

**MINUTES
PIERCE COUNTY DISTRICTING COMMITTEE
July 19, 2011**

**Pierce County Annex, Conference Room D
2401 So. 35th Street
Tacoma, WA 98409**

Minutes of the Pierce County Districting Committee are not verbatim; however, audio recordings are available upon request.

1. Call to Order

The Pierce County Districting Committee meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. by Chair Seinfeld.

2. Roll Call

The Clerk called the roll; there were 4 members present and a quorum (Abernathy was excused).

Committee Members present: Karen Seinfeld, Chair; Deryl McCarty, Vice Chair; Kenneth Blair, Member; and Sam Ross, Member.

Staff Present: Denise Greer, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney.

There was one guest present.

3. Approval of Agenda

McCarty moved approval of the agenda as presented; motion seconded and passed on a voice vote.

4. Approval of Minutes

For historical purposes or in the event of litigation, Chair Seinfeld questioned how the minutes and records of the meetings will be stored. Brief discussion followed.

Blair moved approval of the minutes of the June 16, 2011, Districting Committee meeting; motion seconded. McCarty pointed out the word "puting" is incorrectly spelled in the second paragraph under Item 8 and asked that it be corrected. The question was called; the June 16, 2011, minutes were approved as amended on a voice vote.

Ross moved approval of the minutes of the June 22, 2011, Districting Committee meeting; motion seconded and passed on a voice vote.

Blair moved approval of the minutes of the July 12, 2011, Districting Committee meeting; motion seconded.

Seinfeld questioned whether the minutes are sufficiently clear should there be litigation. Discussion followed. Seinfeld suggested adding the following sentence prior to the last sentence in the first paragraph of Item 5: "Committee member Abernathy suggested that earlier maps posted on the Auditor's website by Garrett could be submitted as 'final' maps." Blair accepted the amendment to his motion. The question was called; the July 12, 2011, minutes were approved as amended on a voice vote.

5. Finalization of Budget

Members reviewed and discussed two budget documents entitled "Pierce County Distributed Online Financials (DOLFIN)" and "Estimated Pending Charges to Districting Budget" (contained in the meeting file as Handouts No. 1 and 2 respectively). Blair moved to approve the expenditures before the Committee; motion seconded and passed on a voice vote.

6. Committee Discussion and Comments

Seinfeld said she was informed by the Prosecuting Attorney that the Council would prefer the Committee not submit any recommendation to them. However, she said she thought it would be helpful for any future entity looking at the Charter if Committee members shared their observations.

Seinfeld began by stating her biggest concern with the process was the timelines the Committee was under, and she said it could be corrected in part by making the Charter clear that the clock does not start until the full component of the committee has been appointed.

McCarty elaborated on the timing issue.

Discussion followed regarding the timelines and how changing them could help future districting committees. Seinfeld said a rushed process interferes with the goal of public confidence and transparency.

Ross said he felt each phase of the process should have been allotted twice as much time.

The Committee then discussed the venue of the meetings and whether it was necessary to hold meetings in the respective districts. McCarty said it is important to go to the people, not make the people come to the committee. He did say, however, that some of the meetings could have been located deeper into their own districts, and he explained why.

With respect to the timing issue, McCarty said more time would have allowed weekly meetings as opposed to biweekly meetings, which would have afforded people an opportunity to thoroughly review the material presented prior to the next meeting.

Seinfeld thanked support staff (Council office, Auditor's office, and Prosecuting Attorney's office) for their assistance.

McCarty praised the Auditor's office for their work in distributing the maps and keeping the website current. Seinfeld suggested sending the Auditor's Office a letter on behalf of the Committee to that effect.

Rooney graciously accepted the compliments, but said input from the Communications Department, the Council, the Information Technology (IT) Department and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) all attributed to the success of the website.

Rooney pointed out the final plan has been recorded and will be kept in perpetuity. He then outlined what was included with the final plan.

Seinfeld said she would also like to send Garrett a letter on behalf of the Committee thanking him for his services. The Committee voiced no objections.

Seinfeld also thanked the Committee for their work and volunteering their time.

7. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Districting Committee adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Attest:



Linda Medley, Committee Clerk

Approved:

Karen Seinfeld, Chair

Date