

Final
STAFF SUMMARY OF MEETING

COLORADO REAPPORTIONMENT COMMISSION

Date: 08/13/2011	ATTENDANCE
Time: 01:00 PM to 01:53 PM	Atencio X
Place: TSJC Valley Campus Alamosa	Berry E
	Carroll X
This Meeting was called to order by <u>Salazar</u>	Jones X
	Loevy X
This Report was prepared by <u>Bo Pogue</u>	Nicolais E
	Salazar X
	Tool X
	Witwer E
	Webb E
	Carrera X

X = Present, E = Excused, A = Absent, * = Present after roll call

Bills Addressed:	Action Taken:
Alamosa Welcome and Introductions	Witness Testimony and/or Committee Discussion Only
Alamosa Witness Testimony	Witness Testimony and/or Committee Discussion Only

Note: This meeting summary is not an official record of the commission or of the meeting. It is not intended to serve as a transcript or minutes of the commission meeting. The audio recording of the meeting is the official record of the meeting. This summary may be used as a guide to the audio recording. To access the audio recording of a commission meeting, visit the Colorado Joint Legislative Library located in the State Capitol, Room 048 (basement/ground floor level). You will need to note the date, time, and location of the meeting to access the audio recording. Copies of the audio recordings may be obtained at the library if you bring with you blank, recordable compact discs or a flash drive. Librarians are on site and available to assist you with accessing an audio recording.

01:00 PM -- Alamosa Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order. Commissioner Salazar, acting chair, provided some introductory remarks and introduced some audience members. Commissioners Atencio, Jones, Tool, Carroll, Loevy, and Carrera introduced themselves and provided their backgrounds. Commissioner Salazar provided additional background about the commission's listening tour.

01:04 PM

Mr. Jeremiah Berry, Reapportionment Commission Staff Director, provided background on the commission and its appointments, and an overview of the time table for the commission's work. Mr. Berry then briefed the audience on the federal and state legal criteria that must be observed in redrawing Colorado's state House and Senate boundaries following each decennial census.

01:13 PM -- Alamosa Witness Testimony

Commissioner Salazar explained the testimony process. The following persons testified at the Alamosa meeting:

01:15 PM -- Mr. Bill McClure, representing himself, asked about the contour of the House districts around Pueblo in the proposed plan, and suggested that both the Senate and House plans follow the same contours in this area. He suggested moving certain Western Slope counties into Senate District 31 to make this change and equalize the population. Discussion ensued regarding the House boundaries for the districts in and around Pueblo. Discussion followed regarding the population of Pueblo and Senate District 3.

01:20 PM -- State Representative Edward Vigil, representing himself, thanked the commission for its work and supported the San Luis Valley and Pueblo portions of the commission's proposed Senate plan. Representative Vigil explained why Senate District 31 is sensible in its proposed form. Representative Vigil also supported the Pueblo and San Luis Valley portions of the proposed House plan. Representative Vigil responded to questions about the county splits in these areas in the proposed House plan. Discussion ensued regarding objections to the proposed Senate plan raised in the *Pueblo Chieftan* newspaper. Discussion followed regarding the pronunciation of Saguache. Discussion returned to the *Pueblo Chieftan's* objections to the proposed Senate plan.

01:31 PM -- Ms. Lisa Cyriacks lent her support to the proposed Senate plan.

01:32 PM -- Mr. George Crowder raised questions about including portions of Pueblo in House District 62, and proposed including Las Animas County in the district instead. Mr. Crowder suggested that Pueblo County and the rest of House District 62 do not share the same interests. Discussion ensued regarding the federal Voting Rights Act implications of the drawing of House District 62, and alternative options for meeting the Voting Rights Act in this district. Discussion followed regarding the commission's effort to honor the act in House District 62. Commissioner Atencio discussed the impact of the district's drawing on Pueblo with respect to the Voting Rights Act. Commissioner Jones provided some background on how a past commission originally conceived of a way to ensure the district satisfied the act.

01:41 PM -- Mr. Darius Allen explained how the drawing of Senate District 31 in the proposed commission plan creates a community of interest. Mr. Allen supported keeping the San Luis Valley intact, as it is in the commission's proposed House plan, and supported the new configuration of House District 62.

01:44 PM -- Mr. George Wilkinson, representing Alamosa as a county commissioner, mentioned that Chaffee and Huerfano Counties may have wanted to be associated with the San Luis Valley in the House plan, and said he has no issue with the proposed Senate plan.

01:45 PM -- Mr. Charlie Griego, representing Alamosa as a member of city council, supported the commission's proposed plans. Discussion ensued regarding term limits.

01:46 PM -- Mr. Ron Brink, representing the Alamosa County Republicans, urged the commission to take seriously the testimony gathered at the public hearings, and reiterated previous testimony with respect to the House plan. Discussion ensued regarding the placement of Conejos County in the House plan. Mr. Brink expressed reservations with the joining of the San Luis Valley and eastern counties in the commission's proposed Senate District 31. Mr. Brink responded to questions regarding his preference for this Senate district. Discussion returned to the objections to the commission's proposed House plan raised by Mr. McClure. Discussion followed regarding the vote counts on the plans approved by the commission for the San Luis Valley, and the work yet to be performed by the commission on the plans. Discussion turned to the commission's public hearing schedule.

01:53 PM

The commission adjourned.