REDISTRICTING COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
DALLAS CITY HALL, ROOM 6ES
THURSDAY, JULY 28, 2011

Commission Members Present:
Dr. Ruth Morgan, Chair
Hollis Brashear
Gary Griffith
Donna Halstead
Mary Hasan
Mark Hord
Elizabeth Jones
Jon Brooks Love
John Loza
John Lozano
Tom Wood

Staff Present:
Yasmin Tolliver, Redistricting Manager
Barbara McAninch, Asst. City Attorney
Lindsay Kramer, Demographer
Peter Bratt, Redistricting Coordinator
Daisy Torres, Redistricting Coordinator
Arlicia Herron, Office Assistant
Warren Ernst, Admin. Asst. City Attorney

Commission Members Absent:
Billy Ratcliff, Vice Chair
Domingo Garcia
Stanley Mays
Daniel "Corky" Sherman

Members of the Public Present: 9
Media Present: 2

6:04 P.M. Meeting called to order by Chair, Dr. Ruth Morgan. A quorum was present.

1. Opening Remarks
   - Chair Morgan reminded Commissioners that phones should not be used during the meeting.

2. Approval of July 26, 2011 Minutes

   - Motion: Commissioner Hord moved to approve the Tuesday, July 26, 2011 Minutes
     - Seconded: Commissioner Love

     Commissioner Wood amended the Minutes in section 6 (s) on page 5 to state one of the major concerns for District 12 was the DART Cotton Belt line development. The Cotton Belt Line will have five stations, three within a 2.5 mile stretch which will impact District 12. These stations will cause traffic issues, not to mention disruption to the residents. The other DART issue is planned overpasses over major arteries in District 12 – Davenport Rd, Campbell Rd, Hillcrest Ave, McCallum Blvd and the

intersection of Renner Dr and Coit Rd which also will be disruptive to several different neighborhoods in the District.

- Ayes: 9
  Nays: 0

Motion to Approve the Minutes of July 26, 2011 as amended passed: unanimously (Commissioner Jones, Commissioner Garcia, Commissioner Sherman, Commissioner Mays, Commissioner Griffith, and Vice Chair Ratcliff were not present for the vote).

- Motion: Commissioner Loza moved that the objections that Commissioner Hasan had stated with the questions Commissioner Jones asked Mr. Randall Bryant concerning his educational background and work on campaigns at the meeting on June 26, 2011 which had not been asked of any other public presenter be duly noted in the Minutes of the July 28 Commission meeting.
  - *Please refer to the audio tape recording or the video tape recording of the Tuesday, June 26, 2011 meeting to listen or view the question/answer session following Mr. Randall Bryant's plan presentation for the detail of the questions and answers.*
- Seconded: Commissioner Hord
  - Ayes: 9
    Nays: 0

Motion Passed: unanimously (Commissioner Jones, Commissioner Garcia, Commissioner Sherman, Commissioner Mays, Commissioner Griffith, and Vice Chair Ratcliff were not present at the vote.)

3. Staff Updates
   - Project Manager Tolliver reviewed the ArcGIS Software License retrieval schedule.
   - The Project manager provided an updated Redistricting Work Plan Timeline.
   - The planned Public Forum meeting will begin at 5:30 pm on Thursday, August 18, 2011 as suggested by Commissioner Halstead rather than the proposed time of 5:00pm.
   - Commissioner Halstead suggested that maps at the public forum be formatted in a way so that the map and demographic data are presented on a single page for easier viewing.

4. Commissioner Plan or Partial Plan Submission Presentations
   - None

5. Public Plan or Partial Plan Submission Presentations
   a) wPlan04 Submission Summary
      - Demographer Lindsay Kramer gave an overview of wPlan04. This plan had a total population deviation of 1.77%, with District 6 having the largest population and District 1 having the lowest population. The plan includes 8 minority districts and 2 minority

coalition districts. Districts 9, 10, and 12 all have compactness scores lower than the current configuration. District 2 stayed about the same. All others districts had smaller increases in their compactness scores.

b) wPlan04 Submission Presentation

- Kyle Talkington, who resides in District 14, presented wPlan04. He attended a public hearing and listened to public input. No one knew he was working on a map until he presented the plan. His plan has population equality as a goal, and stays within a 1% population deviation in each district. Mr. Talkington stated that this map was neutral regarding incumbency because he did not know where any of the incumbent city council members live. Mr. Talkington stated he had a general idea of the area where his incumbent lived but did not know exactly. In regards to minority representation, he looked at the total population and the voting age population. In regards to total population, he determined his map had 5.9 Hispanic, 3.5 Black, and 4.0 white districts. In regards to voting age population, his map had 5.1 Hispanic, 3.5 Black, and 4.8 White districts. Mr. Talkington's goal was to have 5 Hispanic, 3 Blacks, and 4 White districts. Mr Talkington used major freeways and geographic boundaries such as creeks and rivers for boundaries to provide compactness among the districts. Finally, his map aimed to resolve the gerrymandering, and an example of this would be putting Turtle Creek and Oak Lawn together. To determine communities of interest, Mr. Talkington used Homeowner Association and Neighborhood Association boundaries. Mr. Talkington apologized for reversing the number for Districts 11 and 12 numbers, but he did not have enough time to reverse them after they got juxtaposed during his mapping process. He indicated that he had no trouble with the numbers being corrected. Districts 2 and 14 as they are drawn now do not make sense, so he tried to make them into blocks.

c) wPlan 04 Questions

- A question/answer session followed

d) wPlan04 Public Comment

- None

e) pPlan05 Submission Summary

- Demographer Lindsay Kramer gave an overview of pPlan05. The pPlan05 has the total population deviation of 9.91%. District 3 had the largest population and District 1 had the smallest population. In District 1 the Hispanic population exceeds 70% in both the total population and the voting age population. This plan has 6 minority

districts and 3 minority coalition districts. The compactness scores increased slightly for this plan. District 9's area scores increased, but the perimeter scores both deceased. District 12 has a lower compactness score than the existing configuration, while District 2 has a very significant increase in compactness. This was due to the change in location of the district.

f) pPlan05 Submission Presentation
- Sandra Crenshaw was not present to present pPlan05 to the Commission, but a statement was read into the record on her behalf after the pPlan14 Submission Summary was given.

g) pPlan05 Questions
- None

h) pPlan05 Public Comments
- None

i) pPlan14 Submission Summary
- Demographer Lindsay Kramer gave an overview of pPlan14. The total population deviation for the plan was 9.84%. District 3 has the highest population deviation and District 4 had the lowest deviation. This plan has 7 minority and 2 minority coalition districts. District 12 and 13 are slightly less compact than their current configuration, but overall there were increases in compactness across the board.

j) pPlan14 Submission Summary
- Sandra Crenshaw was not present to present pPlan05 to the Commission. The written statement submitted by Ms. Crenshaw was read by Demographer Lindsay Kramer.

k) pPlan14 Questions
- None

l) pPlan14 Public Comment
- None

m) wPlan22 Submission Summary
- Chair Morgan noted that the agenda incorrectly labeled wPlan22 as pPlan22.
- Demographer Lindsay Kramer gave an overview of wPlan22. The total population deviation of this plan is 0.03%. District 11 has the largest population and Districts 8 and 1 have the smallest populations. wPlan22 has 6 minority and 3 minority coalition districts. District 10's compactness was less than the current

configuration, while District 12 was about the same as its current configuration, and all the other districts' compactness scores were greatly increased.

n) pPlan22 Submission Presentation
- Alexander Enriquez was not present to present wPlan22 to the Commission and had not submitted a written statement.

o) pPlan22 Questions
- None

p) pPlan22 Public Comment
- None

6. Commission Discussion and Consideration
a) wPlan04
b) pPlan05
c) pPlan14
d) wPlan22

After discussion, no motions or actions were taken regarding the plans submitted, and the plans remain in inventory.

7. Commission Discussion and Vote on Previous Commission Directed Modified Plans
a) Presentation of Previous Commission Directed Modified Plans moved forward for continued consideration at the July 26, 2011 meeting
- None

b) Public Comment
- None

c) Commission Discussion and Consideration
- None

8. Commission Discussion and Consideration of Plans
- None

9. Public Speakers
- Asst. City Attorney McAninch informed the speakers of the Rules for Speaking to the Commission.

- Mr. Omar Jimenez, residing at 1639 Cedar Bluff Lane in District 8, has concerns with the Kleberg-Riley neighborhoods being with a neighborhood along I-20 as he feels they have nothing in common. He would instead like to see the Kleberg-Riley area in a single district with the Pleasant Grove neighborhood to the north. Everybody in Kleberg-Riley shops, eats, banks, and attends church in Pleasant Grove. The Kleberg-Riley neighborhood has undergone an enormous demographic transition, while experiencing a

significant increase in crime over the past ten years. The DART station is also located in Pleasant Grove. Kleberg-Riley should be with Pleasant Grove rather than Oak Cliff. He doesn't care what race the neighborhood's city council member is, but he wants whoever it is to do a good job representing Kleberg-Riley.

- Randall Bryant, who resides at 1211 Willowglen in District 5, declined to speak at this time.

- Sandra Crenshaw, who resides at 1431 Quartet St. in District 8, was unable to attend the meeting and submitted a written testimony that was be read to the commission by Daisy Torres, Redistricting Coordinator, stating the following:

  "I am opposed to Pct 36 being removed from District 12 for the following reason: Given that the City often enters into interlocal agreements with other governmental bodies, I would like to advise the commissioners of the following for their consideration is at least two of several areas. The City of Dallas contracts with Dallas County Elections Department to hold their elections (which are now limited to mandatory election dates.) For the City of Dallas Mayoral and city council elections, Dallas Co. is allowed by law to conduct out of county elections. For May elections, the county must retrieve voter data from Rockwall, Kaufman, Denton, and Collin counties. For November elections when the city holds proposition of referendum elections, the City of Dallas has to contract with the 5 aforementioned counties. To Put Pct. 36 in a Dallas County based City of Dallas based council district will separate the Collin county Dallas residents from their communities of interest in other governmental districts because State representatives are limited to apportionment within one county as are they are with all county government officials. For example, Pct. 36 will have a Collin County state representative, such that when there are interlocal discussions about their property and quality of life, District 11 may be represented by a resident who lives in Collin County but services on Dallas City Council and may find themselves in conflict with positions that maybe held by a District 12 resident elected from Dallas County. Yes, the same could be in reverse but Dallas County has more City of Dallas based elected state officials with urban interests than the other counties state officials that may have more rural interests. There all kinds of issues including DART, smoking ban, liquor that have competing interests in Austin. With only one Pct. in Collin County in Pct.11, those residents' opportunity to elect someone with their Collin County interests is diluted. This in not a protected issue for the "bleached" make up of Collin County City of Dallas residents, therefore some prudence and respect for all citizens to have that same protection should outweigh the interests of the few from Dallas County side that seek to draw them out. Further, since there is low disadvantage population in 12 and 11, the Supreme Court has relaxed its deviation requirements in the Voting Rights Act to allow for higher deviation

in the North or non- disadvantaged areas to allow for a smaller deviation in the Hispanic population areas to increase their voting strength percentages."

- Mr. Michael Milliken, residing at 3532 Cedar Plaza Lane in District 2, came to offer his sincerest apology for not being able to be present to present pPlan06 as scheduled on June 26, 2011, as he had to appear at a deposition for a court case. The primary concern for pPlan06 was to group communities of interest. Specifically, the plan was for District 14 and to see that the boundaries on that district were modified. He expressed his appreciation for being able to work on the fabulous software provided in the Redistricting Computer Lab downstairs. He and Mark Shecter visited the lab several weeks ago and were pleased to make use of the facility. The city staff that works in the Redistricting office should be highly commended. There are all very professional and highly motivated especially, Mr. Peter Bratt who answered a lot of our questions patiently. Once again he apologized and thanked the Commission. He indicated that PD 193 is intact in this plan.

- Bill Betzen, residing at 6717 Cliffwood in District 8, told the Commission that he has finished the list he started a few weeks ago and taken the 5 measurements related to demographics and 3 measurements related to compactness and applied it to all full plans. He has amended his wPlan03 plan, and would like to turn it over to staff to do compactness tests. He is concerned about Dallas' historical problems with "separate but equal," and fears that "communities of interest" is becoming a new dividing line, although Mr. Betzen admits to using these words himself. Mr. Betzen feels our city needs to be inclusive rather than separate but equal, and hopes that the Commission is able to work to ensure this.

10. Additional Questions/Final Remarks
    - The Chair asked the Commissioners to keep Commissioner Mays in their thoughts and prayers as he deals with the loss of a family member.

11. Adjournment
    - At 7:48 pm the meeting was adjourned.

CHAIR

COMMISSION ADMINISTRATOR

****

Note: For detailed information on meeting refer to the video tape of the meeting posted on the Redistricting website.