



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
CITIZENS INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

Summary of Proceedings
Initial Five Commissioners of the
2020 Citizens Independent Redistricting Commission

Date: **Wednesday, December 2, 2020**
Time: **3:30 PM – 5:58 PM**
Place: **Remote Virtual Participation Only**

Recordings of the Commission Meetings, Agendas, Supplemental Materials and Minutes of the Citizens Independent Redistricting Commission are available on the internet at:
www.countyofsb.org/redistricting.sbc

BOARD ACTION SHOWN IN CAPS

1. **Commission Convened**

Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Katz, McClintock, Bradley, Gray, Morris

2. **Public Comment**

The Public Comment period is reserved for comments on items not on the Agenda and for matters within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Citizens Independent Redistricting Commission. The Commission may adopt reasonable regulations, including time limits, on public comments. The Commission may not discuss or take action on any matter raised during the public comment section, except to decide whether to place a matter on the agenda of a future meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

SHELDON BOSIO, PRESIDENT SANTA BARBARA COUNTY FARM BUREAU, HEARD REGARDING ITEM 5, AND READ A LETTER (INCLUDED IN THE AGENDA PACKET) IN SUPPORT OF CANDIDATE JENNIFER HARDIN.

FELIX ESPARZA, LULAC SANTA MARIA CHAPTER, HEARD REGARDING CONCERNS THAT THE CITY OF GUADALUPE IS NOT PROPERLY REPRESENTED IN THE SELECTION PROCESS.

JEFF GREEN, SANTA MARIA, HEARD REGARDING THE IMPORTANCE OF AGE DIVERSITY IN THE SELECTION PROCESS, AND SUPPORTS COMMISSION APPLICANT AMANDA OCHOA.

BRAEDON, SANTA MARIA, HEARD REGARDING CONCERNS ABOUT COMMISSION APPLICANT JANNET RIOS.

ARIANA ASSENMACHER, HEARD REGARDING CONCERNS ABOUT AGE, GENDER AND RACIAL DIVERSITY, COMMISSION APPLICANT JANNET RIOS, AND SUPPORTS COMMISSION APPLICANT MEGAN TURLEY.

JANET BLEVINS, LOMPOC, HEARD REGARDING CONCERNS ABOUT DIVERSITY AND INFORMATION FOUND ON SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES.

LAWANDA LYONS PRUITT, PRESIDENT NAACP, HEARD REGARDING CONCERNS THAT THE COMMISSION IS NOT REFLECTIVE OF THE DEMOGRAPHIC MAKE-UP OF THE COMMUNITY, DOES NOT ALLOW FOR PARTICIPATION OF NON-REPRESENTED GROUPS, AND LACKS DIVERSITY, AND SUGGESTED ALLOWING PUBLIC COMMENT AFTER COMMISSION APPLICANT INTERVIEWS.

GERARDO ECHEVERIA, HEARD REGARDING SUPPORT OF COMMISSION APPLICANT LUPE ALVAREZ TO REPRESENT THE CITY OF GUADALUPE.

JANNET RIOS, HEARD REGARDING ITEM 5, REGARDING CONCERNS OF THE LACK OF RACIAL AND GENDER DIVERSITY, AND COMMENTED ABOUT HER SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS.

LUIS GONZALEZ, HEARD REGARDING CONCERNS THAT THE CITY OF GUADALUPE HAS NOT BEEN REPRESENTED, AND SUPPORTS COMMISSION APPLICANT LUPE ALVAREZ.

ARISTON JULIAN, MAYOR, CITY OF GUADALUPE, HEARD REGARDING HIS SUPPORT OF COMMISSION APPLICANT LUPE ALVAREZ.

FERNANDO, (COMMENTS IN SPANISH) HEARD REGARDING HIS SUPPORT OF COMMISSION APPLICANT LUPE ALVAREZ. MRS. TILTON AND MR. JOHNSON SUMMARIZED FERNANDO'S COMMENTS.

LILLI, DISTRICT 2, HEARD REGARDING APPLICANT SELECTION SLATES, AND SUPPORTS ALLOWING PUBLIC COMMENT AFTER COMMISSION APPLICANT INTERVIEWS.

KEN HOUGH, SANTA BARBARA COUNTY ACTION NETWORK, HEARD REGARDING CONCERNS ABOUT THE LACK OF DIVERSITY, AND SUPPORTS ALLOWING PUBLIC COMMENT AFTER COMMISSION APPLICANT INTERVIEWS.

ANA ZEPDA, HEARD REGARDING IMPORTANCE OF DIVERSITY, AND SUPPORTS ALLOWING PUBLIC COMMENT AFTER COMMISSION APPLICANT INTERVIEWS.

CLAIRE WINEMAN, PRESIDENT, GROWERSHIP ASSOCIATION OF SANTA BARBARA

AND SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTIES, HEARD REGARDING REPRESENTATION AND INCLUSION OF THE AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY.

MARC CHYTILO, HEARD REGARDING IMPORTANCE OF INDIVIDUAL INDEPENDENCE AND CONCERNS ABOUT APPOINTING PREVIOUS OR CURRENT ELECTED OFFICIALS.

HILLARY BLACKERBY, HEARD REGARDING CONCERNS ABOUT THE LACK OF DIVERSITY OF THE SLATES, SUPPORTS ALLOWING PUBLIC COMMENT AFTER CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS, AND RECOMMENDED SPANISH INTERPRETATION BE AVAILABLE FOR FUTURE MEETINGS.

WENDY SANTAMARIA, HEARD REGARDING CONCERNS ABOUT LACK OF GENDER AND RACIAL DIVERSITY. (AUDIO STOPPED WORKING DURING HER COMMENTS)

SPENCER BRANDT, ISLA VISTA, HEARD REGARDING IMPORTANCE OF AGE AND RACIAL DIVERSITY, AND SUPPORTS ALLOWING PUBLIC COMMENT AFTER COMMISSION APPLICANT INTERVIEWS.

GAIL TETON LANDIS, HEARD REGARDING DIVERSITY, CONCERNS ABOUT APPOINTING PREVIOUS OR CURRENT ELECTED OFFICIALS, AND SUPPORTS ALLOWING PUBLIC COMMENT AFTER COMMISSION APPLICANT INTERVIEWS.

SHIRLEY, HEARD REGARDING HER SUPPORT OF COMMISSION APPLICANT LUPE ALVAREZ.

LEILANIE RUBINSTEIN, HEARD REGARDING SUPPORT OF ALLOWING PUBLIC COMMENT AFTER COMMISSION APPLICANT INTERVIEWS, AND THE NEED FOR REPRESENTATION OF UCSB.

ELOISA CHAVEZ, HEARD REGARDING IMPORTANCE OF DEMOGRAPHIC, GENDER, ETHNIC AND AGE DIVERSITY, AS WELL AS THE AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY REPRESENTATION, AND THE NEED FOR AN INTERPRETER FOR FUTURE MEETINGS.

WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENT:

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY FARM BUREAU SUPPORTING COMMISSION APPLICANT JENNIFER HARDIN, A FARMER AND LATINA.

JEFF HAVLIK REQUESTED THAT ISLA VISTA BE SEPARATED FROM SANTA YNEZ.

JULIE HAYWARD BIGGS, PAST CITY ATTORNEY FOR GOLETA RECOMMENDING NDC FOR REDESTRUCTING SERVICES.

ECONALLIANCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS SUPPORTING DEMOGRAPHIC, GEOGRAPHIC, AND BACKGROUND DIVERSITY FOR THE COMMISSION WITH POLITICAL AFFILIATION SECONDARY.

PAM GATES SUPPORTING DEMOGRAPHIC DIVERSITY FOR THE COMMISSION.

KENDALL JAMES SUPPORTING DEMOGRAPHIC, GEOGRAPHIC AND POLITICAL DIVERSITY FOR THE COMMISSION.

3. Commissioner disclosure of ex parte communications pursuant to County Ordinance Code Sec. 2-10.9A(5)(h).

COMMISSIONER MORRIS REPORTED COMMUNICATIONS WITH MRS. TILTON REGARDING MEETING PROCEDURES.

4. Approval of Minutes of November 18, 2020.

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 18, 2020.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 AYES

THE MEETING WAS RECESSED FOR FIVE (5) MINUTES AT 4:25 PM, AND RECONVENED AT 4:30 PM.

5. Discussion, deliberation, and possible action regarding the selection of commission finalists to interview.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

LEE HELLER, RECOMMENDED INTERVIEWING COMMISSION APPLICANT LATA MURTI, JANNET RIOS, MEGAN TURLEY, KEN MASUDA, JAMES HUDLEY AND JENNIFER HARDIN. SHE EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT A POSSIBLE CONFLICT OF INTEREST OF COMMISSION APPLICANTS, APPOINTING FORMER ELECTED OFFICIALS, AND SUPPORTS ALLOWING PUBLIC COMMENT AFTER COMMISSION APPLICANT INTERVIEWS.

DR. MELISSA SMITH, HEARD REGARDING SUPPORT OF COMMISSION APPLICANT MEGAN TURLEY, LATA MURTI AND JANNET RIOS, AND RECOMMENDED THAT JAMES HUDLEY AND KEN MASUDA ALSO BE INTERVIEWED, EXPRESSED CONCERNS ABOUT APPOINTING ELECTED OFFICIALS, AND SUPPORTS ALLOWING PUBLIC COMMENT AFTER COMMISSION APPLICANT INTERVIEWS.

LUPE ALVAREZ, COMMENTED ON BEING FAIR, BALANCED AND IMPARTIAL.

GAIL TETON LANDIS, RECOMMENDED INTERVIEWING COMMISSION APPLICANT CLAUDIA KNUDSON, KEN MASUDA, MEGAN TURLEY, JAMES HUDLEY, LATA MURTI, JENNIFER HARDIN AND JANNET RIOS.

MR. JOHNSON COMMENTED THAT THE SELECTION IS LIMITED TO THE CURRENT CANDIDATE POOL.

COMMISSION DISCUSSION:

SUGGESTIONS TO DETERMINE THE 12 FINALISTS:

- START TO NARROW THE POOL BY REMOVING NAMES THAT DID NOT RECEIVE A SCORE
- SELECT AT LEAST 2 CANDIDATES FROM EACH DISTRICT
- FOCUS ON CANDIDATES WHO SCORED AT LEAST 3 FIRST ROUND VOTES
- SELECT CANDIDATES THAT RECEIVED THE HIGHEST SCORING (1, 2 OR 3)

FOLLOWING DISCUSSION, THE FOLLOWING 12 APPLICANTS WERE SELECTED TO BE INTERVIEWED:

DISTRICT 1: CLAUDIA KNUDSON, KAREN TWIBELL, DANIEL MONTELLO

DISTRICT 2: MEGAN TURLEY, KEN MASUDA

DISTRICT 3: JAMES HUDLEY, BENJAMIN OLMEDO

DISTRICT 4: JENNIFER HARDIN, LATA MURTI, AMANDA OCHOA

DISTRICT 5: JANNET RIOS, KEVIN ILAC

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE 12 APPLICANTS FOR INTERVIEWS.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 AYES

6. Discussion, deliberation, and possible action regarding the interview process and interview questions.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

LEE HELLER, SUGGESTED CREATING AN AD HOC COMMITTEE TO DEVELOP INTERVIEW STANDARDS AND QUESTIONS THAT COVER COMFORT AND COMPETENCY IN DATA ASSESSMENT, AND INDEPENDENCE OF THOUGHT.

JANET BLEVINS, THANKED THE COMMISSION FOR THEIR WORK, AND FOR INCORPORATING PUBLIC COMMENTS IN THEIR DECISION MAKING.

JONATHAN ABBOUD, SANTA BARBARA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT,
SUPPORTED ALLOWING PUBLIC COMMENT AFTER COMMISSION APPLICANT
INTERVIEWS.

COMMISSION DISCUSSION:

SUGGESTIONS:

- CREATE AD HOC COMMITTEE TO DEVELOP FIVE QUESTIONS FOR ALL APPLICANTS.
- EACH COMMISSIONER ASK 1 QUESTION.
- APPLICANTS ALLOTTED 3 MINUTES TO ANSWER EACH QUESTION (TOTAL OF 15 MINUTES TOTAL RESPONSE TIME PER APPLICANT).
- QUESTIONS WILL BE PUBLISHED IN ADVANCE.
- INTERVIEW SCHEDULE WILL CONSIST OF 8 INTERVIEWS ON DECEMBER 8, AND 4 INTERVIEWS ON DECEMBER 9.
- MR. CHURCHWELL STATED THAT THE AGENDA CAN BE PUBLISHED ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4, AND THE INTERVIEW QUESTIONS PUBLISHED ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 7.
- NDC WILL CONTACT APPLICANTS ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3 TO SCHEDULE INTERVIEWS ON DECEMBER 8 AND 9.
- PUBLIC COMMENT MUST ALSO BE ALLOWED BEFORE INTERVIEWS BEGIN.

JANET BLEVINS COMMENTED THAT THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS AND THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN (AAUW) MAY BE ABLE TO ASSIST WITH THE INTERVIEW QUESTIONS.

COMMISSIONER GRAY AND COMMISSIONER MCCLINTOCK WERE NOMINATED TO THE AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR INTERVIEW QUESTIONS.

JANET BLEVINS AND COMMISSIONER GRAY WILL REACH OUT TO THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS AND AAUW FOR INTERVIEW QUESTIONS, AND THEIR QUESTIONS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO MRS. TILTON BY THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3.

COMMISSIONERS QUESTIONS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO MRS. TILTON BY NOON, ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4.

MOTION TO APPOINT COMMISSIONER GRAY AND COMMISSIONER MCCLINTOCK TO THE AD HOC COMMITTEE TO DEVELOP AND ACCEPT INTERVIEW QUESTIONS FROM THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS, AND SELECT THE FINAL FIVE QUESTIONS FOR APPLICANT INTERVIEWS.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 AYES

7. Discussion, deliberation, and possible action about expanding three (3) minute public comment time for interviews and number of candidate interviews per day.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

LEE HELLER, COMMENTED 3 MINUTES IS NOT ENOUGH TIME AND SUGGESTED 5 MINUTES FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.

KEN HOUGH, SUGGESTED IN THE INTEREST OF TIME CONSTRAINTS, THAT PUBLIC COMMENT BE SPECIFIC TO THE PERSON OR PERSONS THEY SUPPORT AND NOT COMMENT ON ALL 12 CANDIDATES.

JANET BLEVINS, COMMENTED ABOUT THE EXPERIENCE OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS AND AAUW.

COMMISSION DISCUSSION:

MR. JOHNSON MENTIONED THAT ONCE THE PUBLIC COMMENT IS CLOSED, THE COMMISSION CAN INVITE THE APPLICANTS TO REMAIN AFTER THE INTERVIEWS HAVE CONCLUDED, FOR QUESTIONS FROM THE COMMISSIONERS.

SUGGESTION TO EXPAND PUBLIC COMMENT TO FOUR (4) MINUTES TOTAL.

MOTION TO EXPAND PUBLIC COMMENT TO FOUR MINUTES

MOTION CARRIED: 5 AYES

8. Discussion of meeting dates and future agenda items for selection of the final six commissioners and other matters as may be appropriate.

NEXT COMMISSION MEETING, DECEMBER 8 AND 9, AT 6 PM

REQUEST AVAILABILITY FOR JANUARY 2021 MEETING AFTER THE FINAL SIX COMMISSIONERS HAVE BEEN APPOINTED AT DECEMBER 9 MEETING.

RECOMMENDATION AND GUIDANCE FOR MEETING SCHEDULE THROUGH THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2021.

COMMISSION ORIENTATION PROCESS, INCLUDING PUBLIC INFORMATION, PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND TRAINING.

MR. JOHNSON COMMENTED THAT NANCY ANDERSON, COUNTY OF SANTA

BARBARA IS WORKING ON SPANISH INTERPRETATION AVAILABILITY.

ADJOURNMENT – The next meetings are scheduled for Tuesday, December 8, 6 p.m., and Wednesday, December 9, 6 p.m.

Agenda Packet Items:

Item 04 Minutes of November 18, 2020

Item 05 Individual Commissioner Initial Selection Slates / Lists

Item 06 Summary of Initial Commissioner Selection Slates