STATE OF CALIFORNIA

2020 CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC)

In the matter of:

PUBLIC MEETING

721 Capitol Mall, 2nd Floor
Sacramento, California 95814

WEDNESDAY, JULY 28, 2021

9:30 A.M.

Reported by:
Peter Petty
APPEARANCES

2020 Citizens Redistricting Commission:

Commissioners
Linda Akutagawa, Chair
Neal Fornaciari, Vice Chair
Isra Ahmad
Jane Andersen
Alicia Fernandez
J. Ray Kennedy
Sara Sadhwani
Patricia Sinay
Derric H. Taylor
Pedro Toledo
Trena Turner
Russell Yee

Staff
Alvaro E. Hernandez, Executive Director
Ravindar Singh, Administrative Assistant
Anthony Pane, Chief Counsel
Marian Johnston, Legal Counsel
Fredy Ceja, Communications Director
Marcy Kaplan, Director of Outreach

Technical Contractors
Public Comment Moderator
Kristian Manoff, AV Technical Director

Also Present

Public Comment
Renee Westa-Lusk
(Unidentified)
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CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Welcome, everyone.

Welcome, California to today’s California Citizens Redistricting Commission Business Meeting. We have to make that distinction since we’ve been having the Public Input Meetings. Today is July 28th, and we are looking forward to a full agenda and, also, to hearing updates and also hearing from Californians on any comments that you may have about what we may be discussing.

All right. Shall we go ahead and take roll, Ravi.

MR. SINGH: Yes, Chair. Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Present.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Fornaciari.

(No audible reply.)

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Le Mons.

(No audible reply)

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Sinay.
COMMISSIONER SINAY: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Taylor.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Present.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Toledo.

(No audible reply.)

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Vasquez.

(No audible reply.)

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Yee.

COMMISSIONER YEE: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Ahmad.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Akutagawa.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Here.

MR. SINGH: You have a quorum, Chair.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right, excellent. Thank you, everyone, for being here. Let’s go ahead. Let’s start with public comment on items that are not on the agenda or just general public comment. Katy.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: In order to maximize transparency and public participation in our process, the Commissioners will be taking public comment by phone. To call in dial the telephone number provided on the livestream feed. It is 877-853-5247 for this meeting.
When prompted to enter the meeting I.D. number provided on the livestream feed, it is 88653898419 for this meeting.

When prompted to enter a participant I.D., simply press the pound key.

Once you have dialed in you’ll be placed in a queue. To indicate you wish to comment please press star nine. This will raise your hand for the moderator.

When it is your turn to speak you will hear a message that says, “The host would like you to talk,” and to “press star six to speak.” If you would like to give your name, please state and spell it for the record. You’re not required to provide your name to give public comment.

Please make sure to mute your computer or livestream audio to prevent any feedback or distortion during your call.

Once you are waiting in the queue, be alert for when it is your turn to speak, and again, please turn down the livestream volume.

We do not have any callers at this time, Chair.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. We’ll go ahead and we’ll give the livestream a moment to finish the instructions and finish the stream. In the meantime, we’ll just hold tight for a couple minutes.
PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: The instructions are complete on the stream, Chair. We do not have any callers at this time.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. All right. Hopefully, no one is having problems getting in, but in the meantime, we’ll go ahead and keep moving on with our agenda.

Let’s go ahead and go to Director reports next, and starting with the Executive Directors Report. Director Hernandez.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Chair. Good morning, everyone.

Want to let you all know that we are going to have some additional recommendations for staff hiring today. That will come forward by the Director of Communication, as well as the Director of Outreach. So, they’ll be bringing forth two of those -- some additional names for that.

I also want to talk about our budget. We finally have a document for you guys to review. I apologize for not having it up sooner. My mistake on that.

So, we have two documents. One is the appropriation document and one of them is the expenditure document.

So, the appropriation document basically outlines
the different appropriations that we’ve received in the
course of the Commission since 2019. You’ll see that
information, the Budget Act of 2019, Budget Act of 2020,
Budget Act of 2021. That was the most recent one where we
did the May revised and asked for the additional funding.

So, if you look at the second document, which is
the expenditures document, and I’ve sent that out to the
Commissioners as well. It is posted on our website for
those who wish to take a look at it as well.

You’ll see that the expenditures that we have for
the different categories that we’ve listed here. We are at
salaries, benefits, a million one, Commissioner per diem
travel 655,000, videography contract, you have that
283,000, the legal services, we don’t have anything yet.
We haven’t received invoices.

So, this is as of the 6-30, which is the end of
the year, the end of the fiscal year information. We’re
still going to be receiving information for July and I
believe that will reflect a larger portion of the
expenditures because we’ve hired additional staff, we have
the legal services on board as well, and so, we’ve had a
number of COI meetings in July, so there’s a lot more
activity that’s happened in July that will show an increase
in our overall expenditures.

So, I wanted to share that with you. I’m sure
that you’ll have some questions. I want to also allow
Commissioner Fernandez to add any additional information
she’d like to share.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you. Yes, and I
apologize for sending this out. We wanted it earlier, but
unfortunately we were still working on the numbers and
still working on the format. We wanted to try to make it
as easily understandable as possible.

And I just wanted to make one comment regarding
the expenditures. As you may know or may not know, there’s
normally a one-month lag in terms of expenditures because
the invoicing for many of these services and contracts will
come the month after the services are provided, and the
same is true for commissioner per diem and travel. It
won’t be reflected until that information is submitted from
the commissioners and actually posted, paid and posted to
the FI$/Cal system.

Is there anything else, Commissioner Fornaciari?
Where is he? He’s not here, okay. Oh, I see, he left me
to fend for myself. Got it. Just kidding.

(inaudible)

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I think that was it.
Thank you.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: So, our goal is to
report on this regularly so that you can see where we are
with things. And then, you know, there will be some additional requests that we may make to the Legislature and the Department of Finance for additional funding when necessary.

We’ll be looking at our overall expenditures and our overall plan, given the recent changes from going back to virtual versus the in-person for August. So, we have to go back and look at our overall projections and see where we are with everything.

So, okay. Moving on, we have contracts. I believe our Director of Communications will be discussing and sharing some of those contracts for outreach activities such as (audio skipped) things like that.

Other than that, that’s the report for today.

Thank you. Any questions?

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Looks like Marian has a question or a comment. You’re on mute, too.

MS. JOHNSTON: I don’t see that it’s posted.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Okay. We’re going to get that posted. I’ve sent it over to Fredy, so it might be just a lag in my email to him. I apologize.

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR CEJA: It’s up. If you refresh, it should be up.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I don’t see any other questions. Okay. Commissioner Sinay.
COMMISSIONER SINAY: I’ll be honest. This isn’t traditionally how I see budgets or presented budgets to be able to provide oversight and ask good questions. And, so, obviously if the other commissioners are comfortable with this, we’ll move forward, but I am more used to be able to see, okay, this is our monthly projections, this is where we are, this is how we -- yeah. Having them in two separate documents is difficult because you have to go back and forth, plus we just received it two minutes before this meeting started. So, having good questions is difficult without having more detailed information and having more time to review.

So I’m going -- the only question I can ask is what areas are we overspending and what areas are we underspending, and do we have any concerns. You know, when you say we’re going to get this on a regular basis, this is the first time we’ve gotten it since March, and it’s not a whole lot of information, so I’m just curious if my fellow commissioners feel like they have enough to be able to feel comfortable with the oversight of the work we’re doing.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you, Chair, and thank you for the report. I think what I’d like to have, either as an update or by the next report, is just the percentages showing this is where we are and kind of what was indicated
by Commissioner Sinay. What is the percentage? Are we over or under in each of these areas?

And I know that might be kind of hard in some of the spaces because, of course, we’re going between expectations of virtual and in-person and what have you, but the budget is for a particular time period, maybe even if it’s something as simple as this, if we were just dividing it evenly, something to give an idea of this is a flag. We’re getting close in this area. Here a particular place that we’ve had money allotted that we’re not spending at all for various reasons or spending a lot slower that can be reallocated to different areas would be helpful.

Thank you.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. I’d just like to respond to some of the questions or the comments that have been made.

First of all, we weren’t able to present this budget information earlier because the Fi$Cal, it’s a new reporting system and it’s different than what I was used to, and we have to go kind of like a roundabout way to get the expenditure information, so that’s why it took us a while to come up with the format and the information and to validate the information.

So, that’s one piece of it, but going forward, we
do have the format now and we do have the information where
to go to get all of information that we need so we can try
to provide it on a monthly basis.

In terms of the detail, Commissioner Fornaciari and I felt that this was a high enough level for the commissioners as well as the public. We do have access to the detail, but we also felt as the Finance and Administration Subcommittee, we do review the detail, and we thought it was our charge as the Subcommittee to bring forward to the Commission a higher level versus a 30-page document that shows every single expenditure line item, which is how the expenditure information is reported.

And in terms of the percentages, yeah, that would be something very easy. We can add just another column probably to the right showing what has been expended so far. I think that would be easier, just showing how much has been expended, like a percentage versus how much still is left. But that should be easy enough to do.

I think that was it. Thank you. Great questions.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yeah, Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: So, I guess I’m relying on my experience as a schoolboard member, because at the end of the day we’re held completely accountable for the full budget so we were given the full expenditures. And it
worked out well because sometimes we caught things we
didn’t, and we also learned about what was happening.

You know, I don’t -- I’m feeling kind of -- not
that I don’t trust the subcommittee, but the subcommittee
has a lot of power in a way that’s been taken kind of --
that subcommittees are only the group that recommend to the
larger Commission, and the Commissioners are still held
responsible for all action.

And, so, maybe revisit and think through how more
information can be shared because we’re all held
responsible.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Not seeing any other --
okay, Commissioner Toledo.

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: I just wanted to thank the
subcommittee for the amount of work that it took to make
something that is so complex -- I know our budget is pretty
complex and put it into this more simple document that
allows us to understand our budget.

I agree with Commissioner Turner and Sinay about
the percentages and just giving us -- letting us know a
little bit more about how we’re doing, where we’re
overspending or underspending according to our projections
and our goals.

And that being said in accordance we should also
be able to project, and so, as much as we’re able to with
the data we have, and I know it’s difficult given the
technology software issues and also the staff, right, the
time and capacity to be able to do that. But as much as
we’re able to project how we’re going to be at -- you know,
by the end of the next quarter, the end of the year, et
cetera, so that we can plan accordingly. That would be
great, but I know how much work it is to work with the
budget and to massage the numbers to be able to get them to
something as digestible like this. And it’s really
understandable, and I think it’s a good first pass, so,
thank you very much.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. I would
like to suggest that we put this on the agenda -- that we
plan to discuss this further at the next meeting. That
would give us time to review it further and come up with
any additional recommendations that we might have. Thank
you.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you, Commissioner
Kennedy. Actually, I’d like to then add onto what
Commissioner Kennedy said and also what Commissioner Toledo
said.

First off, I do want to also add my thanks to the
Finance and Administration Committee. I know that this is
a lot of work, and as Commissioner Toledo has pointed out,
it’s a lot of work in trying to boil it down to a place where it’s still informative but also high level enough that we don’t get lost -- too lost in the details.

With that said, I do also agree with having a column that indicates over and under budget.

And one other thing that I would like to ask that I think would be helpful given if this is format that we are going to agree to go forward. What it looks like is we have basically two-months’ worth of budget that is being presented to us. It would be nice to get us -- I know that this is probably going to add some more work, but it would be nice to get a context in which we see the entire year, and then also what the new fiscal year is going forward, because I know that the July numbers are not in, but since it is the beginning of a new fiscal year, it would be also helpful to be able to just compare, you know, the previous years’ fiscal years to the current fiscal year at least once for perhaps this next meeting that we’ll have, just so that we get a picture of the entire year. I think just the two months is also a little hard to really understand where we are.

We got the other budget, but I will say that I do also appreciate this budget, although I understand what Commissioner Sinay is saying as well, too. But at least this gives most of us, you know, high level enough
information that we can at least start to ask questions if we need to.

Anyone else with comments? Not seeing anyone else. Okay. Thank you Director Hernandez, and thank you to the Finance and Administration Committee.

We will move on to the next item on our agenda which is the Communications Director’s report.

MR. CEJA: Thank you, Chair. Hello, commissioners.

I wanted to start off by giving you an update on what’s going on with the bids for radio and billboard advertising. We did receive bids for zones E, F, and G coupled together, H, J coupled together, and I, K coupled together. Those are in the hands of our administrator. They’ve been scored and recommendations have been made, so we’re dealing with the contracting aspect. They need to go to OLS for approval.

We’re still waiting to get a second bid for zones A, B, B, which were coupled together, and zone C. We should be getting those second bids today, and then we’ll forward the recommendation again to the administrator to get those going.

Our bids for social media advertising and for newspaper advertisements should be coming in today as well, so I’m going to hold up until I have everything together in
a complete picture before I present it to you so that you can see who is going to be providing those services.

I also want to report out that we interviewed for the Communications Coordinator position. We had four qualified candidates and one really stood out, so we forwarded the recommendation to the Admin. and Finance Committee, and we hope that they’ll be moving forward with the recommendation today.

We’re shooting for an August 10th start date, and again, this position will be solely responsible for updating the website, helping with graphics and social media. We have a lot to update on the website and it’s getting busier and busier as we have to upload documents and keep that up to date.

For the social media report that was posted online, we’re starting to see huge numbers, increases and engagement, as well as our website. For Facebook we have 1,040 likes now. We’ve had 83,340 people reached in the past week.

As far as Instagram, we have 208 followers now. We’ve had a reach of 19,100. That’s up by 117 percent.

Twitter is more active. It has 1,587 followers, so people are looking at what we’re posting, and we’ve had 8,721 profile visits in the last month. That’s up by 45 percent.
LinkedIn, we’ve had 265 followers. Again, that was increased when we posted the Communications Coordinator position on there.

And then YouTube still has 62 subscribers, but we’ve had 1,802 views that are videos. So, people are starting to poke around and look at what we’re putting out.

We hope to, once we have another staff person added to the team, to be dishing out more content so that we can get folks engaged.

NationBuilder. Our database has grown again. I actually got a bill in our email saying, hey, congratulations. You have more people added to your database. Here’s your new bill.

We have 13,362 people in our database now, so it has grown by about 2,000 people. So every day I get pings on my email saying this presenter has been added to your database, so it’s just a testament of how much we’re growing.

And once we start doing the advertisements on radio, billboard, social media, you’ll see those numbers increase dramatically.

This month, July, 2021, we’ve received 131 COI email submissions, in addition to whatever has come into through the COI database, COI tool database. These are emails that we are receiving in-house. So, we have 131 to
add onto the other COI totals.

And as far as interviews, the Commission was mentioned over the past week in “The Sun,” in “Calmatters,” “Citizen Journal,” “VC Reporter,” “Kion,” “NAPA Valley Register,” and the “Los Angeles Sentinel.”

And that’s my report for today.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay, great. Let me just see if there’s any clarifications. Director Ceja, I have a couple of clarifications for you. You mentioned that you received bids. I didn’t hear where zone K fell in your bids. Is it one that you received, or is it part of the waiting?

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR CEJA: Yeah. So, we’ve received bids and have -- recommended contractors for zones E on itself, or on its own, for zone F and G coupled together, for zone H, J coupled together and I, K. And we’re still waiting for one more bid that we can present, because we need two, for zones A, B, B that were coupled together and Zone C alone. And those should be coming in today.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Great. And just one other clarification. You mentioned 131 COI inputs that you received through emails; is that correct, through the website?

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR CEJA: Yes.
CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Just wanted to make that
clarification, make sure I heard that correctly.

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR CEJA: And you’ll see
those on the website very shortly.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay, excellent. Thank you.

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR CEJA: They’re being
uploaded as we speak.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Okay. So, anyone
who is listening, if they’re curious they can go to the
website and at least poke around on those received inputs
then. Okay, excellent. Thank you.

Let’s go ahead and go to the Outreach Director’s
report.

OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Hi, good morning,
commissioners and the public.

I wanted to highlight again that we have released
a digital toolkit. It’s on our website, and it includes
background information about the Commission, ways to
participate in the process and how stakeholders can help
spread the word, whether through social media, through an
email newsletter on their website and more, and that’s in
our outreach materials on our website.

We want to highlight some of the last COI Input
Meetings that the Commission held. On July 22nd the
Commission hosted a Communities of Interest Input Meeting
focusing on Monterey, San Benito, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz and Ventura counties. There were 47 speakers in total. The majority were focused on Ventura County. However, the Commission did hear from all the counties that the meeting was focused on.

Also, on July 24th the Commission held a Communities of Interest Input Meeting focused on Orange County, which is J. There were 26 speakers in total. The majority of the speakers focused on OC coastal cities, and some callers discussed Westminster, Fountain Valley, Midway City. Some gave input on Irvine.

And I also wanted to highlight upcoming Communities of Interest Input Meetings that the Commission is hosting.

Tomorrow, on July 29th, the Commission will be hosting a Communities of Interest Input Meeting focused on Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano and surrounding communities. Anyone in California is welcome to provide input during this meeting. It will be from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. Registration has closed. However, the public can call into the meeting the day of. We’ll be sending out an email blast today which also includes the call-in information, which is 877-853-5247, and the passcode is 85126633433. This information will be posted on the livestream for the COI input meeting, and
we’ve been updating our social media the day before the meeting with the call-in information as well. For this meeting we have nine people registered, so we’re really encouraging the Commissioners to help spread the word and the public that are tuned in. And I think I noted the Communications Team will be sending out an email blast today.

On 7-30 the Commission will hold a COI Input Meeting focused on zone H, which is L.A. County, and the meeting is from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. There is 35 people registered for the meeting, and the registration closes today at 5:00 p.m.

We did get a request for Spanish interpretation, so we will have an interpreter on the line for that meeting.

And on Saturday, July 31st, the Commission will hold a Community of Interest Meeting focused on Zone I, which is San Bernardino and Riverside Counties from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. There’s 43 people registered, and the registration is actually now full for that meeting, but the public is still welcome to call into the meeting the day during the meeting, and the call-in information will be on the livestream as well.

The next COI Input Meetings after that include August 4th and August 9th, as well as numerous more
throughout the month of August and September.

All of the information about the upcoming Communities of Interest Meetings are available on our website on the meetings tab

www.wedrawthelinesca.org/meetings.

Additionally, we’ve posted an updated flyer for all upcoming COI input meetings in the outreach materials section of the website. The flyer does reflect the four-hour meeting times for August, as well as information about language access.

The Commission will be providing automatic interpretation in Spanish for all of the August and early September COI Input Meetings, and have also identified one meeting each for the additional 11 languages that the Commission prioritized to provide automatic interpretation on an audio line and to have an interpreter on the meeting.

As I’ve mentioned in the past, all other requests for interpretation of public input must be submitted five business days prior to the meeting, and can be submitted by email at interpreter.request@CRC.CA.gov. on the registration form for the COI input meeting, or by calling our offices at 916-323-0323.

All of this information I just highlighted is on our website on the meetings page and also on the flyer for the COI Input Meetings.
Everything is moving forward to begin our automatic interpretation for the August 4th meeting. And staff are working on procedures and staff to implement the additional language support.

We’ve also sent the flyer for our COI Input Meeting to the language vendor for interpretation into the 12 languages and hope to have that back soon.

And also just want to highlight at last week’s Commission meeting the Commission voted to continue these meetings virtually. The COI Input Meetings are not the only way that the public can share their community of interest with the Commission. You can also visit drawmycacommunity.org to share your communities of interest with the Commission, or you can submit public input or comment to the Commission by emailing Voter’sFirstAct@CRC.ca.gov or mailing our offices at 721 Capitol Mall, 3260 Sacramento, California, 95814.

The COI tool now has 699 COIs submitted by members of the public which is an increase of 75 submissions in the last week. Additionally, the line drawers have submitted a total of 343 COIs which are digitized from the Public Input Meetings.

In the last week there was also two COIs submitted in Spanish. And as I’ve highlighted in the past, the Statewide Data Base has created short video tutorials...
in English on the COI tool and some of the different steps in the process. They have now released a few videos in Spanish and will have more coming soon in other languages, and these are available on Statewide Database YouTube channel.

Additionally, this last week outreach staff have followed up with venues they had either secured or communicated with for potential hybrid COI input meetings to thank them and to notify them that the Commission will continue meeting virtually but may circle back this fall. And we’ve also shared the digital toolkit and really encourage those entities to continue to engage in the process through our virtual COI input meeting or other ways the public can participate.

Outreach staff has also been focused on interviewing field staff and onboarding recent staff hires that the Commission approved last week and has been helping to lead this effort. Our Northern California field staff, Vanessa Greer, began her work last week and is off to a running start helping us with our outreach tool and Airtable to track contacts.

Our Southern California field staff focused on the I and K will begin this week, and we have two additional field staff that we have recommended to the Admin. and Finance Subcommittee for the Central California
field staff and the So. Cal. field staff focus on zone H and J, so I will defer to that subcommittee when they’re ready to provide the recommendations to the full Commission.

The outreach team has continued to focus on outreach for upcoming COI Input Meetings and really also highlighting the various ways to participate in the process, including the COI tool.

At the local and statewide level we’re focusing on a broad range of entities to help amplify the Commission and looking at other stakeholders, including safe communities through banks, local business chambers and broadening to other types of entities, in addition to local governments and other CBOs that the Commission has engaged with.

We also have an update from Frank Pisi on the curriculum for 11th and 12th graders on redistricting which is pretty much finalized. They’ll be providing curriculum and resources on redistricting two districts and are highlighting Constitution Day on September 17th with additional resources as well as a curriculum that will be going out, and I’ll provide more of an update on that.

And that was my report.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you, Director Kaplan. Any questions? Okay, seeing none, let’s go ahead
and let’s move on to Chief Counsel’s report.

CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Thank you, Chair. Good morning, Commission.

Just a quick personnel update. I briefly mentioned at the last Commission meeting that the finalization for two retired annuitants. One was finalized; the other one was still in limbo. Unfortunately, the one that was still in limbo, the candidate has withdrawn, so we don’t anticipate a replacement at this time.

So Tim Treichelt, who has been working with us and Marian for at least the last few weeks, is going to be not only addressing contract issues, but also addressing conflicts of interest, and I’ve already had him start working on a process that we’re going to hopefully implement here soon with all of you on regular sort of periodic conflicts checks.

So, I think that’s all I have on the personnel update, so for purposes of going forward it will be the three of us, myself, Marian and Tim. And I will at least over email or at least over a video meeting have a chance to formally introduce him. It can’t be in person right now, but at least virtually in the near future.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you so much. Let’s go ahead and let’s move on. I don’t see any
questions from anybody so far. All right.

CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: I think Commissioner Kennedy has a question.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Oh, I’m sorry. Okay.

Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. Chief Counsel, I was just wondering if you would be updating us on the progress of Strumwasser, Woocher in preparing the petition to the Supreme Court, or if that’s going to come from somewhere else.

CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Sure, happy to give you at least a little bit of an update. Right now we don’t have an exact timeline yet, but they are still working on that direction from the Commission. When I have a little bit more specificity for you all, I would imagine either myself or Commissioner Sadhwani and Commissioner Toledo will be able to report back on that, that they are working on that direction from you all from before.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: So, nothing has been submitted yet?

CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Correct.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Just to make sure. Okay, thank you. Okay. It looks like we are at the end of all of our director reports. Let’s go ahead. Let’s take public comment on director reports only. Katy.
PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: The Commission is now taking public comment on the director reports agenda items. To give comment please call 877-853-5247 and enter the meeting I.D. number, 88653898419 for this meeting.

Once you have dialed in, please press star nine to enter the comment queue. The full caller instructions have been read previously in this meeting and are provided in full on the livestream landing page.

And we do not have any callers at this time, Chair.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Let’s just hold tight for a minute just in case somebody needs some time to call in. I will say that in the meantime we will be -- I just want to give a heads up to the Government Affairs and Census Committee that you will be up next. I’ll just wait a few more seconds.

And Commissioner Toledo or Sadhwani I believe, you’ll be up next, and which one of you will be giving the report?

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Either of us can. I mean we don’t have much to report at this point.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay.

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: So, there’s no significant updates that I’m aware of.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Let’s go on to
Agenda Item 4B, Finance and Administration. Commissioner Fernandez and Fornaciari.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Sure. I’ll go head this time. Sorry I was -- I apologize for being late and missing the beginning of the budget discussion, but thank you all for your feedback. We will continue to work on that and fine tune it.

So, we have a couple of things to talk about, the travel policy and the hires, so why don’t we start with the discussions of the hires.

So, I’ll start with, Fredy, if you could just kind of briefly summarize the qualifications, the expectations and the qualifications for the candidate, that would be great.

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR CEJA: Yes, thank you so much. So, as I mentioned earlier, we did interview four individuals for the Communications Coordinator position. The candidate that we are moving forward had extensive experience working with Nationbuilder, which was a must, but has also been working for outreach organizations in Los Angeles, mainly with the -- with CARECEN, Central American Resource Education Network in Los Angeles, an organization much like CHIRLA, has been working on immigration advocacy, and making sure they’re engaging those hard-to-reach populations that are either monolingual or immigrant
populations in Los Angeles. But not just in Los Angeles, the reach is nationwide, so a lot of the values there and knowledge skills and abilities aligned with the requirements for the position. He has worked on updating their website with Nationbuilder, which was amazing, has written blogs, newsletter content, and has updated social media channels and is an avid user of social media and can do social media graphics which is also helpful.

So, I’m very excited to bring this person on board so that we can have a stronger communications team, like I mentioned earlier, be able to push out more content to engage California.

VICE CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thanks, Fredy. And then I’ll ask Marcy to go ahead. Thank you.

OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Thank you. We are recommending two candidates for the field staff positions. These are part-time positions supporting the field leads and outreach staff with outreach and administrative efforts related to COI Input Meetings and other outreach.

The candidate for the So. Cal. field staff would cover zone H and J. This candidate comes to the Commission after more than 10 years in the field of health care and health care administration. His work included a great deal of database experience, which will help the outreach team in its support, the Commission’s work and also direct
interactions with the public and external stakeholders. His customer service and public facing program coordination experience are part of his more than two years at UCLA’s Operation Mend where he worked as a part military veteran and also gained that experience during his four years as a critical person pleading for a cultural center in Sylmar, California.

The candidate for central California field staff is a recent graduate of the University of California, Davis, where she was on the Dean’s honor roll and received her Bachelors of Arts in international relations. She has significant office experience and customer service experience supporting aspects of a landscaping business. She also completed an exciting internship with the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation as a legislative affairs intern. And during her time in D.C. she assisted with research, Congressional presentations and recordkeeping.

Both of these candidates are local to the area where they will be working as well. Thank you.

VICE CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thanks, Marcy. So, Commissioner Fernandez and myself have reviewed the resumes and the job postings for all three of these jobs, and support the hiring of these candidates to help out and throughout our staff roles. So, we would like to make a motion to hire the proposed candidates.
CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay, thank you. Any discussion? Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I was going to second the motion, and if we can, if you don’t mind, Commissioner Fornaciari, we’ll actually name the positions, Communications Coordinator and Field Staff on the motion if that’s okay.

VICE CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah, thank you.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Thank you, Commissioner Fernandez. Forgot about the second.

Any discussion? And I do want to note that we do have a person who did call in to make public comment. It might have been that I went too fast to the report, so I will take general public comments in addition to when we go to public comment on this motion. So, I just want to give everybody a heads up.

All right. Seeing no other hands up, okay, we will go ahead and go to public comment on this particular motion. Katy, can you also just -- we’ll also take the caller that called in on the previous one, too.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair. The Commission will now take public comment for the motion on the floor and also the public comment for the previous agenda items, I would assume, and general public comment at this time.
To give comment please call 877-853-5247 and enter the meeting I.D. number 88653898419 for this meeting. Once you have dialed in, please press star nine to enter the comment queue.

The full call-in instructions have been read previously in the meeting and are provided in full on the livestream landing page.

And at this time we do have a caller with the last four 2829. If you will please follow the prompts to unmute. Go ahead, the floor is yours.

MS. WESTA-LUSK: Hello, Commissioners. This is Renee Westa-Lusk. I’m calling mainly because I thought maybe the general legal counsel would get an update on the petition to the California Supreme Court to get an order. This motion was made back on your -- I’m sorry -- July 13th business meeting. What is their progress in communicating with the California Supreme Court? Have they already ruled? I haven’t heard anything. I’d like some update on that. Thank you.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you, Ms. Westa-Lusk. Yes, Chief Counsel Pane did give an update very briefly at the end of his report. He mentioned that our counsel, Strumwasser, Woocher -- I think I may have butchered their name -- is in the process of preparing the petition to the Supreme Court, but nothing has been submitted to the
California Supreme Court yet.

MS. WESTA-LUSK: Okay. I heard the law firm mentioned, but I didn’t understand that it was pertaining to the Supreme Court order.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yes.

MS. WESTA-LUSK: Okay, okay.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yes.

MS. WESTA-LUSK: All right. Thank you.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you for calling and asking. Okay, Katy.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And that was all of our public comment at this time, Chair.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Seeing no other callers, and I believe that the instructions have had plenty of time now to have been read off and streamed on the livestream. Director Hernandez, shall we go ahead and go to the motion and the vote.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Yes. Let’s check the motion for spelling. Hopefully, you’ll catch the one I put in there purposely, wink, wink.

So, the motion is to approve recommended candidates for the Communication Coordinator and the two Field Support Staff. Yes, all right, the Communication Coordinator and the two Field Support Staff.

Motion was made by Commissioner Fornaciari,
seconded by Commissioner Fernandez.

If that looks correct, I’ll go ahead and proceed with the vote.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yes, let’s go ahead.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Very well.

Commissioner Ahmad.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yes.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Akutagawa.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yes.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Fornaciari.

VICE CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yes.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yes.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Le Mons.

(No audible reply)
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Taylor.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Toledo.

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Yes.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Vasquez.

(No audible reply.)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Yee.

COMMISSIONER YEE: Yes.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: The motion passes.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Excellent. Thank you very much. Thank you to the Finance and Administration Committee on that work. I do know that you have one more item that you’re presenting.
VICE CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah, the draft travel policy.

I want to start out by thanking Commissioner Fernandez for all of her hard work in getting this document distilled down. It started at about a 15-, 16-, 17-page document, and what we tried to do is to distill it down to a resource for the Commissioners and staff to use to understand, you know, how to do travel, you know, in the context of the State of California and not include all of the gory details of the rules, but just how those rules apply to the Commission.

So, you can see on the first page we have 10 scenarios here for traveling, and normally travel is supposed to be, you know, approved on a case-by-case basis, but we thought that for the first six scenarios, you know, that they should be just blanket approval for those six scenarios so we don’t -- every time somebody travels we don’t have to go through the approval process. And those are basic just Commissioner Travels, staff traveling to meetings. Hopefully, we’ll be having in-person live meetings, but it also covers Commissioners traveling to Sacramento for meetings and to other places.

The third bullet was, you know, we had had discussions about potentially, you know, having gatherings of Commissioners, maybe, you know, in southern California
at some location where Commissioners might all get together
and tune into a meeting. So, we wanted to include that in
case, you know, that happens.

Then the final four, one is if Commissioners have
to travel litigation-related travel, and we thought that
would be approved by the Chief Counsel. And then the final
instances would be approved by the current Chair. So, if a
commissioner has to travel for a media-related appearance,
or education, or advocacy.

And then the final example was part of the
discussion that we had last week about traveling around
California to familiarize folks with parts of the state.

And, you know, we met -- Commissioner Fernandez
and I met with Director Hernandez and Chief Counsel to talk
about this and what that might look like. And, you know,
we thought of a couple of examples maybe that might be an
example of what this might look like.

For instance, if a commissioner wanted to drive
up 395 and see what, you know, it looked like on that side
of the Sierra, and then cross the Sierra right down the
valley to familiarize themselves with that, you know, we
got specific feedback or input on that topic, but many of
us, I imagine, have not been in that part of California,
and so to familiarize ourselves with that kind of thing or,
you know, I mean, so travel related to input or
clarification on the input would receive I think what we’re thinking would be appropriate in that context.

I mean, just taking a week to travel around California, you know, may or may not be appropriate unless it’s specifically related to, you know, input is what we were thinking in that context, but we want to bring this forward to talk about that and those scenarios and what that might look like. I don’t -- I mean I think the rest of it is kind of self-explanatory, so I don’t know if, Commissioner Fernandez, if you have anything else you’d like to add.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: No. Thank you so much. You covered it really well. Again, these are just scenarios that Commissioner Fornaciari, Executive Director Hernandez and Chief Counsel Pane, that’s what we came up with. There may be other scenarios. I think by the tenth time that we had reviewed the document our brains might have been a little fried.

But anyway, so what we tried to do is as Commissioner Fornaciari said, we just tried to really tailor it down to something that hopefully would be easier for everyone to understand the process, and then we also included links because the per diem rates and specific requirements for maybe, I don’t know, a certain scenario or situation it will actually take you to the travel policy
that the State has.

So, after we put it out I did find just a couple of edits that I’ll fix before we move forward, but if there’s any questions.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. So, Commissioner Kennedy and then Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. Just a couple of questions or thoughts to start with.

First of all, on number seven I would think that we would drop “or legal representation,” and leave this fully in the hands of Chief Counsel. I mean other legal representation can request or recommend to the Chief Counsel, but since Chief Counsel is overseeing all of the legal work, I would be more comfortable with having that fully in the hands of Chief Counsel.

Also, on the last three, you know, the Chair rotates and it’s not always clear to everybody when the Chair is rotating and so forth, and there could be differences in interpretation and applications from one Chair to another. I almost think it would be, you know, more consistent to have these last three approved by Admin. and Finance or some person or combination of people that is constant from month to month.

Method of travel, and this is something that I encountered last year when traveling up to Sacramento for
the first meeting of the first eight, you know. There was a question of, you know, COVID and health and so forth, so, yeah, I guess having in the best interest of the state, but we also want to make sure it’s in the best interest of the traveler’s health. Maybe that can be assumed to fall under the best interest of the state, but, you know, I drove because I was simply not comfortable flying at that point. There are also issues of even getting from Palm Springs. We will later this year have a nonstop to Sacramento, but we didn’t and trying to come up with a schedule that worked was very, very difficult. So, in the end the travel by rental car was approved. So, I just want to make sure that we’re taking into account the health of commissioners, staff in this policy.

On receipts for meals and incidentals, you know, I’ve worked for any number of organizations that have had any number of policies, but I don’t think I’ve ever seen a requirement of employees having to produce receipts substantiating amounts claimed within established per diem rates at some unknown future date. What’s the retention period for this? That just struck me as a little excessive. You know, clearly if there’s something in excess of the per diem rate, if you’re claiming an expense for a group of people, you know, those sorts of things, and we can have a clear retention period on it, that would be
fine. But retaining receipts for some unknown period for
claims that fall within the per diem -- established per
diem rates just doesn’t seem to make a whole lot of sense.

I may have some more later, but that’s what I
wanted to start here. Thank you.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you,
Commissioner Kennedy. Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you. So, my concern
is just a little bit different and for sure it has to do
with State allowances, but I just wanted to name that my
shock and surprise was just even looking at the dollar
amount allotments that’s on here. That, to me, seems very
much so outdated. And I’m not certain that this Commission
can do anything about a State allowance, but what I’m
looking with not so much the meals, whatever they are, but
even we get down to the lodging requirements I’m not quite
sure where we’re expected to stay for $90 and $100 a night.
So, I just wanted to name that. That was the shocking part
about it.

I appreciate boiling it down, making it easy.
It’s very easy to understand and appreciate it, but these
rates are not realistic for any place that I would stay.

So, it reads to me like these are now just
opportunities for me to spend money to supplement what the
State is not willing to do.
CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I see Commissioner Sinay and I think that’s it. Yes, Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Commissioner Fernandez has her hand raised as well.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Oh, I’m sorry. Okay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Commissioner Turner, that was my reaction as well, and I have had to travel within government rates. It was Federal government rates, and I am planning to come up to Sacramento the 8th and 9th, so I started looking at hotel government rates and none of them fit into this.

So, what Director Acevedo -- sorry, Director Hernandez recommended was to actually call and say you’re looking for State rates, not Federal rates. But, you know, $7.00 for breakfast, that’s a cup of coffee these days. And, so, yeah, I was kind of shocked by how low the State rate is compared to the Federal rate.

And I just wanted to publicly, you know, to understand, you know, we create our policy. Do we have to follow it exactly the State’s guidelines for the prices? Okay, so Neal is shaking his head yes. So, sorry, Commissioner Fornaciari is shaking his head yes.

So, I will let you know, Commissioner Turner, what happens when I call in, if they actually lower their rate or not. But that was my -- you know, playing the game
of calling everyone, you know, there is a way to get around it if you can’t fine one, but you have to call and Director Hernandez can explain it, but I looked at the process and it was talking to three different people and documenting it all. And since I charge per hour, it’s cheaper for me to just pay the difference than for me to spend that much time running around to document it. So, I felt the same way you did, Commissioner Turner, that I’ll be supplementing a lot.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Commissioner Fernandez and then Commissioner Fornaciari.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. I just wanted to provide responses. And, yes, welcome to my 30 plus years, life in state government. Yes, the rates do not keep up.

In terms of the per diem for meals as well as incidentals, that’s a flat rate. We can’t go above it. And the reason you have to keep the receipts is in case you’re audited. It’s not the Commission’s requirement; it’s the State requirement.

I’m not sure what the -- 30 plus years I’ve never been audited, but if you were, you have to have receipts.

I’m not sure what the retentions schedule is for that.

And in terms of the lodging, we do have on page four, there is an excess lodging rate request, and so what you need to do is you fill that out and you forward it to
us and you do show three other -- I believe it’s three other rates showing that you couldn’t find anything under whatever the rate may be. I just do it online. I just go in there and I check off for State rates, and if they don’t have it, that’s what I print out, and that’s my justification in terms of this is the hotel and then here’s the copy of three others that also do not have the State rate available.

So, yeah, it’s disappointing, but it is what it is, and, yes, working 30 plus years I did supplement quite a bit, and unfortunately that’s just the way it is.  

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Commissioner Fornaciari and then Commissioner Turner.

VICE CHAIR FORNACIARI: I’ll let Commissioner Turner go. I thought Marcy raised her hand too. No, okay.

OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: I just have some Sacramento hotel recommendations that are in the budget that I stayed at, so I’ll share that.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay, thank you. Commissioner Turner, then we’ll go to you.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah. So in response, all very helpful information. I just wanted to say that things are the same until they change, and at some point I think that this just does need to be challenged. I think it’s ridiculous that there would be an expectation for the
amount of travel that we’re going to do that I would need
to take time to contact three and four hotels to be able to
determine and send in paperwork.

And, no, you can probably tell before now I’ve
not worked directly for government, but this is, I think,
an awful waste of time and resources when there is an
acknowledged and a known average amount, for example, even
for Sacramento at $95. I don’t know, I just wanted to name
that and I think we should be pushing back. We should be
coming up with additional guideline rules, even under the
excess lodging that says if the base nightly room rate
exceeds the current State rate, then an excess lodging rate
approval request must be submitted. If for any of those
areas perhaps if that then did do some research and come up
with what is a current average for a hotel, then if we’re
around that price, we’d need to have some sort of policy
that says this is, or maybe they should make
recommendations.

But for all of us to go through the process and
submit three, I don’t think it reasonable, so I wanted to
name that. From my perspective I think that’s way too many
phone calls, too much work and too much paperwork to be
submitted.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Commissioner Fornaciari,
did you want to comment?
VICE CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah. I want to thank everyone for their feedback so far. I’ve worked for the Federal government and the Federal per diem rates are in some cases more than 50 percent higher than the State rates. It’s ridiculous. I agree.

I do, Commissioner Turner, like your suggestion of, you know, having staff help us out. So, a part of what I envision is going to be happening -- or we envision is what’s going to be happening is if we’re all traveling together, the staff will be making arrangements for us, but we will definitely think about ways to streamline this hotel process, and I appreciate that feedback.

And, Commissioner Kennedy, yeah, I appreciate your feedback, too. We’ll look into that incorporating your comments. That’s all I had.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Kennedy and then myself.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: On the retention of receipts issue, these days, you know, receipts, depending on how long they want us to keep them, they don’t even last. They fade, you know. You’ll have a piece of paper that has nothing legible on it just because it’s so old.

So, you know, do we have to photocopy every receipt? If we’re going to have to photocopy every receipt then, you know, we might as well just say submit all of
your receipts to headquarters and then headquarters takes
the responsibility for archiving all of this. I really
don’t think that that should be on the individual
commissioner to try to retain receipts that are just going
to fade and become illegible over some period of time,
depending on how much heat they’re exposed to, et cetera,
et cetera.

Under car rental resources for state travel I
would suggest that two sentences be reversed. “Expense
claims for rental vehicles at noncontracted companies will
not be reimbursed,” should come before, “The only exception
being the Crescent City Airport, which does not have either
company.” So, yeah, that’s it for me for now. Thanks.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Just my comment. I was waiting
to see if anybody else was going to mention this. I don’t
know if I’m reading it incorrectly, but I think it’s a
little odd, if I’m reading it properly, where it says in
terms of meal reimbursements, it does that, “For trips
lasting less than 24 hours, either before 6:00 a.m. or at
or after 9:00 a.m. breakfast may be claimed if a trip
begins at or before 4:00 p.m. and at or after 7:00 p.m.
dinner may be claimed.” And it says, “When” -- let’s see.
There was a portion that said essentially that lunch may
not be claimed, or it doesn’t really speak to whether or
not lunch is claimable. Is that correct?
COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Can I answer that?

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. It reads weird.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: If the travel is less than 24 hours, lunch cannot be claimed. But if it’s a day-and-a-half, then you can. So, if your original trip was longer than 24 hours and goes into the next day, you can, but that’s -- again, these are the California Human Resources policies. It’s not Alicia’s policy. It’s not Neal’s policy. We had to take the information. So, yes, if it’s less than 24 hours from the start to finish of your trip, you may potentially claim your breakfast, potentially claim your dinner, but it depends, right, depend when you start and when you finish. But you cannot claim lunch, and I don’t know the justification for that or what the thinking was, but it is what it is.

And we were talking with Executive Director Hernandez earlier and he did say if there’s a time when many of the commissioners are going to go to a certain place, staff can call ahead of time and book rooms or get a block of rooms and do all of that, the paperwork for us, and in terms of contacting other lodgings also.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: So on that same note I also want to clarify this, too. It also says when trips are less than 24 hours and there is no overnight stay meals claimed are taxable. Does that mean it’s taxable to us?
COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes, yes. Taxable to the individual.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay, okay. So I thought I was really understanding it incorrectly. Thanks for the clarification. I do have to echo what Commissioner Turner said. I do want to just make it known that that seems a little rather odd and perhaps borderline ridiculous that as if we were traveling either on business on behalf of the State or as an employee, that just seems a little odd that you would have to be taxed on something that you’re doing on behalf of your employer, but on our part as a volunteer of the Commission.

One last question that I want to also just ask about, and this echoes a little bit of what Commissioner Kennedy said. My particular concern is on number ten, which is commissioner travel, you know, to familiarize themselves with parts of California. I understand some of the suggestions of potential scenarios for it. I would like to suggest that we come up with some guidelines as to what that means. I am concerned that it would be seen as basically the commissioner or the Commission, or more specifically right now I’m going to say the commissioner if it’s individuals, basically taking a vacation, you know, at the cost of California state taxpayers. So, I think as a Commission we choose to make trips for the purposes of
familiarizing ourselves. I think that may be a little bit more easier to perhaps justify and speak about. But I think as individual commissioners we’re deciding, you know, we’re going to go on vacation somewhere because we want to familiarize ourselves, I would be concerned that there would be commentary or concerns about, you know, waste of taxpayer dollars on, you know, just basically taking a vacation.

Commissioner Fernandez and then Commissioner Fornaciari.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. Well, I guess two pieces. In terms of the per diem and the lodging and all of the rates, unfortunately we don’t have the time to try to submit comment or try to fight that. But maybe part of the lessons learned, if we want to try to add that and then maybe one or two people take that on in terms of feedback to Cal. HR or whoever may be, I think that’s a great idea because it has been outdated. It always lags.

And then the second point, thank you Chair Akutagawa for bringing that up. I did want to go back to the scenarios, specifically seven through ten. I know Commissioner Kennedy had mentioned leaving out legal representation on number seven. And the reason I opted to keep it in is I’m not sure, nothing against Chief Counsel Pane. I hope he stays with us forever. But what happens
if we don’t have a Chief Counsel, right. So, I was thinking longer term, you know, past drawing maps and there’s litigation. So, I just wanted to have someone there that would -- that could -- that would approve it and obviously would let us know about any potential or need any subpoenas or our need to be present for any sort of litigation.

So, Chair Akutagawa, if you don’t mind going through seven to ten, maybe those scenarios, and let’s see if we need to make any changes to that. That would be great. Or actually, to all of them if there’s any other changes through the one through six as well. Thank you.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Commissioner Fornaciari.

VICE CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah. I think what we’ll do based on the feedback and comments, I know Marcy has some hotels she can suggest in Sacramento. But we’ll get a list together of nearby hotels that would offer the State rate.

I know that when I was planning on staying up in Sacramento, I called a hotel that was just a few blocks away and got a State rate, even though it wasn’t listed on the website.

And, so, we’ll get that figured out and definitely have that for the commissioners.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. I see Commissioner
Turner had her hand up.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you. Two quick things. To stay with the chart number seven, the chart is giving scenarios and showing approval or approach, and here, regardless of what we list, Chief Counsel and/or legal representation, is it that they’re approved or is it that they will be reviewed by Chair, or they -- can we just add in what is the action. We list the players but not the, you know. So, can agree that Chief Counsel and/or legal representation approved, or are they going to be reviewed by the Chair or something instead of just their name there.

And then under, going back, where the Crescent City I think when Commissioner Kennedy mentioned it he made me read it a little bit closer. Am I just understanding -- I won’t find it -- but is it saying that if we were to fly into a place and meet up with other folks and catch a Lyft, Lyfts are not approved? Is that what this is saying here, no Lyfts or any of those other ride shares?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes, it’s -- at base providers it’s a Zipcar, Lyft and Gig Car are not allowed.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: So, period, there were no open. Thank you. That’s all.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Fornaciari.

VICE CHAIR FORNACIARI: Commissioner Fernandez,
so can we take a taxi? I mean if we can take a taxi, why can’t we take a Lyft?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: You can ask CalHR.

VICE CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Again, it’s not Alicia’s policy by no means. It says expense for rental vehicles at noncontract companies will not be reimbursed. This includes at base providers such as Zipcar, Lyft, Gig, and I would assume Uber as well. Yeah, sorry. Don’t hate me.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: We don’t hate you. We’re just thinking it’s a little outdated. Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I had meant to mention this earlier. I think just for the purpose of having a comprehensive policy, the policy should have whatever statement we want to make on expenses for staff, partners, whoever, who might at some point accompany a commissioner on a trip and how any expenses related to that, I mean if the hotel charges for an extra person or something, how is that dealt with? Just better to have it in the policy and understand how it’s going to be dealt with one way or another. Thank you.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. I’m not seeing any other hands. Commissioner Fernandez, I do want to ask you, it looks like there is going to need to be some revision, further revisions, perhaps and some additional
clarification on the items, so can we ask that the Finance and Administration Committee I guess take it back and relook at some of these comments and questions that have come up and return back to us at our next meeting.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: The reason -- well, we want to bring it forward, and we could do that. There’s not that many revisions that I have so far. But we did want to have something in place because comments at the last meeting were that we didn’t have some of the -- it sounded like some of the commissioners were holding off on travel because we didn’t have a travel policy. But we’ve always -- we had a travel policy during our first meeting in August. Raul Villanueva, he did provide us with the travel information, but this provides more direction, I guess, in terms of what is allowable by the Commission versus not allowable.

I’ve made comments -- the only change I would not make or I would recommend not making is Commissioner Kennedy did bring up a point regarding if someone else travels with them that is not a commissioner. Again, this is reimbursement for the commissioner only, so if the other people that are traveling with you, if that needs to be separated out, it should be separated out, but what should be submitted is commissioner expenses for their sole expenses.
CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay, so -- and Chief Counsel Pane, I do see you. My question would be on numbers eight through ten. Does there need to be some type of guidelines that will then be supplemented as an addendum. Perhaps we can go ahead and vote on the travel policy today and then with the understanding that there will be additional guidelines around those particular items. And then also, given Commissioner Kennedy’s suggestion that it not be the Chair but perhaps a more consistent body such as the Finance Administration Committee.

All right. Commissioner Fornaciari, and then we’ll go to Commissioner Andersen, and oh, I’m sorry, Chief Counsel Pane did have a comment, so my apologies.

CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Actually, Chair, you took the words out of my mouth. I was going to recommend what we could do is if the Commission wanted to vote on this version and certainly come back and make additional tweaks and/or addendums to, they certainly could.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you. Commissioner Fornaciari.

Vice Chair Fornaciari: Yeah. Actually I was going to suggest that maybe the Commission can approve travel to headquarters to attend meetings today, and we can go back and work on the suggestions, because I think some of them are kind of fuzzy and we need to think them through
a little bit and what the scenarios are.

I guess I wouldn’t feel that comfortable asking
the Commission to approve us developing scenarios that we
would implement without kind of coming back and reviewing
them, you know, what we’ve suggested. So, I mean maybe we
can just approve the travel to headquarters for the time
being and then work on the rest of it. I don’t know how
Commissioner Fernandez feels about that.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. We’ll go to Commissioner
Fernandez and then go to Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I think I would be okay
with that, but maybe if we can approve a few more than just
one, just the first scenario, especially if at some point
asks me to go out and do something, and then we could come
-- I mean we could obviously approve the travel policy and
exclude certain scenarios, that’s for sure. That’s
something that’s doable. But I’m hoping that maybe we can
go through some of them. I would hope that maybe at least
four and five and six maybe we could approve, too. That’s
for the staff in terms of if at some point in time we are
traveling they’re able to travel -- I mean they can travel
now regardless, but at least it’s in writing.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I was going to say I
recommend we go approving one through six, and then with
the seven through ten be part of the subjects coming back. And the other expenses and details as we have discussed with slight modifications, again to come back for further -- but right now let’s approve one through six.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Commissioner Fernandez or Fornaciari, would you like to make a motion?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Actually, the only one I really -- out of one through six, number three, if I could just draw your attention to that one. That one is commissioner’s travel to specific location to attain a Commission meeting with other commissioners. So, that would be let’s say there’s a site in southern California and it’s not necessarily our headquarters because we’re going to have our videographer will be here in Sacramento, but maybe there’s a group attending in southern California together.

So, I just want to make sure everyone, all the commissioners are okay with that. I support that, but I just want to -- that’s the only one that would be a little different than just a regular travel.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. So, what’s the difference between number two and number three? I mean meeting sites throughout California would seem to include a specific location to attend a meeting with other
COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Right. So, number two would be let’s say we were traveling, so it’s a designated site that we will be. Like if it’s zone K and we’re actually traveling to zone K, it’s a specific site.

Three is in this virtual world right now the headquarters, Sacramento, is the main location for our videographer. So, during virtual we’re all at home, but let’s say, for example, someone finds a location, some of the commissioners want to actually attend the meeting together, but they can’t come to Sacramento, so they want to attend in whatever location that is. Does that make sense, Commissioner Kennedy, or did I just confuse it even more?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I still think it could be subsumed under number two.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Yee.

COMMISSIONER YEE: I see number two involves a planned meeting of commissioners versus three, and I’m thinking, for instance, the far north, and I’m remembering conversations since we don’t have a commissioner from the far north. But I promised people from the far north we’ll come to see you, you know. I wanted to make it on that. But if we’re just located somewhere, taking a virtual meeting, that’s different than actually having a meeting in
that place, so that’s the distinction I see.

You know, it’s tricky because if we don’t have a scheduled agendized meeting in the location somewhere, of course, we cannot meet privately with people. That would be against Bagley-Keene. So, try to think of some way to be -- to see some of these places may well be worth seeing in person, and yet, stay within the rules.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Kennedy, back to you.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. I’m thinking that, you know, if you look at Bagley-Keene and the requirements for teleconference participation and so forth, I mean a meeting is not necessarily in one location. A meeting can have several locations for the same meeting, and that’s why in my mind two and three I don’t see a real substantive difference between the two.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Thank you for that. We are up against our break. Let’s go ahead. Let’s take our break, 15-minute break, now and we will return at 11:15, and we’ll see where we’ll go forward when we return.

(Off the record 11:00 a.m.)

(On the record 11:15 a.m.)

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right, thank you. Welcome back. We are going to continue on our previous conversation around the travel policy. I do see that
Commissioner Fernandez has her hand up.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Sorry, I pressed the wrong button. Hot off the presses. In terms of at base providers Zipcar, Uber, and Lyft, they are allowable, so I’ll be making that change to the policy.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. So, see the power that I have? No, just kidding.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Now can we fix everything else that we brought up?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Sorry, I have to mute myself now.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Commissioner Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Sure. Just on that point, if it is allowable what is the best way to show our receipt for that. It’s typically on your phone. Screen shot that’s printed or just that little logistic. If you could add that into that, it would be great. You don’t have to necessarily answer now, but --

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: No one here is an accountant and won’t want to give tax advice, but it might be helpful if staff can look into for all of us just the guidance on if we do have to pay things out of pocket, what is and
isn’t allowable as a write-off on your taxes.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I’m laughing because you know Director Hernandez used to work at FTB, right, for many years, so that’s good. Good we have an insider.

In terms of the app. base, I think -- can you send it to your email and then just print out your email, the expenses? That might be the best way to do it.

And then in terms of the tax I don’t know. I use TurboTax.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. I see Director Kaplan and then Commissioner Turner.

OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Yeah. I know on Lyft you can go into the app. and then you can click on it. It also gives you a printout map that I would have to submit in the past when I’ve used that.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: They do also send it to your email, too.

OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: There’s a pdf that you can print or attach.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Turner, and then, Commissioner Fornaciari, did you have your hand up?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: That’s all. I was just going to refer to the pdf. I know it’s pretty easy to
print out receipts for at base Lyft ride.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. All right. I’m not seeing any other hands. My question is to the Finance and Administration Committee. Do you want to bring forward a motion, or do you want to wait?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. I’m trying to think of the motion. I’m just -- okay, I will bring forward a motion that we approve the travel policy with edit mentioned, and just scenarios one through six.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Do we have a second?

Okay. Commissioner Fornaciari, thank you.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I’ll second.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Thank you for seconding it. Any discussion, any comments? Commissioner Toledo.

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: I’m just -- it sounds a little -- I’m just wondering if we just want to approve the policy now, knowing that there’s going to be edits in the future instead of approving some things and not others. I’m always for like the simplest thing. I don’t think anything in here is so incorrect or -- that’s the wrong word -- is so -- isn’t something that we can’t live with or we couldn’t fix in the future. So, I’m just -- if we want to approve the policy, I think perhaps just approving it with the recognition that it will be changing, or, yes, this is the changes to it now.
CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. So, Commissioner Toledo, are you suggesting or making an amendment to the current motion?

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: I’m just suggesting that, yes, I’m just asking maybe we don’t just limit to the six, but rather, you know, that we just pass -- that we move forward with the entire policy, recognizing that there will be changes. At this point we’re not really traveling much other than perhaps maybe staff, at least for the next month, so we still have an opportunity to update this further, and the areas where we might have some travel seem to be appropriate at this point. There’s an item for each one of those.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay.

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Of course, you know, making the change for the apps. and so forth, that makes sense. That would be my suggestion to Commissioner Fernandez, if she’s willing to take it. I mean she may want to just limit it to the pieces that are absolutely -- that absolutely make sense at this point.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Commissioner Fornaciari, what do we think on this? Is that -- are we going big or going home, or all or nothing?

VICE CHAIR FORNACIARI: I’m fine with that
suggestion if the Commission is. I mean I don’t know what
the pulse of the Commission is, you know. I mean we’ll get
it approved. I mean we’ll go back and work on the
suggestions and work on some scenarios for seven through
ten and kind of think about the approval process and how
we’ll do that and bring that back. So, if the Commission
in general is comfortable with that approach, I’m fine with
it.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay, we’re going to go
for it.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: So, you are amending the
friendly amendment. It looks like, Commissioner
Fornaciari, as the second you are also accepting that
friendly amendment. Okay.

I do believe Executive Director Hernandez is
probably going to want a rereading or a restatement of the
motion.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I’m sorry. Motion to
approve the travel policy with edits. Was that it,
Commissioner Toledo?

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Yeah. I think that would
cover it, approval of the policy as stated around the apps.
and I know there were a couple of others.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah, just edits, yeah.

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Edits, yeah.
COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you. Let’s see. I’m not seeing any additional hands, comments. We can -- okay, let’s go to public comment on this, and then we’re going to take a vote after that. So, Katy, public comment time.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair. The Commission will now take public comment for the motion on the floor in regards to the travel policy.

If you have a comment please call 877-853-5247 and enter the meeting I.D. number, 88653898419, for this meeting.

Once you have dialed in, you’ll be placed in a queue -- once you have dialed in, please press star nine to enter the comment queue.

The full call-in instructions are read at the beginning of the meeting and are provided in full on the livestream landing page.

We do not have anyone in the queue at this time, Chair.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay, Katy. Would you please just let me know once the livestream is finished? Oh, Commissioner Fornaciari.

VICE CHAIR FORNACIARI: I was just looking at the updated travel policy and apparently motorized scooters and bicycle rentals are covered, too.
CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Do you feel like Lime and Bird?
Okay.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: The instructions are complete, Chair.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you.

Executive Director Hernandez.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Okay. I like the simplicity of this one. Thank you, everyone. It’s making my job so much easier.
Okay. We will begin the vote here. Commissioner Ahmad.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yes.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Akutagawa.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yes.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Andersen. I don’t see her there. Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Fornaciari.

VICE CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yes.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Abstain.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Le
Mons.

(No audible reply)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Taylor.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Toledo?

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Yes.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Vasquez.

(No audible reply)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: And Commissioner Yee.

COMMISSIONER YEE: Yes.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: I believe this does not require a special vote, so the motion passes.
Thank you.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Great. Thank you very much, and thank you to the --

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: It does not require.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Does not require, okay. And thank you to the Finance and Administration Committee for your continued work. We do appreciate it.

Okay. Let’s move on with the subcommittee updates. Let’s go to number 4C, Gantt Chart.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Nothing to report at this point, Chair.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you very much, Commissioner Kennedy. Let’s go on to number 4D, VRA Compliance Committee. Commissioners Sadhwani and Yee.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: We are -- Commissioner Yee, feel free to jump in here at any point. We are waiting to hear more from Mr. (indiscernible) Becker team about their process to hire an RPV racially polarized voting analyst. They did have out a call for proposals. My understanding is they received applications from four different either individuals or teams to serve in that capacity, and we’re planning to hold interviews this week, but I haven’t heard too much more about it.

As you may recall we had agreed an RFP for the
legal team has specified that they would have the ability
to identify and hire the person that they felt, you know,
most comfortable with, with final approval by the
Commission.

It occurred to me, Chair, I know there was talk
of canceling the August 5th meeting. That’s still fine,
but I do think that at some point we will need a vote on
the final approval of RPV. Probably that would have
occurred on August 5th, but if we’re not meeting that day,
that’s going to be okay. We’ll figure it out for August
10th.

Russell, anything else to report? I think that’s
about it?

COMMISSIONER YEE: Yeah. Just that our line
drawer, Karin McDonald and David Becker did meet to have a
working meeting last week and they said that went well.
So, I’m looking forward to their continued collaboration.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: That’s correct, and we
will see the product of that collaboration on August 10th
when they present what they’re currently calling a heat map
using ACS data of identifying those regions where they
anticipate we will need additional analysis for VRA
compliance, that RPV analysis. And, so please stay tuned
for more on August 10th.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Great. Anything
else? All right, thank you. We’ll go on to agenda item number 4E, Outreach and Engagement Subcommittee. Commissioner Sinay and Fornaciari.

    COMMISSIONER SINAY: Is it okay if I ask a question for the group before us? I was raising my hand.

    CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Sure. Oh, I’m sorry.

    COMMISSIONER SINAY: No, it’s hard to see.

Commissioner Sadhwani you had said that -- well, let me ask you, if we postpone approving it to August 10th, the consultant who will be on the racial polarizing, is that putting our timeline behind because that person can’t work until we approve them? What is that doing to our timeline of getting work done?

    COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: It might put us slightly behind. Certainly there had been mention the last time that we spoke with David Becker that some preliminary analysis might be conducted prior to August 10th that could be shared on August 10th. So, if we can’t approve the RPV analyst until the 10th, that’s not going to happen. Is that completely detrimental to our entire process? I don’t think so. I think that we will probably be fine. And in some ways we have a lot for August 10th already. So, in some ways, you know, then we push that to whatever our next full meeting date is. I think that that could work out also. I didn’t anticipate that much analysis having been
completed by the 10th in terms of the racially polarized
ing voting. It’s really the focus is on that heat map of ACS
data, and then we can give the direction in terms of the
RPV analyst at that meeting. I think it will work out
okay.

But, yes, I mean I think we are losing a few days
there. But between the 5th and the 10th, you know, how
much would realistically get done that would be ready to
present, I’m not sure. So, it’s fine.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I guess I was looking at
more between the 5th and not the 10th but the next meeting,
you know, the accuracy of the whole thing.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Right.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Because if we just go one
meeting at a time, it’s one thing, but we need to be
looking at the big picture since we are starting to hit
deadlines.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes, absolutely, and when
we get to the Line Drawers Subcommittee we’re definitely
thinking about the RPV piece there as well, and really
having a further, you know, a much more robust analysis
completed in September. So, we’re certainly thinking about
that full trajectory, and I think we just need to spend
some more time being able to meet with Becker to really
finalize that process. I think that’s one of the ongoing
challenges.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: So, Commissioner Sadhwani, if I can ask a question then. Based on what you said, you said that the Legal Counsel Team is holding interviews this week. Will they have a candidate ready to present to us if we were to have a meeting next week? And then as you had also mentioned, will they have -- will that five days make a difference in terms of being able to have something that makes it so that we should do so, and then at what point will you know whether or not they will have somebody to present to us on the 5th?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I believe that they would have someone to present for August 5th. And Russ and I haven’t had a chance to speak with them. I don’t know if, Chief Counsel Pane, when you spoke with the team last week if they had any specifics in terms of their timeline.

CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: As per the RPV analyst, I didn’t have an exact because I think they were just closing the advertisement, and they were still expecting some additional applications, so I don’t have any more specificity than that. So, I’m not sure exactly what their timetable is past that point.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Okay.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Well, we have not made any decisions yet. Perhaps we could stay in communication
as to whether or not there will need to be an action. And if, for whatever reason, as Chief Counsel said, it doesn’t look like they’re going to be ready, then we could go ahead and plan for that to be brought forward at the August 10th meeting. Okay, perfect.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Okay, we will do.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you. Let’s go on to agenda item 4E, Commissioner Sinay and Fornaciari, for Outreach and Engagement.

COMMISSIONER: Nothing significant to report.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay, all right. I like this. We’re just going to move right along. Okay, let’s go to agenda item 4F, Language Access. This is myself and Commissioner Fernandez.

I know that we have noted that we believe we have been sunsetted, but our agenda item continues to show up on the agenda, so we do not have anything to report; is that correct, Commissioner Fernandez? Okay. Thank you.

We will move on to agenda item 4G, Materials Development Committee, Fernandez and Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: We received draft short videos from the communications team. Both Commissioner Fernandez and I have provided some initial comments on those. So, we are looking forward to the next version of those, and those should be very soon.
Anything else, Commissioner Fernandez?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: No, and we’re still -- I believe the last update we received for the paper COI communities of interest tool is that it’s with the post office right now, and we’re trying to work that piece out right now. But it has been translated into the various languages, so we’re just waiting to hear back from the post office and then we can send that out and post it onto our website.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: And Commissioner Fernandez, just for clarification, when you say it’s at the post office do you mean for the self-address, you know, postage?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: It’s not there to be mailed out to everybody. It’s just to get their information as to how to put that prepaid postage on that, and then we’ll have to print it out. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: And the idea was that we would also ensure that the format of it for folding and so forth was within postal service guidelines as well.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Great, yes. That would be sad if we printed and it is not in guidelines. Thank you for making sure that that is accurate.

Okay. Let’s go on to agenda item 4H, The
Website, Commissioners Kennedy and Taylor.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: We had provided our second set of recommendations to staff I believe last week, so we have nothing further at this point. I don’t believe -- we will continue to monitor it, we will continue to monitor public feedback and make further recommendations as necessary.

Commissioner Taylor, do you have anything further?

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: No, I agree with that statement. We look forward to onboarding of our Systems or our Website Manager so that we can help to implement those changes and suggestions.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Commissioner Turner, did you have your hand up to make comments? I just saw a wave.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: I probably was just flopping around. No comment.


COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. We’ll go on to agenda item 4I, Data Management, Commissioners Turner and Ahmad.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: No updates at this time.
CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. All right. We’ll move on to Agenda Item 4J, Communities of Interest Tool. Commissioner Kennedy, I’ll ask if you want to report on anything.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I have nothing. Director Kaplan has already reported on the number of submissions through the tool.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay, thank you. Let’s go on to Agenda Item 4K, Cybersecurity.

VICE CHAIR FORNACIARI: I don’t have anything to report. Commissioner Taylor, do we have anything?

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: No, I agree. We have nothing significant to report. Thank you.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay, great. Let’s go on to Agenda Item 4L, Incarcerated Populations for State and local facilities, Commissioners Fernandez and Sinay.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: We’ve been sunsetting, so it’s showing up, so we have nothing to report. Thank you.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. And then Agenda Item 4M, Federal Facilities, Commissioners Kennedy and Turner.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Commissioner Turner, anything?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Nothing at all, sir.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I will try to follow up with Senator Padilla’s office to make sure that we just
close the loop on the letter that we sent.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay, great.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Commissioner Sadhwani has a question.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay, Commissioner Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes. I do just want to note that as we get closer to August 16th and the presumed date that Census data will be made available to the Legacy data, we do need to figure out what we’re doing here with the Federal data. Are we doing anything? Are we dropping the data completely? Is there some other scheme that we’re going to use? Because ultimately to develop the redistricting database we’re going to need to know what the will of the Commission is.

If we need to bring others to kind of help give some insight to that, you know, we could do that. So, I just wanted to push a little bit because this question does need to be answered actually sooner rather than later in order to develop the redistricting database.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay, thank you. Okay,

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Commissioner Sadhwani, for the question. My understanding was that whereas the legislation gave us the option of deciding what to do with individuals in State custody, we do not have
that same latitude with individuals in Federal custody, and that, you know, the Census data are what they are in relation to those individuals in Federal custody at this point. And we’ve also received clear indications from Federal Bureau of Prisons that, you know, other than giving us a large number or the number of individuals in Federal facilities, that’s all they can give us, and that’s not useful to us in building a database.

So, my understanding is that as far as individuals in Federal custody the database that we received from Statewide Database is the database. We don’t have any leeway to change or give instructions even.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: And, I mean, yes, I think that is all absolutely true. And I’m trying to -- please feel free to refresh my memory if I have this wrong, but previously we had voted on and discussed a motion around the Federal inmate data, and the recommendation at that time was simply to drop the data, right, so that it’s no longer in the database at all. I had raised some concerns and I think that others -- is that not correct?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Not that I recall. We took a vote to send the letter to Senator Padilla because there was a hearing coming imminently, and we wanted to at least go on record as, you know, asking Senator Padilla to
press the Bureau of Prisons for data that might be useful to us. But my understanding is that all of the communications, at least to date, with Bureau of Prisons has resulted in nothing of utility to us.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I don’t remember -- I don’t feel like we said anything about the Federal inmates because we still wanted to see what information we would receive, but I could be wrong, so if you just go back to look at what the motion stated.

We do know that the Statewide Database was able to get the number of inmates in custody at the Bureau of Prison on April 1, 2020, who claimed to be from California as their state of residency was 10,326. So that was about as much information we received. We don’t have any more details about those 10,326. So, I think your question was what do we do about those 10,326 individuals? How do we count them? And, yeah, that part has still been up in the air.

And then that means of all the other folks who are in the Federal Bureau of Prisons, all the other incarcerated people in the Federal Bureau of Prisons in California that are not this 10,326 are from other states outside of California.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Sadhwani.
COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah. My thought -- I could have sworn I remember there was language that I think it was you, Commissioner Sinay and Commissioner Fernandez who is waving her hand, specifically had had. It was about dropping all of those folks from the database. So, I just want to see if that’s still something we’re contemplating because I think at that time there was interest to do so, to do something with those Federal inmates.

I remember specifically I had raised the concern that if we’re dropping people completely that what precedent does that set for other communities, and what is another scheme in which we might otherwise distribute them throughout the State. But -- Commissioner Fernandez maybe can fill in some gaps here, and could also just be misremembering it.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: You’re remembering it correctly, Commissioner Sadhwani. We did come forward prior to splitting out the State from Federal incarcerated population, Commissioner Sinay and I did bring forward a recommendation that we removed the incarcerated population from the Federal facilities. And the problem was we had nowhere to put them because we don’t know where they’re from. And, so, that was the issue and the concern at the time which is why the motion did not go forward because we
didn’t know where to put those 10 to 14,000 incarcerated populations in Federal facilities, and that’s when the motion -- that’s when they went forward with the Padilla letter, trying to get information. And the only information we had was what we received from Karin McDonald. And she gave us the totals, and we were able to look up how many incarcerated populations per facility in California, so we had those numbers, but again, those numbers may also contain incarcerated populations from other states. So, you know, what we were able to get, we tried to move forward with it, but again, we didn’t have anywhere to put them. That was the concern.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: So, just to close the loop on this, because my understanding after that conversation, and thank you so much, Commissioner Fernandez, I thought I was like losing my marbles here, was that we were going to think about how to redistribute them. But at this point in time, given our timeline, it sounds like our path forward is to just leave folks who are in Federal prisons where they are and to not -- not attempt to reallocate them and redistribute them in any way, shape or form. Is that what I’m hearing from the subcommittee?

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Turner, and then Commissioner Ahmad.
COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah. Perhaps it’s a conversation that we still need to have. The letter that was sent was asking two specific things. I pulled it up to see. The letter was asking, “Given your experience addressing the issue and your membership on the Senate Committee on the Judiciary which has oversight over national penitentiaries, you might be able to help break any log jams that are preventing us from receiving data that would assist us in our work. Therefore, we are specifically seeking your assistance in two areas.”

First bullet was, “Obtain from the Federal Bureau of Prisons useful information on the previous residence of individuals held in Federal facilities as of April 1, 2020, ideally individuals held in facilities located in California as well as Californians held out of state for this redistricting cycle,” and then secondly, “Working with your colleagues on the Judiciary Committee to ensure that such information is available to the 2030 California Citizens Redistricting Commission and its counterparts in other states going forward.”

So, for the piece that we were working on, we were waiting still on a response, and I think the updates we’re providing that we’ve not heard from them for this. The discussion that you’re lifting now is perhaps a discussion that we need to have and bring some closure to.
But this is what we were waiting on response for.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Commissioner Ahmad.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you, Chair. I just wanted to ask a clarifying question. Dropping or keeping this population in the data set is it a decision that the Commission should make, or is that something that Statewide Data Base has the purview over as the holder of census data? I’m just not sure.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: I was looking. The way that it was presented to us by Ms. McDonald was I don’t know if this information helps with anything since the law doesn’t provide for random reallocation within California for this cohort. But I wanted you to have this information.

So, they’re not -- they’re waiting for us to decide what we do with that 10,000, if we do anything, because there is no law around it. And so she even put her arms up in the air and said, here you go, but I don’t know if it’s helpful at all.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I think based on Commissioner Turner’s suggestion it does sound like further conversation perhaps at the subcommittee level would be warranted, and then for them to come back to us so that we can have further and more informed decision after some additional consideration.
Commissioner Turner and Commissioner Kennedy, is that acceptable to the both of you?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: We will meet on this and come back to the next meeting.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right, thank you. All right. Let’s go ahead and let’s move on to Agenda Item 4N, Lesson Learned Committee -- or Lessons Learned Committee, Commissioner Ahmad and Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. We have submitted, and it is posted as a handout, a submission to the Commission recommending that the Commission engage in a Lessons Learned discussion at the August 5th meeting using the questions outlined below to orient the discussion. We feel that with the Commission having been in place for a year it would be useful to capture some of the lessons learned at this point before we have to shift our focus to the map drawing. If we wait until after map drawing, we may lose some of the detail that we would be able to capture at this point.

This would also be a little bit of a practice session for what we hope will be a very robust lessons learned exercise next year after the map drawing, after the litigation, giving people a better idea of what to be looking for as we go forward, and our hope is that the report -- the final report that the Commission issues will
be better, more detailed, more useful to the 2030
Commission and other stakeholders as a result of this
interim lessons learned exercise, if you will.

So, the questions that we suggested as discussion
guide, first of all, what do you wish you had known about
the redistricting process a year ago?

Second, what additional training, if any, do you
wish you had had before the mapping phase begins, since
we’re getting close to that point?

Looking forward, what would you want to say to
anyone interested in being on the 2030 Commission, as well
as how is the 2030 redistricting process likely to differ
from the 2020 process?

Looking for recommendations on are there ways
that we can increase our efficiency at this important
juncture in our work. Any further recommendations for
increasing our reach? Do we have everyone and everything
that we need to complete the task at hand?

I might also, I was thinking further on this this
morning as far as recommendations for increasing our
efficiency, we might also look at the shifting balance in
tasking between the commissioners and the staff. When we
started a year ago with very minimal staff the
commissioners took on so much of the workload and we have
gradually shifted that balance and just, you know, let’s
talk about do we have that balance right at this point.

And then finally, just recommending that folks take the opportunity before we get insanely busy to reread some historical documents describing the 2010 process, such as the final report of the 2010 Commission, the handbook document that the 2010 Commission produced, as well as the report that the League of Women voters had commissioned.

So, that is the recommendation of the Lessons Learned Subcommittee.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Thank you, Commissioner Kennedy. I think we had -- I had a bit of confusion. For some reason I had thought that Commissioner Sadhwani and Andersen were the ones that were bringing forward a Lessons Learned agenda item previously, so I had emailed them to ask if this was something that would be covered at this meeting. Now you know why I was asking you about that. For some reason it was attached to both of your names, so that’s why I had asked if it was a conversation that would be done or could be done at today’s meeting versus - or perhaps pushed to August 10th. We were just trying to see if it was something that was urgent and whether or not we could make one less meeting if there was no other actions other than the lessons learned.

So, now I realize I was confused about that. My apologies, Commissioner Kennedy.
So, the question does still stand. Is this something that you feel we should do at the August 5th meeting, or is this something that we should plan for at the August 10th meeting?

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: My initial or our initial proposal, Commissioner Ahmad and I, discussed this and, you know, thought that we would put it on the agenda for the 10th of August if there were time available, but otherwise, you know, put it off for August 5th. And it does seem to me that we’ve got more than enough already planned for the August 10th meeting and that having this as a standalone or, you know, if we want to take a quick vote on the subcontracting of an RPV analyst, you know, August 5th would be an appropriate time to do this if you wanted to get the general framework into people’s hands early enough so that the colleagues would have a chance to reflect before we get to that point.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I like the subcommittee’s proposal because it would be -- from the 10th of August we’re starting to get in the line drawing process, and this will get lost. It’s something that we will certainly get into at the end of it all, but it is good and I think there’s several points here which I think are very appropriate to wrap our heads around a little bit before
the August 10th meeting.

I would actually request, though, just for -- it would make it much easier. The recommended reading, the links to those could be attached to the document, because I was actually trying to find the League of Women Voter’s document and I couldn’t find it.

And then I think -- yeah, and possibly even maybe another one which if I find I will add to the subcommittee’s document. Thank you.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay, all right. Thank you. I was going by what was on the -- on our agenda building document, and it didn’t seem like it was going to be super full, so that’s why we’re hoping to clear a meeting since we have a number of meetings, but it sounds like there may be more. So, we’ll go ahead and we’ll plan for that potentially at the August 5th meeting. We’ll also wait to hear what Strumwasser Woocher also say about the RPV analyst as well, too.

Okay. Let’s move on to --

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Commissioner Ahmad, do you have anything further?

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: No, you covered it all.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay, thank you. And then last Agenda Item 40, Line Drawer Committee. Commissioner
Andersen and Sadhwani.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes. We also have a document which hopefully everybody saw. It is the same document from last time with a couple of modifications. And I don’t know if I can bring that up. Does anyone happen to have that handy, or I can just -- actually, for the public’s sake it would be better to show that. Hang on two secs.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: It is part of a handout, Commissioner Andersen. It is -- it was on the website.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes, but just sometimes it helps to look at it for the public’s -- ah ha, is this it?

COMMISSIONER YEE: I can bring it up.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Oh, great. Would you, please? Great. Thank you very much, Commissioner Yee.

The only changes that have happened, this is still, you know, the plan. This is starting at the August 10 we’re getting into recommendations the -- I’m sorry, the VRA will be giving us a presentation as well as with Karin McDonald about population deviation, and then the end of August, the other August meetings will be as soon as Airtable data is available, we’ll go over the debriefs of what we’ve seen or what is the whole input that we’re getting, the COI input.
The September meetings, and this is what has changed. Based on our input from last time, the series of meetings that September week, we actually had the 15th, 16th, 17th. Yom Kippur starts as sundown on the 15th and until, of course, sundown on the 16th. So, we needed to not have a meeting on the 16th, and the idea would be the 15th would be the full CRC meeting, and part of that time would then also go to the line drawing to discuss the actual now what do we want to do with the COIs. And then the 17th and 18th would be exclusively that. So, that would be essentially with the line drawers. And that’s a change, and I believe that matches what we sort of had discussed at the full Commission.

And then the other change is back down here on the second week of October, we were doing it -- the four, five, six was a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday. Then we were staggering it, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday. But we’ve made a slight change in that second week of October. The 13th, 14th, 15th is Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, as the October also, the next week, the 20, 21, 22 is also a Wednesday, Thursday, Friday.

And those are actually the only changes to the proposal.

Now, if anyone has questions about what we’re doing, going over that again, we can certainly answer. I
CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Perhaps, Commissioner Yee, you could stop sharing and then we could see who all has hands up. I think I do see Commissioner Sinay, but I wasn’t sure. Okay, Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Just a really simple question. It looks like we’re looking at not having any meetings during weekends in October; is that correct?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I think --

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Only the potential one.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: The 30th -- excuse me -- the 30th is a Saturday.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you for asking that, Commissioner Sinay. I would like to ask Commissioner Andersen if it would be possible, I noticed that only the potential one as needed is scheduled for a Saturday. I was going to ask if it might be possible to move either the second or the third one, visualization number two or visualization number three, move it so that at least one of those dates also extends or takes place on a Saturday so that there would be at least one opportunity for folks who, you know, would only be able to take part on a Saturday can take part in that.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: You know, these are business meetings. And we sort of -- the reason why we’re
doing it this way is to give the line drawers the time to put together the information between that. And, so -- excuse me -- like we say the four, five, six, one group is going to be doing in on the fourth, and then they will have until that next first day to put all their stuff together.

So, shifting it back to a weekend would then -- it would impact the line drawers a little too much.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Well, actually, Commissioner Andersen, I was suggesting that we move it forward, for example, 21, 22, 23, the 23rd being a Saturday. So, they actually gain an extra day.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Oh, I see.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: So that at least one of the visualization sessions would take place on a Saturday.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: You mean two of them.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: No, because it sounds like the 28th, 29th is as needed, so it’s uncertain as to whether or not it will actually happen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Chances are it will happen, but I see what you’re saying.

Let’s -- certainly we can go back and talk to the line drawers about if that would work.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Commissioner Fornaciari, is your hand up or is it flopping together. Oh, that was Commissioner Turner that said that.
COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Commissioner Fernandez did have her hand up earlier.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Oh, I’m sorry, okay.

Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. Thank you for the information. The only -- I guess we also have to consider we’re probably going to need some business meetings in here as well, so we need to see how that -- do we attach it on to one of the days, do we do a free day? So, I was kind of hoping it would be a proposal of just not line drawing, but also of business meetings as well. And I realize that you’re focused on line drawing, but it would be helpful. Like when we did the public input, we did public input plus business meetings. That way we can get it all on one calendar. That would be very helpful.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Good point, and again, we can sort of have -- revisit that and come back at the next meeting with a few more days on there.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah, we definitely weren’t thinking about business meetings and focused on the line drawing process. Is there a sense in October how many business meetings we would want to calendar? Two, and then use as needed, or do we need more than two?

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I think two would probably work personally. I don’t know what the rest of
the commissioners --

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: And if we did that would that then add a fourth day to any one of those weeks?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: It would definitely add a fourth day.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes. We could try the 7th and say we go to the 20 to 23.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah. Commissioner Andersen, we can take a look at that in conjunction with Alvaro offline.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: We need to run this past the -- with the line drawers as well. So, if we could take that back to the subcommittee and then come back. But, yeah, we can add a couple of business meetings, and then as you noticed, we sort of dropped in the -- we don’t actually put in anything dates-wise for November, December because that is anticipating, you know, hearing back from the Supreme Court.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: If I can also make a suggestion. In addition -- Commissioner Fernandez, correct me if I’m wrong. Are you suggesting two full days? You know, like two days of full -- two full days of business meetings.

We’ve also had I guess the practice now of having the as needed four-hour meetings as well, too, that maybe
that should be also considered in your calendaring as you look at the schedule for October, as we’re finding we schedule these if we need it, but we’re taking up a lot of these if-we-need-it meetings, too. So, just want to bring that up for your consideration, too, when you do the calendar.

Okay. Any other comments about what the Line Drawing Subcommittee has proposed in terms of dates or the documents? Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes. I want to say thank you so much for the very helpful and to encourage as soon as we can finalize dates and have them on the calendar is very beneficial. October is not that far away. And to be able to have the best opportunity to fully participate in the meetings I would need them calendared as soon as possible. Because I know we’re trying to weigh in a lot of things on that, but if we can get them solidified that would be beautiful.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I am with you on that, Commissioner Turner, and we will finalize that ASAP.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Is it possible to even look at November as well, too?

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Maybe. Well, if I may respond, I think the key piece here is when are the draft maps due?, and that date for those draft maps will flow
from what our final map adoption date is based on the
outcome of the Supreme Court. So, to me it’s a little bit
of a challenge. We haven’t really thought about how to do
that yet.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Marian, and then
Commissioner Turner.

MS. JOHNSTON: If you go by the November 1st date
that is currently in place, then you stick with December
15th, you’re only going to have the six weeks in between
time. I would suggest that whatever happens get your first
draft out no later than November 1st so you have more time
to do another draft if you want to do a draft, because six
weeks isn’t enough time to do another draft and then the
final maps I don’t believe.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay, thank you.

COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: That’s helpful, so maybe
we’ll just operate off of November 1st and start building
out a tentative schedule. But I do think, to Commissioner
Turner’s point, I definitely feel a need to calendar these
things because I’ve got a lot going on, too. November,
December is just a little bit up in the air until we
finalize the Supreme Court decision.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Commissioner
Turner, I know that you had your hand up.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah. I just wanted to go
back to the document for a minute.

Also, there is a note here that spoke about the additional CRC business meetings that are tentatively scheduled for 23rd, 29th and 30th. If these are going to be dates can we also put them on as dates and then just make them as needed as well, just everything that we think we could do calendared would be great. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Those dates actually are on there right now, the 23rd, the 29th and 30th. Those are actually in the original that I believe that Commissioner Fernandez put together. That’s why we said --

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Oh.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: We’re just saying in terms of what they might be used for, but the 23rd, 29th and 30th are, indeed, CRC.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Executive Director Hernandez, I think you’re going to need to mute one of your computers. Thank you. All right.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: The 23rd is a 4:00 to 8:00 and the 29th and 30th are full days from 9:30 to 4:30.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. And I think those are on our calendars right now.

If I can suggest to Commissioner Sadhwani and Commissioner Andersen, as you look at the date, I think given what Marian has also said, it may be helpful if you
were to utilize if we are not able to get the extension that we’re requesting, if you could visualize what those dates in November and December would look like. I think having those at least on our calendars in the event would at least enable us to just be able to, you know, at least block some of those dates should we need to use the earlier dates, and then as we’ve been doing, you know, as things change we’ve been just tweaking the dates, and we’ll just continue to do that, and, hopefully, we will be able to receive the extension as we requested, but I think it may be helpful for just our visualization also to really play out if it were not changed, what would that look like for all of us in terms of timing.

  COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Absolutely.

  CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you. All right. I’m just looking to make sure I’m not missing anyone. Okay. I am not seeing anyone else, and so -- all right, we are about half an hour from our mandated break, and so let’s go on. Okay. Let’s go ahead and take public comment on Agenda Number 4, all of the subcommittee reports. Katy, I’m going to call you back.

  PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair. The Commission is now taking public comment on Agenda Item 4 A through O.

  To give comment please call 877-853-5247 and
enter the meeting I.D. number, 88653898419, for this meeting.

Once you have dialed in, please press star nine to enter the comment queue. The full call-in instructions have been read previously in the meeting and are provided in full on the livestream landing page.

We do not have any callers at this time, Chair.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right, thank you, Katy. Would you just let us know when the two minutes or the full set of instructions are read off or finished on the live stream?

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, absolutely.

(Pause)

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: I do see star nine.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: We do have a caller.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Caller with the last 44075, if you will please follow the prompts to unmute. Go ahead, the floor is yours.

UNIDENTIFIED: Hello, Commission. We appreciate the conversations about lessons learned. In the 2010 final Commission Handbook the Commission recommended posting transcripts, and one page giving the summary of all actions taken within 48 hours of every meeting. Does this Commission plan to heed this recommendation? Are we still waiting transcripts and summaries, especially as your
1 meetings are increasing in number?
2
3 This is Item 16 out of 30 in your final handbook.
4
5 I really appreciate your response. Thank you.
6
7 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you, caller.
8
9 Director Hernandez, I’m going to ask you to comment on
10 this. I do believe that there is work being done on this
11 item.
12
13 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Yes. We’re
14 continuing to work with our vendor to get the transcripts.
15 There’s quite a few that they provided to us. Now, the 48
16 hours, I don’t believe that we’ll be able to meet that
17 timeframe at this point. We do have summaries that are
18 provided where we identify the timestamp for the video, for
19 reference in the video, itself. And we also indicate what
20 motions were taken on that document. I wouldn’t
21 necessarily call it a summary, but I believe it is very
22 similar to that where it identifies that information. So, we’re still working on the other piece, so --
23
24 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you, Executive Director
25 Hernandez. Okay. Katy, I don’t think I see any other
26 callers.
27
28 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: That is correct,
29 Chair. We have no other callers, thank you, at this time.
30
31 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you very
32 much. All right. Let’s go ahead. We’ll move on to the
next item on our agenda, number 5, Committee updates, and
this is for number 5A, Public Input Design Committee,
Commissioners Ahmad and Fornaciari.

VICE CHAIR FORNACIARI: Sure.  We met yesterday
or the day before, and we designed the agenda prior to our
last meeting, and, you know, what we had put to talk about
on the agenda for that meeting was really kind of looking
at the COI input, how do we review the COI input as we’re
going along during this phase.  What is the strategy for
looking at -- when this input stage is over, what’s our
strategy for looking at the COIs and doing a review of all
the input?  And then the other thing on the agenda was
discuss phase three, what does line drawing look like?

Subsequently, you saw the Line Drawing
Committee’s report or proposal that they put forward, and
they’ve proposed approaches for all three of those things,
and they’re going to work through those, those three things
that we need to do, and report back to the entire
committee.

We did have a good discussion, though, about, you
know, looking at the COI input and, you know, what’s our
approach for looking at it, you know, and unfortunately,
now as we all know the database is not up and running yet,
you know, but we wanted to ensure that, you know, we’re
treating all input equally, and so in order to do that, you
know, we need to wait for the database to be done and populated so that we can review all of the input. And so, unfortunately, we’re not going to be able to do that as soon as we would like, but, you know, again, the line drawing proposed plan had the dates of -- where are we -- August 10th, 19th and 31st if the data were available at that point for reviewing the COI input. And then they put proposed dates of September 15th, 17th and 18th to really go through all of the COI data in detail, you know, before we begin line drawing.

And then, you know, we talked about what is it going to look like for public input after the draft maps are put forward. And, again, the line drawing team is going to think about that and put together a proposal to bring forward to the full Commission.

So, we talked about sunsetting the committee, but we decided we have one more meeting scheduled for August 16th, and we’re just going to leave that on the books, and if the Public Input Design Committee Meeting, you know, needs to get together and talk about something at that meeting to bring forward to the full Commission, we’ll do that. You know, we’ll put an agenda together and then decide later if we need to meet. If not, we would -- either way we’ll propose sunsetting the committee and the Line Drawing Committee will take the design of the rest of
it on from there.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you, Commissioner Fornaciari. Is there any comments or questions about -- okay, Commissioner Ahmad?

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: I just wanted to add that Commissioner Fornaciari led us to a record time in getting us through the meeting. We were in and out in one hour.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: That is quite an accomplishment. Thank you for that.

Okay. Anyone else? Any comments? I don’t see any. All right. We’re going to move along. We might just actually -- I’m not going to jinx it. I’m not going to say anything. We are going to move on to --

VICE CHAIR FORNACIARI: Commissioner Fernandez, Alicia.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Oh, sorry. For some reason I didn’t see you there.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Am I blending into the background?

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I think you are. You are.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I’ll wear a different color suit next time.

I’m just wondering if it might be a good time to maybe just -- maybe discuss amongst all of us how we feel our Public Input Meetings are going, maybe if there’s any
changes. Not that I’m thinking there are, but I’m just wondering as we get into the second phase of Public Input, which is going to be during the line drawing, I don’t know, I’m not sure if we’re going to have that conversation at some point, maybe suggestions on how to improve, or I don’t know. I’m just kind of throwing it out there because I don’t want to jinx anything, but we are on Agenda 5A and there’s only a couple more items.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: That’s why I stopped. Thank you for bringing that up. I’m going to ask the Public Input Design Committee, is this something that you want to take on as a conversation with the whole committee, or is that something that you want to take back and just -- I’m sorry, I meant do you want to do this with the full Commission or do you want to take it back with the whole committee?

VICE CHAIR FORNACIARI: Well, I mean, if we have input and things you’d like to see changed in our current meetings, we need to hear about it now because our next meeting is not until the 16th and by then we’ll be almost done.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: We have 22 minutes to have this conversation. I had to count. Commissioner Fernandez, I see you now.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: May I -- let me think --
I’ll put my bottle or something on my -- the one thing I did notice is that I strongly feel that we can open up the number of appointments. Outreach Director Kaplan mentioned at I forget which meeting, all the appointments are closed, and I have yet to see a meeting in the last few weeks where everyone that had an appointment called in. So, I would hate to discourage anyone from phoning in or setting up an appointment, so similar to what, unfortunately, airlines used to do is they overbook, so maybe if we try to accommodate more people. I mean I’m glad that we’re down to four hours. That’s great. I think it’s more efficient use of everyone’s time, but I also feel like we could probably open up some appointment slots, especially if we are at a point where they’re all filled up.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you, Commissioner Fernandez. Any additional comments? Commissioner Fornaciari.

VICE CHAIR FORNACIARI: I’d like to hear from Marcy on that thought. I thought we had already kind of done that, but I do -- you know, I want to recognize and acknowledge that, you know, that we had a fully booked up zoning meeting, and then a bunch of people, I guess, didn’t call in. And I’m wondering -- I was thinking about this earlier but it slipped my mind, but I’m wondering is there anything we can glean from that?
CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Director Kaplan.

OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Yes. Commissioner Sinay had asked me to look at kind of the rate of no shows. We had looked at the previous COI meetings and it had ranged from about three to six, like some, many that were just a couple, and there was a handful that had five or six. This last meeting at Zone E there were in the second session nine people who did not show up. So, you know, if there is this recommendation to open additional slots, if you want to just provide some more guidance. So, currently we’re including slots based on a four-minute, three minutes for the public input and one minute for the transition.

We are also -- so, the day before the meeting the VSS team sends the link for people to join. They sent another reminder the day of. And then also during the meeting someone on our team sends a reminder to folks, so, that has helped (indiscernible) for people who haven’t called in to join as well, and so, I do think one thing to keep in mind is there may be additional links in language public input for the August meeting, which would take up more time, but we could reduce the transition time and add in more slots.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Fornaciari.

VICE CHAIR FORNACIARI: I thought Anne said the average -- the other day Anne said the average was like
around two minutes for the input. But that counts everybody, right, even the phone calls.

OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: I don’t have that off the tip of my head in terms of -- I can look at -- I think someone has compiled that in terms of like what we’ve been seeing lately as the average. The four-minute is what we had based on time slots. When the Commission has recommended initially doing a three minute with a two-minute transition, and then we saw people weren’t -- we didn’t need as much time, and so we had moved to the four minute. So, we can lower that and add in more time slots.

VICE CHAIR FORNACIARI: I mean I think it would be a good idea if you guys took a look at that and thought about, you know, if you could comfortably add, you know, a few more appointment slots to each session, I think that would be a great idea.

OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Okay.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right, thank you. Commissioner Sinay and then Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yeah. I did notice that on some of -- we’ve been getting like 19 out of 18 slots filled, so that’s been working well, so I thank you for that.

I did want to see, I think Commissioner Kennedy brought this up, but now that we’re doing Facebook it would
be helpful if on the registration form, I don’t know if it’s too late, we can ask how did you hear about us, and just put, you know, how did you hear about this meeting just so we know what is working well so we can continue to tailor our outreach and communication efforts.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you. Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you. I’m wondering, on the -- do we know for those that are calling in to register we see how many has actually registered in a given timeslot. Do we know if we’re turning people away? Do you know how many we couldn’t register, because we’re talking about shortening them so more people can get in? I’m just wondering how many people are trying to get in.

OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: May I go?

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yes. Sorry about that.

OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: So, the public is able to call in the day of the meeting, and we have been opening the phone lines to accommodate call ins. We do not have a way to track how many people -- once the registration form closes, how many people are still clicking on that to try and register. So, it automatically closes and includes a notice that registration is full and it recommends that they call in the day of the meeting, or sign up for another meeting, or that they can also go the -- I’m forgetting the
line. Skip the line and go on line.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Right. I guess what I’m wondering is, is that are we getting more demand than slots that we have prior to it closing? So, not so much that it’s closed and now people have to call a different time. While it is still open if the demand is so high, because we’re looking at allowing shorter time periods to allow people to get in, I’m wondering if that is going to address what the issue is, if there is even a problem with people getting in.

OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: So, there has only been two meeting so far that have been full before registration closes. So, that was the zone E meeting, and I’m not remembering the date, and then this Saturday’s -- I’m sorry let me just double check. It was either Friday’s or Saturday’s meeting that is full before the registration has closed.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: So, Marcy, or Director Kaplan, is there a way to maybe create a waitlist where you leave it open and just let everybody know at this point, you know, all the appointment slots are full. We’ll let you know if we have any cancellations, and that perhaps you can, you know, take those additional people and then we’ll give you the analytics that I think Commissioner Turner is
asking about. And, Commissioner Sinay, I can see you, so
you’re afterwards. Director Kaplan.

OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: I think we would have
to look at how we might be able to do that. I think given
the turnaround is getting links to the public because there
is that option for anyone to call in, we are -- when those
invitations go out the day before, we are also now getting
the call-in information, including the passcode, the day
before, and so we have for the last several meetings been
including that in our social media communications we
provided to the Chairs and staff for that zone to also help
get that out, for example, in today’s email blast for
tomorrow’s meeting and the other upcoming meetings we
included the call-in information.

So, because the Commission does allow people who
don’t have appointments also to call in during the meeting,
that’s how we’ve accommodated that. But I can see -- I
think, you know, at some point we would need a cutoff to be
able to allow for the proper communications to those who
had registered or on a waitlist of some kind.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you. Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you. And thank you,
Commissioner Fernandez, for having us talk about this now
because these are all good questions.

I know that we’re sending emails. Have we
thought of calling people to make sure? It’s sounding like our show rate is pretty high. Our no-show rate is low; our show rate is high, whichever way you want to put it. So, maybe we don’t need to call individuals.

But, you know, I think that piece is -- you know, if we start seeing a high no show rate or in some communities a call may be better than an email.

And what did we finally decide, because I know we’ve had different conversations, on organizations blocking time for their members? And, you know, I’m going to call it associations. Sorry. You know, if ten associations say they have ten people and block some time, I know that in Orange County there was a group who had asked Commissioner Akutagawa and Commissioner Sadhwani if they could do that. So, did we make a final decision or did we encourage them just to have each individual submit?

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: So, I’ll just answer you real quick. Commissioner Sinay and then Commissioner Kennedy will be next.

What we did do is in fairness to everybody, we did ask the group who inquired to follow the process that everybody else is following and to sign up for an appointment. And where (audio skipping) and would call. I think that it didn’t seem like it was, you know, detrimental towards their testimony. I think that they
intended that -- I mean I think it sounded like, you know, the people that they wanted to have call in called in.

Okay, Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: So I understand the difficulties inherent in getting the Zoom connection information to people at the very last minute, but could we or did we email them and encourage them? If someone -- is there a way to notify a self-selected group of people, those who have tried to sign up and then unable to, could they get on a waiting list and get an email when there is time and make them call in by phone? So we don’t try to get them all of the Zoom information, but we do alert them that there is time available at that moment that they could call in by phone.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Director Kaplan, I think this is a question that you’re best able to answer, and then we’ll go to Commissioner Ahmad.

OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: I mean we could create -- we could explore creating like a Google sign up or something once we have -- when there is a meeting that’s full and then prior to registration being closed. It’s just additional -- I think I’d have to look at staffing logistics if it’s something feasible that we could explore so I could come back with an option to do that.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay, thank you. So, we have
Commissioner Ahmad, and then after that will be
Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you, Chair. I wonder
if we are trying to solve a problem that has not been
identified or potentially does not exist. I recognize
that, you know, we do have some empty space in the
different sections that we could theoretically fill with
more appointments, but we don’t know that people would sign
up for more appointments, or if they will just call in.

Additionally, I would never call in to a
commission. I would submit on line. And so there will be
those people who, you know, are just as interested in the
conversation but may choose an alternative method rather
than just calling in during a live Community of Interest
Input Meetings to provide their testimony and input.

So, I appreciate the conversation. I’m having
difficulty identifying the problem that we’re trying to
solve it at this point, if there is even a problem to solve
at this point.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you for
raising that Commissioner Ahmad. Commissioner Fernandez,
and then I also want to just note that we have seven
minutes until our break.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I just wanted to
clarify. I didn’t note it was a problem; I’m just noting
that we could potentially have more people sign up for appointments because there have been occasions where the different timeslots have been filled. So, one, we don’t know if more people would have signed up, but if we open up more timeslots, that does provide more opportunity potentially.

And then I just want to make sure that I am not in any way indicating that we reduce the three-minute timeframe. I think that’s been good. Some people have needed it and some people haven’t which I think it’s a good, happy medium.

One other thing is in terms of maybe trying to speed up the transition a little bit is, you know, we have the list that has the callers that are calling in with their name and, so, sometimes that might be helpful to say their name, because they don’t know that I’m 012 or I’m 013, but if you say their name, if we say their name then that might be helpful.

But other than that, I appreciate the conversation.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. We have Commissioner Sinay and then Commissioner Kaplan. Is this something in response to what Commissioner Fernandez just said? Okay, if you could -- Director Kaplan, if you could go and then we’ll have Commissioner Sinay.
OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: So, the reason we created the unique I.D. was because we are not requiring names and wanted to avoid utilizing the public’s name unless they wanted to say it at the Public Input Meeting, and so that’s why we implemented a unique I.D. numbering so to call on them and how they would be identified, so, Anthony, I’m not sure if there’s anything else to add to that.

CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: No, I think that’s correct. Thank you.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you, on that Director Kaplan, I think we’ll just do what we did before. We’ll continue to use the unique I.D., and then if for some reason Katy or whoever is the Comment Moderator is not getting a response, we can always resort to trying to use the name like it worked the last time that we had to do it, I believe.

Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Just quickly. Yeah, now that we’ve had enough people submit COIs and have been engaged, I’d like us -- I brought this up before, and we were in other places, and I know people laughed when I was the Chair and I said please make sure to tell a friend or ten. But the best way to get people engaged in what we’re doing because it’s so new is for them to hear from someone
they know. So, I’d like both Outreach and Communications staff to really think through how we create a tell-a-friend type campaign based on those who’ve already submitted. Thank you for submitting. Thank you for participating. You know, please share.

I had asked when the COI tool was created if there could be a button that says, yeah, that you put it on your social media, right. I submitted a community of interest to the Redistricting Commission, you can, too. And they’re like, oh, we don’t know how to do that. But just speaking through how we use the network we have to tell three more friends. I mean, you know, that’s the only way we’re going to get out of our circle and really get folks engaged. And those who have submitted are best advocates to say this is easy, this is what you need to do. You can do it, or what not.

So, if others agree I think it would be great if both communications and outreach come back to us with kind of some thought on how to do that.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Any comments on that, otherwise, I think we have heard from previous presentations from the communication staff that the social media shared by each of us does increase the reach more so than the Comm. team putting out the social media posts. So, Director Kaplan, do you have something to add on that one?
OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: I just wanted to recap a couple of the requests that I’ll be following up with.

So, we’re going to explore, look back and see some of the average speaker time to see where we could add in additional time slots for the upcoming meetings. Also, just kind of looking at the no-show rate to see where we could add that.

There was a request to add a question on the registration form on how did you hear about the COI Input Meeting, so, should you want us to move forward with that.

And then also exploring the wait list options and ways for participants to share with their network.

We can also continue to highlight the digital action toolkit or pieces of that also which has a whole kind of action section on how to get folks engaged.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. That sounds like a great recap. Thank you so much for that.

Marcy, we are just in time. We have one minute before we need to go to break.

Let me just ask on Agenda Item 5B, Legal Affairs Committee, Commissioners Yee and Toledo, do you have anything to update on us? No; is that correct?

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: No additional update, or no significant update I should say.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Okay, no
significant updates.

Kristian, I have a question to ask you. All we need to do is take public comment, and then I believe we can adjourn this meeting.

MR. MANOFF: Stand by. I think that is acceptable, Chair. We can do that.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right, thank you. Okay, well then, Katy, if you could read the instructions for all general comments both on Agenda Item number five, but also general comments as well, too.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair. The Commission will now be taking general public comment for items not on the agenda and for Agenda Item 5A and B.

To give comment please call 877-853-5247 and enter the meeting I.D. number, 88653898419 for this meeting.

Once you have dialed in, please press star nine to enter the comment queue.

The full call-in instructions have been read previously in this meeting and are provided in full on the livestream landing page.

We do not have any callers in the queue at this time, Chair.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. If you could just let us know when the instructions are finished streaming.
(Pause)

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I will just say that as much as I was trying to beat Commissioner Fornaciari’s record of one hour, I knew that wasn’t going to be possible, but I don’t think we’re going to be having any complaints about being able to conclude our business by 12 -- well, a little after 12:45.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: You also had a full agenda, Chair Akutagawa.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yes.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: So I think that’s probably a new record. I’m pretty sure it is, actually.

PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Chair, the instructions are complete on the stream.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Well, fabulous, and with that I do believe I am going to officially adjourn this meeting at 12:47.

(Meeting adjourned at 12:47 p.m.)
REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

I do hereby certify that the testimony in the foregoing hearing was taken at the time and place therein stated; that the testimony of said witnesses were reported by me, a certified electronic court reporter and a disinterested person, and was under my supervision thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

And I further certify that I am not of counsel or attorney for either or any of the parties to said hearing nor in any way interested in the outcome of the cause named in said caption.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 15th day of September, 2021.

[Signature]

PETER PETTY
CER**D-493
Notary Public
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I do hereby certify that the testimony in the foregoing hearing was taken at the time and place therein stated; that the testimony of said witnesses were transcribed by me, a certified transcriber and a disinterested person, and was under my supervision thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

And I further certify that I am not of counsel or attorney for either or any of the parties to said hearing nor in any way interested in the outcome of the cause named in said caption.

I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript, to the best of my ability, from the electronic sound recording of the proceedings in the above-entitled matter.

[Signature]

September 17, 2021

MARTHA L. NELSON, CERT**367