Advisory Commission was called to order at 2:00 p.m., Monday, August 23, 2021, as a videoconference meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 2:58 p.m.

Approval of Minutes. The minutes of the August 17, 2021, meeting of the commission were approved.

Next Meeting. The commission agreed to schedule the next meeting for Thursday, September 23, 2021, at 4:00 p.m. as a videoconference meeting.

II. Iowa Redistricting Basics

Mr. Ed Cook, Legislative Services Agency (LSA), presented an overview of how LSA uses census data to create Congressional and legislative districts. Mr. Cook explained that LSA uses the process and standards provided in Iowa Code chapter 42 to draw districts. Iowa Code chapter 42 provides a general hierarchy of standards for LSA to follow, of which Mr. Cook stated that adhering to population equality amongst proposed districts is the most important, but that does not mean LSA will disregard the other standards provided in the law. Mr. Cook noted that the Iowa Legislature's Internet site provides information that offers more detail on redistricting requirements. Mr. Cook also explained how LSA uses mapping software in redistricting.

III. Public Hearings

The commission tentatively scheduled three virtual public hearings to occur after the expected release of the redistricting plan by September 16, 2021. The first public hearing is scheduled for September 20, 2021, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. The second public hearing is scheduled for September 21, 2021, from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. The third public hearing is scheduled for September 22, 2021, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. LSA staff will assist in arranging the public hearings. Members of the public will also be able to submit written comments on the Iowa Legislature's Internet site.