



City of Pensacola

DISTRICTING COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

October 13, 2021

4:00 P.M.

City Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Mack at 4:00 P.M. She noted the attendance of the Commission’s legal counselors Meredith Crawford of Clark Partington Law Firm and Sharmin Hibbert of Pittman Law Group. Also, Deputy Supervisor of Elections Chris Heaney (SOE David Stafford was out of town).

ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Members Present: Diane Mack, John Jerrals, William Brancati, Jewel Cannada-Wynn, Jarah Jacquay, Samuel Mathews, Eric Stevenson

Members Absent: None

Members of the public may attend the meeting in person. City Council encourages those not fully vaccinated to wear face coverings that cover their nose and mouth.

Members of the public may also attend and participate via live stream and/or phone.

To watch the meeting live visit: cityofpensacola.com/428/Live-Meeting-Video.

To provide input:

- Citizens may submit an online form available on the City’s website www.cityofpensacola.com (direct link to be distributed) **beginning at 1:00 P.M. until that agenda item has been voted upon** to indicate they wish to speak to a specific item on the agenda **and include a phone number. Staff will call the person** at the appropriate time so the citizen can directly address the City Council using a telephone held up to a microphone. **Any form received after an agenda item has been voted upon will not be considered.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. [21-00832 APPROVAL OF MINUTES - DISTRICTING COMMISSION MEETING DATED SEPTEMBER 22, 2021](#)

A motion to approve was made by Commission Member Cannada-Wynn and seconded by Commission Member Brancati.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 Diane Mack, John Jerrals, William Brancati, Jewel Cannada-Wynn,
 Jarrah Jacquay, Samuel Mathews, Eric Stevenson
No: 0 None

PRESENTATIONS

2. [21-00892 LEGAL BRIEFING FROM MEREDITH CRAWFORD](#)

Recommendation: That the Districting Commission receive a presentation from Meredith Crawford.

Legal counselors Meredith Crawford of Clark Partington Law Firm and Sharmin Hibbert of Pittman Law Group provided an overhead presentation and hardcopies of a memorandum both entitled *Redistricting Process* (on file with background materials).

Following the presentation, Legal Counselor Crawford responded accordingly to questions from Commission Member Cannada-Wynn related to maintaining minority-majority districts.

ACTION ITEMS

None

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Chairperson Mack indicated the purpose of this meeting was as a workshop for Commission Members and that public input will be heard during the open forum segment of the meeting.

3. [21-00893 CONDUCTING THE DISTRICTING PROCESS](#)

Based on the Commission's discussion and direction at the last meeting (on September 22nd) Deputy Supervisor of Elections Heaney presented **proposed redrawn district boundaries city-wide and indicated what is being presented provides for District 5 and District 7 maintaining a Black VAP of at least fifty percent (50%) plus one (1) for those districts, while maintaining five percent (5%) plus or minus (+ or -) ideal population within each district.** The information was presented utilizing live software providing census block data. Deputy SOE Heaney and Council Executive Kraher assisted with facilitation of data and map assessment, as well as fielding comments and questions throughout the free flow of discussion in analyzing voting population data. Additional (static) maps were also provided and referred to for assisting in the discussion: 1) *Current City Council Districts*; and 2) *Proposed Redrawn Boundaries of City Council Districts with Census Data* as captured from the live software (hardcopies provided and on file). Legal Counselors Crawford and Hibbert also provided clarification during discussion.

There was also discussion related to **mapping software** that was provided on individual USB drives for each Commission Member (at the last meeting) to utilize individually outside of meetings. Commission Member Jacquay indicated he found it cumbersome to manipulate since it was basically a "read-only" version **and advised he found a free 30-day trial of MapInfo Pro version online. Chairperson Mack suggested the possibility of staff assisting Commission Members in obtaining such software. Also, Commission Member Cannada-Wynn requested a listing of neighborhood associations with corresponding geographical boundaries.**

There was consensus among Commission Members that good headway had been made in the Commission's task and **Chairperson Mack suggested skipping the meeting scheduled for October 20th, allowing time for Commission Members to meet with their constituents and respective Council Member.**

No objections.

Based on today's analysis and discussion, the Supervisor of Elections office will provide to Council Executive Kraher for forwarding to Commission Members a "take 2" enlarged map version of the presented proposed redrawn district boundaries city-wide, to include actual percentage data (+ or -) for each district.

OPEN FORUM

None

NEXT MEETING

October 20th meeting cancelled. Next meeting is scheduled for October 27th, 4:00 P.M., City Council Chambers.

ADJOURNMENT

5:17 P.M.

Approved: October 27, 2021