

Final
STAFF SUMMARY OF MEETING

COLORADO REAPPORTIONMENT COMMISSION

Date: 08/20/2011	ATTENDANCE
Time: 01:05 PM to 01:48 PM	Atencio E
Place: Morgan Community College Burlington	Berry E
	Carroll E
This Meeting was called to order by <u>Loevy</u>	Jones E
	Loevy X
	Nicolais X
	Salazar E
	Tool X
This Report was prepared by <u>Bo Pogue</u>	Witwer X
	Webb X
	Carrera E

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

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

01:05 PM -- Welcome and Introductions Burlington

The commission was called to order. Commissioner Loevy, acting chair, provided some opening remarks. Commissioners Webb, Witwer, Tool, Nicolais, and Loevy made some introductory remarks.

01:07 PM

Ms. Kate Meyer, Reapportionment Commission Staff, read a statement providing background on the commission and its appointments, and an overview of the time table for the commission's work. Ms. Meyer 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.

01:11 PM -- Witness Testimony Burlington

The following persons testified at the Burlington hearing:

01:11 PM -- Mr. John Swick spoke in favor of putting Kit Carson in a House district with the counties to its north, and explained his reasons for this preference. He also spoke in favor of this arrangement for the Senate plan. Discussion ensued regarding the potential for creating a House district stretching from north to south in Colorado's Eastern Plains while excluding Elbert County.

01:16 PM -- Ms. Ruby Munson discussed a recent article in Newsweek Magazine about state legislative redistricting in other states. She also discussed the federal debt ceiling. Discussion ensued regarding the effect of redistricting on the Eastern Plains, and the redistricting preferences expressed at the Lamar meeting.

01:21 PM -- Mr. Jeremy Weathers, representing the Yuma County Republican Party, discussed the communities of interest on the Eastern Plains, including agriculture, and the loss of representation for rural areas in the state legislature. Mr. Weathers requested that Morgan County be kept whole in the House plan, and made recommendations about how to draw the House plan in the northeastern portion of the state. Commissioner Tool explained the effect of population loss in the Eastern Plains on the commission's redistricting efforts. Discussion ensued regarding one of the plans considered by the commission for the Eastern Plains that was not adopted.

01:30 PM -- Ms. Pat Daugherty, the Cheyenne County Republican Chair, discussed the preference expressed by residents of southeastern Colorado for keeping Las Animas County in House District 64, and requested that representation for the Eastern Plains be preserved. Ms. Daugherty responded to questions about keeping Elbert County in a district with the Eastern Plains.

01:33 PM -- Mr. Mark Hillman, representing himself, discussed the redistricting process, and the travel time that would be involved with representing the proposed Senate District 31 based on its size. He also discussed the inclusion of Elbert County in the proposed Senate District 1, and the difficulties inherent to drawing three House districts comprised of Eastern Plains counties. Mr. Hillman discussed keeping Morgan County whole in the House plan, and provided recommendations on how to draw a northeastern House district. Discussion ensued regarding Mr. Hillman's proposal, and communities of interest on the Eastern Plains upon which House districts might be based.

01:44 PM

Discussion continued regarding Mr. Hillman's proposal about how best to draw the House districts on the Eastern Plains while keeping Morgan County whole. Discussion then focused on the proposed House District 64, and the impact of including Elbert County in the district.

01:48 PM

The commission adjourned.