

Citizen Redistricting Committee
New Mexico Bar Association Center
5121 Masthead St. NE 2nd Floor
Albuquerque, NM 87109



Hon. Edward L. Chávez, Chair
Ryan Cangioli
Hon. Lisa Curtis
Robert Rhatigan
Joaquin Sanchez
Hon. Michael Sanchez
Christopher Saucedo

CITIZEN REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes of August 15, 2021 | 1:00PM-5:00PM

Santa Claran Hotel and Casino

Espanola, NM

[View Recording Here](#)

[SUBJECT TO RATIFICATION BY COMMITTEE]

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Chair Chávez. The roll was called; the following Committee Members were present. The Chair and Members introduced visiting officials present. The chair and members briefly gave biographies and appointments upon affirming that they were present.

HON. EDWARD L. CHÁVEZ, CHAIR
RYAN CANGIOLSI, MEMBER present
HON. LISA CURTIS, MEMBER present
ROBERT RHATIGAN, MEMBER present
JOAQUIN SANCHEZ, MEMBER present
HON. MICHAEL SANCHEZ, MEMBER present
CHRISTOPHER SAUCEDO, MEMBER present

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Chávez sought a motion to approve the agenda except for minutes of August 14, 2021. Committee Member Michael Sanchez moved to approve the agenda; Committee Member Curtis seconded. Hearing no discussion, Chair Chávez conducted a vote. All Committee Members voted in the affirmative, and the agenda was approved unanimously.

2. OPENING REMARKS ON CRC'S WORK AND MISSION

Chair Chávez made comments on the Committee's work and direction. He introduced visiting speakers and dignitaries.

3. REDISTRICTING 101

Mr. Brian Sanderoff, of Research & Polling (“R&P), gave a brief presentation on criteria the Committee must consider in its examination of maps (*R&P slide presentation and meeting video on the website*), supplemented by some new data available on the video. (1:03:40)

4. COMMENTS FROM THE COMMUNITY

Charlotte Madueno (1:26:34) Commission on Status of Women Executive Director. Census undercount occurred because census packets were delivered to post office boxes not to houses. Due to the pandemic the public was not allowed to get packets from Post Office. Urges the CRC to rely on alternative data including Medicaid data when considering population.

- **Committee discusses Census undercount concerns (1:28:55)** Member Curtis (1:42:40) moves to have the CRC request Medicaid data by county from the Human Services Department, seconded by Member Rhatigan. Motion passes unanimously. Committee continued discussing the complexities of identifying alternative reliable data and the need to convert it into precincts within the deadlines imposed on the CRC. Discussion ends 2:10:00.

Paula Garcia (2:10:25) From Las Vegas, New Mexico Acequia Association. Acequias are a community of interest because of agriculture and water conservation practices. Acequias are predominantly Hispanic, so need to avoid diluting the vote of Hispanics. Recommends that the CRC keep CD3 as is because most acequias are in Northern NM. Regarding legislative districts she does not want Mora and San Miguel counties to be combined with eastside counties. Sangre de Cristo region should remain intact as a community of interest. Elimination of HD58 resulted in a huge HD40. Do not split the acequias. Regarding the discussion of census undercount: Mora County also experienced problems because rural addresses did not match with the format created by the Census Bureau. Census bureau developed a work around for online reporting that did not work. Census Bureau followed up by sending more packets to Mora without explanation. People did not submit the new packet because they thought they had already answered online. Believes minus 15% loss of population seems much higher than what she expected. She believes it is single digit although she does not have data to support her belief.

Member Rhatigan (2:22:00) suggests the need for a Uniform Statewide Address Database

Don Bustos (2:25:35) Has an organic farm in Santa Cruz and member of the Acequia Board. Wants traditional New Mexicans to have a voice in the North. CD3 should continue as is in northern New Mexico.

Isaac Dakota Casados (2:31:45) Chair of Native American Democrat Caucus, emphasized self-determination of Native Americans. Regarding Medicaid approximately 186,000 Native Americans were enrolled in Medicaid. Suggests that where stimulus checks were mailed to the Native American population may assist with an accurate count of the population. Amber Carrillo (2:37:20) explains that Medicaid number for 2020 is 134,737 on Medicaid, 13% increase in MCO, and 5% increase in fee for service. Ms. Carrillo also noted that Native American’s are concerned about educational issues as evidenced by the Yazzie lawsuit.

Recess (2:47:30)

- *Chair Chávez contacted Secretary Scrase during the break in the meeting a conferenced in Robert Rhatigan to request Medicaid data.*

Member Rhatigan (3:05:35) explains conversation with Secretary Scrase and the Secretary's assurance to cooperate in getting Medicaid data to Mr. Rhatigan.

Representative Roger Montoya (3:06:40). Nine hours to drive his district which is District 40. Will humbly represent his district but adding Rio Lucio, Penasco, Vadito and Picuris from Taos County would be a good idea. Community of Raton is more aligned with eastern area philosophies.

Representative Susan Herrera (3:18:20) Represents HD41. Recruited others to run in the area. Co-sponsored SB4 for an accurate census count. Explained complications with census reports because Census Bureau changed the process. Wants legislators to be paid to make the recruitment of candidates easier and it is more than a part-time job.

Sharon Mottola (3:28:30) President of Acequias del Llano. Lives in Nambe which is within HD46. Point is city people live differently than people in rural New Mexico. Points to water issues. Rural communities should be kept together in rural communities.

Aleta Paisano Sauzo (Tweetie) (3:31:20) Past Chair of the Native American Democratic Caucus. Urges CRC to remember that many Native American young people have moved to Albuquerque. Thinks most go to either Highlands or Del Norte. Estimates 50,000 moved to urban areas.

John House(3:39:10) Vice President of Represent US New Mexico and lives in Santa Fe. Pleased with the formation of the CRC. Urges the CRC to avoid politics when drawing maps and avoid partisan gerrymandering.

Songtree Piscoche (3:43:30) Vice Chair of Dem Caucus of San Juan County and many other organizations. Believes Native American rolls, tribal election data, tribal infrastructure requests, and stimulus data would be a more accurate count of the Native American population.

5. Receipt of Public Submissions and Map-Drawing Work

- a. Review of any submissions over portal since last meeting.
There were no new maps.
- b. Receipt of public submission of maps and testimony relating to communities of interest, Congress, state Senate, state House, and the Public Education Commission.
- c. Instructions to Research & Polling.

4. ADJOURNMENT.

Chair Chávez adjourned the meeting.

**During the meeting the Chair contacted Secretary Scrase by telephone, and conferring with Member Rhatigan, they obtained agreement from the cabinet secretary to share Medicaid data pursuant to law. Thus, the letter for this purpose called for by the Committee, is no longer needed.*

**[SUBJECT TO RATIFICATION BY
COMMITTEE]**