

SENATE APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION Meeting

Meeting Minutes

August 8, 2011

Opening

The first meeting of the **Senate Apportionment Commission** was called to order at **10:42a.m.** on **August 8, 2011** in **Room 1310, Jefferson Office Building, Jefferson City, MO** by **Chairman Doug Harpool**.

Present: House Apportionment Commissioners ~ Chairman Doug Harpool, Vice Chairman John Maupin, Secretary Joseph S. Passanise, John Borbonus, Jeff Mazur, Terry Riley, Miles Ross, Bob Saunders, Kathy Swan, and Nancy Williams

Meeting

I. Welcome and Review of Meeting Agenda

The meeting was called to order and kicked off with welcome comments by Chairman Doug Harpool. A meeting agenda and the mission of the Senate Apportionment Commission were briefly outlined.

II. Democrat Plan and Map Proposal

Chairman Doug Harpool presented the proposed Democrat plan and map. Plan and map highlights included:

Harpool Plan #1: (See Attachments: *Harpool 1 Plan Data and Harpool 1 Map*)

- Red line is Republican proposal, while the blue line is the Democrat district lines proposal
- Some disagreement as to the counties to include in the Boone County district
- Jackson/Clay County is an area that needs more agreement
- St. Louis area is one of the biggest areas of controversy; fairly significant differences on how to draw the Senate districts in several areas in the St. Louis region in particular, including St. Louis County

Harpool Plan #2: (See Attachments: *Harpool 2 Plan Data and Harpool 2 Map*)

- Revision of Harpool #1; no significant changes; minor changes from Harpool #1 to #2 included:
 - o Increases the minority population of the 2nd district
 - o Moves the St. Louis City line to an East/West line versus a North/South line, as in Harpool #1
 - o South St. Louis: Jefferson County changes based upon feedback from constituents there
 - o No other significant changes
- Harpool #2 overall:
 - o Creates a more competitive seat in South County and a strong Republican seat in Southwest County; does not under populate the districts as much as the Maupin Map
 - o St. Louis County now includes three strong-to-moderate Democrat seats, one strong Republican seat, and one competitive seat
 - o The 26th district goes into St. Louis County

- Minor difference: both maps (#1 and #2) have two seats in St. Charles
- Concerns denoted with the Maupin Plan, included:
 - Losing three out of 11 Democrat seats
 - Loss of population with some districts (St. Louis), while some are overpopulated (Southwestern). The southwest corners of the state and the outer St. Louis suburbs have been among the fastest-growing areas. St. Louis County and St. Louis City each have lost population since 2000. Concern with population projections and status in 10 years
 - Has 13 Democrat seats, giving 21 Republican seats that are fairly safe

III. Republican Plan and Map Proposal

Vice Chairwoman John Maupin presented the proposed Republican plan and map. Plan and map highlights included:

Maupin Plan: (See Attachments: *Maupin Plan Data* and *Maupin Map*)

- Started with 2001 map and made incremental changes
- Population exploded in St. Charles County; currently has two county seats; had to shed Lincoln County
- St. Louis County area highlights included:
 - Recognize the true North/South line
 - Important to have two Senate seats to represent St. Louis City
 - Expanded north to expand minority majority district representation
 - Increased 14th district, moved it further west, which is also a strong minority majority district
 - Three strong majority minority districts in all
 - 24th district leans Republican
 - 1st district is the St. Louis City/Jefferson County line and part of St. Louis county
 - St. Louis County district should be just that and believe the 26th district should not fall into the St. Louis County area
 - Northern Jefferson County is more like St. Louis County voters than southern Jefferson County
 - Added Ste. Genevieve County which includes Hillsboro and runs along the Mississippi River; believes it is more strongly Democrat
- Kansas City area highlights included:
 - Took part of Clay County out; gives it a more compact area and they would now have their own Senator
 - Drew the 9th district to represent a strong majority minority district
 - The 11th district is 56.2 minority and mainly a Democrat seat
 - The 17th district is less Democrat
- Agreements and concerns denoted with Harpool Plans, included:
 - Agree on the borders for a western Missouri district that includes St. Joseph
 - The 34th district is agreed upon
 - Does not see much improvement of Harpool Plan #2, over Harpool Plan #1
 - Flipping district numbers from even to odd numbers, thus possibly changing the Senate run cycle and term limits in some districts (i.e. odd numbered district Senators run during

Presidential election years, while the even numbered district Senators run in odd years). Realizing this is unfortunate, it is nonetheless a product of the process – cannot be avoided to some degree. Both parties agree to working out the district lines foremost, then working out the district numbers.

IV. General Discussions and Next Action Steps

- *Incumbent Permanent Residences Maps* were displayed for the Commissioners' review
- Chairman Doug Harpool shared the update that Office of Administration legal counsel had been consulted, regarding the inquiry if Commissioner votes could be counted via telephone and if that option was indeed constitutionally bindable. Additionally, the final compromised plan and map will need to be submitted to the Secretary of State's Office by 12:00 midnight, August 18th, but OA staff will need some time to prepare the formal document, etc. for the final submission before that deadline
- Chairman Doug Harpool called recess for lunch and small group meetings at 11:47a.m. and reconvened the meeting at 3:13p.m.
- Chairman Doug Harpool informed the Commissioners that the group could not reach agreement for a new compromised map, thus additional discussions were needed between this meeting and next week's deadline (8-18-2011). The group's task will be to continue working on the plan/map and agree on a compromised plan/map between now and next Tuesday (8-16-2011)
- Per OA legal counsel, Commissioners may legally vote via telephone, if they cannot attend the next face-to-face meeting
- Vice Chairman John Maupin requested a Tuesday (8-16-2011) meeting, regardless if the group has a compromised plan/map, or not, so that a venue for public comments can be disclosed; a request for an official court recorder for that meeting will be made
- **VOTE:** Motion moved by Commissioner Nancy Williams, and seconded by Commissioner John Borbonus, to authorize Chairman Doug Harpool and Vice Chairman John Maupin to conduct discussions in the interim of this meeting and the next meeting (8-16-2011), in order to share the proposed plans/maps and collect commissioner votes (via telephone as well for those Commissioners unable to meet face-to-face next week) for the conclusion and final vote during the last meeting on August 16, 2011, as well as the authority to submit the final conclusion and/or proposed plan(s)/map(s) to the Secretary of State's Office by 5:00p.m. on August 18, 2011

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Commissioner Jeff Mazur, and seconded by Commissioner John Borbonus. Meeting was adjourned at **3:25p.m.** by **Chairman Doug Harpool**. The next meeting will be at **11:00a.m. on August 16, 2011 in Room 1310, Jefferson Office Building, Jefferson City, MO.**

Minutes submitted by: Gina N. Mauller, Director of Special Projects
OA-ITSD

Approved by: