

MISSOURI SENATE APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION

Minutes

Monday, February 20, 2012

University of Missouri – Kansas City School of Law Building
E.E. “Tom” Thompson Courtroom

Meeting started at approximately 2:35 p.m.

Commissioners Present: W. Mitchell Elliott, Marc Ellinger, Doug Harpool, Nick Myers, Todd Patterson, and Trent Skaggs.

Commissioners Present via Conference Call: Nicole Colbert-Botchway, Jean Paul Bradshaw II, Steve Ehlmann.

Chair Harpool called the meeting to order and advised all in attendance that previous public testimony from the 2011 Senate Redistricting Commission would be incorporated into the official record of the 2012 Senate Redistricting Commission.

Chair Harpool stated the commission’s responsibility, asked commissioners to introduce themselves, and asked all witnesses to fill out witness testimony form for the official record.

Barbara Glesner Fines, Associate Dean, UMKC Law School welcomed those in attendance.

James Thomas, Kansas City, Missouri, interested citizen, commented on Harpool 2-18-12 map. Mr. Thomas stated that the 34th Senatorial district as shown in the Harpool map is too large geographically. This version begins on the Nebraska border and extends to the Illinois border; he believes this district is too large for one Senator to cover effectively. He appreciates the commissions challenge to not split counties.

Ben Wierzbicki and Josh Hurlbert, members of the Clay County Republican Central Committee spoke of their concerns with the Harpool 2-18-12 map regarding how Clay County was divided into northern and southern districts. Mr. Wierzbicki and Mr. Hurlbert submitted written testimony in the form of maps showing the existing Senatorial Districts in western Missouri as well as various plans that have been submitted throughout the redistricting process. They also included their own version and asked the commission to consider it.

Chair Harpool received a request from Commissioner Nick Myers to submit written testimony on behalf of interested citizens who were unable to attend any of the three public hearings being held this week. Chair Harpool asked the commission if they were willing to accept written testimony from commissioners on behalf of individuals who were unable to attend because of short notice or travel distance from the public hearing venues. There were no objections by commission members. Chair Harpool asked that all written testimony be submitted prior to the meeting on Wednesday, February 22, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. in Jefferson City.

Chair Harpool noted that the next public hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, February 21st in St. Louis, with a Commission meeting on Wednesday, February 22nd in Jefferson City.

The Commission adjourned at approximately 3:30 p.m.

Note: A complete and official transcript of this meeting’s proceedings will be available and posted on the State Redistricting website as soon as it is available.