

Joe Maxwell
Chairman

Ann Wagner
Vice Chairman

Nick Myers
Secretary



State of Missouri
HOUSE APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION

Redistricting Office
205 Jefferson Street
Jefferson Building, Rm 1310
Jefferson City, MO 65101
573-751-1352
(Fax) 526-4811

House Apportionment Commission Public Hearing Minutes
The entire hearing was recorded by a court reporter
April 28, 2011 Missouri State Capitol Building
Call to Order: Joe Maxwell – Chairman – 1:02 pm

Self-Introductions by Commission Members
All 18 commission members in attendance

Summarized Testimony

1. State Representative Chuck Gatschenberger– District 13

- District has expanded by 12,000. Would like to have line come down highway 61.
- Would like to have a regular sized district.
- See pages 5-7 of transcript for full testimony

Approval of minutes: Comm. Myers had one correction of the spelling of V Ch. Wagner’s name –
Comm. Davis seconded

2. State Representative Diane Franklin – and her commissioner – Camden County

- Presents map and written testimony (Franken 1 and Franken 2 in written testimony)
- See page 8 of transcript for full testimony

3. Kristopher Franken – Camden County Presiding Commissioner

- Proposes to keep Camden County borders intact.
- Created 2 districts in Camden
- Submitted evidence in writing and map form
- See pages 8-11 of transcript for full testimony

Ch. Maxwell-for the record submit separately, asks OA how to receive evidence.
State Demographer Matt Hesser – suggests Franken 1 and Franken 2 and receives evidence.

4. Willmarth – entered into record written testimony for – Gary Gregsby - 4th congressional district
(Gregsby 1 in written testimony).

5. State Representative Tony Dugger - 144th district

- Important to keep Wright, Douglas together.
- See pages 12-13 of transcript for full testimony

Ch. Maxwell- Commission will accept written testimony until Friday (May 6 2011), at 5pm
Can send to:

Matt Hesser
OA BP
Capitol Rm 124
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101
Email: matt.hesser@oa.mo.gov

6. State Representative Bart Korman - 99th district

- Keep Montgomery and Warren counties together in 99th
- See pages 15-16 of transcript for full testimony

7. Thomas Long – 134th district

- SW Springfield, lives in Battlefield
- 9,500 over variance
- Keep as much of SW Springfield and Battlefield together as possible.
- See pages 16-17 of transcript for full testimony

8. State Representative Linda Black - 107th district, St. Francois

- Would like to see the 107th stay intact as much as possible.
- Look at state highway O as a dividing line and include Parkville.
- Farmington would move into 106th.
- See pages 17-18 of transcript for full testimony

9. State Representative Clem Smith – 71st district

- 71st district is racially diverse.
- Has increased population problem.
- 22 municipalities.
- Would like to see municipalities stay together and not diced up.
- See pages 18-19 of transcript for full testimony

10. State Representative Mary Nichols – 79th District – includes Maryland Heights and other unincorporated areas.

- Wants to keep Maryland Heights together.
- See pages 20-21 of transcript for full testimony

11. State Representative Scott Sifton

- Communities of interest (COI) should be school districts
- Bayless school district – Heavily Bosnian – keep this district together along with part of Affton school district.

V Ch. Wagner – What is the population?

Rep. Sifton – needs to pick up around 3,000 people.

- See pages 21-23 of transcript for full testimony

12. State Representative Tishaura Jones – 63rd District – St. Louis downtown –

- gained 8% since last census
- Compton Heights is skipped over. She would like to pick up Compton Heights and remove “hanging chad”.
- See pages 23-24 of transcript for full testimony

13. Susan Kirkpatrick , League of Women Voters of Missouri, Morgan County

- submitted written testimony (Ms. Kirkpatrick 1 in written testimony)
- Create Districts with competition, Many races are unopposed.
- No opposition promotes a sense of powerlessness.

Comm. Thomas-I am not sure that drawing these competitive districts is what is in the duty of the committee. How do we make Morgan County 50-50? Did you read the state constitution?

Ms. Kirkpatrick -No (pertaining to constitution question).

Ch. Maxwell- adds I think she understands. He accepts written testimony from Ms. Kirkpatrick.

- See pages 24-30 of transcript for full testimony

14. State Representative Sharon Pace – 70th district

- North Ferguson
- diverse community-3 high schools.
- Would like districts to remain the same.
- See pages 31-32 of transcript for full testimony

15. Jane Whitesides , Let Missourians Decide

- submitted written testimony(Ms. Whitesides 1 in written testimony)

Ch. Maxwell-accepts for the record

- See pages 32 of transcript for full testimony

16. Bob Johnson, President of Let Missourians Decide, Inc.

- submits folders for committee members for review and not for the record.
- 23 years in the legislature on both sides
- Is on the Lee's Summit City Council
- Mr. Johnson and the organization would like to:

1. Correct problem of non-competitive race.
2. Do not protect incumbents
3. Be fair to all citizens

- Encourage competition and communities of interest(COI) should be honored.

Comm. Thomas – asks how can I draw the districts that are compact, contiguous and make competitive districts?

Mr. Johnson-It is probably tough in urban areas but thinks you can in suburban.

Comm. Thomas-Where do I look?

Mr. Johnson-down ballot statewide.

V Ch. Wagner-How do you define political competitiveness since the criteria is so subjective?

Mr. Johnson-what I would do is take statewide races that are non-competitive and determine base vote and look at 3 or 4 election cycles.

Comm. Davis-It is important for comment to be very public.

Comm. Wilsdon-Should COI's be divided for competitive districts

Mr. Johnson-Squareness isn't necessarily compact or contiguous.

Comm. Justice -Should districts be drawn to be less compact and population to be more competitive.

Mr. Johnson-thinks population is 10% too high

Comm. Myers-are you 501 C3 and as President, how are you elected.

Mr. Johnson-501C4 and I am elected by board.

Comm. Myers- You have named organizations that are part of the group you represent, who are the members of your board?

Mr. Johnson-I do not know.

Comm. Myers-Will you provide the commission with names of people on your board and which organizations they represent?

Mr. Johnson-Yes

Comm. Thomas-how do I do what you are asking?

Ch. Maxwell-intervenes that we (the Commission) will discuss how to do this.

- See pages 33-51 of transcript for full testimony

17. Nancy Copenhaver, League of Women Voters of Missouri – Moberly, Mo

- Wants competitive districts
- Look at state as a whole.
- don't look at districts as they are now

Comm. Thomas-in order to find 30 some thousand how do you redraw district 9.

- See pages 51-55 of transcript for full testimony

18. Trent Skaggs and Marlene Davis-House Apportionment Commissioners

- Submitted written testimony in map form(Skaggs –Davis 1)
- They have met and talked to groups, commissioners, counties, citizens and have come up with a starting point. Similar to the way congressional redistricting was done.
- They are presenting a base to start from that.
- 1. pays attention to minority/majority districts
- 2. Looks at COI
- 3. Protects existing incumbents
- 4. Constitutional consolidation in condensed districts.
- This is just a starter map
- Pop change overall in districts has changed. It is impossible for it to stay the same.

Ch. Maxwell-understands you have only talked to democratic commissioners.

Comm. Skaggs-Yes

Comm. Davis-Met with Carl and Hibbeler

Ch. Maxwell-Clarify that no one met as a caucus.

Comm. Elliot-Have you followed the constitution on this plan and tried not to disrupt COI

Comm. Skaggs- Yes

V Ch. Wagner-I am concerned that presenting this map is premature and out of order before embarking on drawing maps.

Comm. Wilsdon-I was not contacted.

V Ch. Wagner-We should consider all public testimony before drawing maps.

Comm. Courtway-how did you determine metrics?

Comm. Davis-By talking to public we got a starting point.

Ch. Maxwell- we have authority to submit maps as commissioners. Maxwell accepts testimony as any public testimony.

Comm. Courtway-What were the metrics of the COI?

Comm. Courtway-were there any school district or city splits.

Comm. Skaggs-Of course I split cities, there are multiple districts in KC and St Louis.

Comm. Courtway-Did you consider political competitiveness.

Comm. Skaggs-Yes

Comm. Caisley-asks Maxwell, are you accepting as evidence.

Ch. Maxwell-Yes

Comm. Caisley-if I had a map could I submit?

Ch. Maxwell-Yes, we get maps and then ultimately we get in a room, the intent is to accept everyone's

map.

Comm. Caisley-in putting map together did you keep any formal record keeping?

Comm. Davis-this is not the map of the committee as a whole. I am not sitting representing the commission. Basically, I am trying to get a starting point.

Ch. Maxwell-Personally, I do not plan on keeping records of individual meetings. I am not in favor of this kind of record keeping.

Comm. Skaggs-did talk to Democrat commission and some public with 3 principles in mind

1. Minority Majority

2. COI

3. Term limits-not protecting incumbents

Comm. Myers-when did you start drawing this map? How many meetings did you have with commission members?

Ch. Maxwell- Comm. Skaggs and I had a talk about how the process works and I explained my view.

Comm. Elliot-People are already taking picture of this map.

Comm. Myers-Can we safely say you talked to all Democratic Commissioners.

Comm. Skaggs-yes

Comm. Myers You did not speak to any Republican Commissioners?

Comm. Skaggs-No none

Comm. Myers I can tell you that the 131 District is not to the geographic scale purported on your map.

Comm. Davis-We need to see a breakout of Springfield

Comm. Justice-The assertion that congressional redistricting was done in same way is probably not right. I was at the congressional hearing and no map was presented. Who drew this map?

Comm. Davis-OA, commissioners, Comm. Skaggs, and Comm. Davis. I don't believe that map is completely acceptable.

OA Representatives-state they did not draw any part of the map.

Comm. Justice-Are you submitting as a private citizen or commissioners. Need to be careful calling it a starter map if being submitted as a citizen, so don't label starter map. What is the deviation?

Comm. Skaggs-4-5% was highest but all will be in data file.

Comm. Myers-Will you make the Google app files available to OA to determine if the metrics of the map are as you represent?

Comm. Skaggs-Yes

V Ch. Wagner-has strong objection to submitting map prior to full testimony by citizens of Missouri.

Comm. Myers-Are we going to make OA take any kind of map?

Ch. Maxwell-Only if it is manageable. Unless it is a voted on map it will not be a commission map.

Comm. Thomas-Skaggs-Davis 1 would be an appropriate reference.

Ch. Maxwell-Yes Comm.

Comm. Thomas-Is the submission premature? Since Comm. Davis does not deem it acceptable.

Comm. Davis-It is a starter map for me.

Comm. Karl-Sen. Johnson plans on submitting map. She hopes he will be treated better than the Skaggs and Davis effort.

Comm. Kennedy-Comparing this to the Congressional process is like comparing apples to oranges. So it is not premature because there is no precedence.

Comm. Wilsdon-I beg to differ. There were no maps at the congressional public hearing I was at.

Comm. O'Laughlin-What should have been done is both sides should have been notified. Wants to file formal objections to map and it should not be presented at other public hearings. Let Co-Chair know when something like this is going to be presented.

- See pages 55-111 of transcript for full testimony

Announcements:

Future Public Hearings

May 23-9am to 10am-Plaster Student Union Ballroom Missouri State University-Springfield, Mo

May 24-9am to 10 am-Auditorium, University Center, U of M-Kansas City, Mo

May 25-9am to 10am-St. Louis, Mo

-There was a complaint about the location of the St. Louis Hearing and OA will look into it.

Documents related to measures of compactness were distributed to Commission members per the request of Chairman Maxwell at the April 5, 2011 meeting.

Adjourn: 3:10pm