



LOS ANGELES COUNTY **REDISTRICTING 2021**

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC)
FINAL CRC MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING – January 27, 7:00 pm
VIA ZOOM VIRTUAL CONFERENCE**

VIDEO FILE FOR ENTIRE MEETING NOW POSTED ON YOUTUBE:





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Agenda

1. CALL TO ORDER

Gayla Kraetsch Hartsough, Ph.D., Executive Director for the Los Angeles County Redistricting Commission (CRC) called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Thai V. Le, KH Consulting Group (KH) staff for the CRC, took roll call with the following Commissioners present:

Yes	Commissioner Jean Franklin	Yes	Commissioner Hailes Soto
Yes	Commissioner David Holtzman	Yes	Commissioner Saira Soto
Yes	Commissioner Daniel Mayeda	Yes	Commissioner Priya Sridharan
Yes	Commissioner Mark Mendoza	Yes	Commissioner Brian Stecher
Yes	Commissioner Apolonio Morales	Yes	Commissioner John Vento
No*	Commissioner Nelson Obregon	Yes	Commissioner Carolyn Williams
Yes	Commissioner Priscilla Orpinela-Segura	Yes	Commissioner Doreena Wong

* Arrived at 7:51 pm.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Agenda was approved.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT—GENERAL

This is the time for public comment on matters not on the agenda. Pursuant to state law, the Commission may not discuss or act on issues not on the meeting agenda, except that members of the Commission or staff may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed. Staff may be asked to follow up on such items.

Public written comment: One written letter from the public was submitted and posted prior to the meeting regarding the CRC's Bylaws. This letter was from a coalition consisting of:

- ACLU of Southern California
- League of Women Voters of Los Angeles County
- Asian Americans Advancing Justice/Los Angeles
- Advancement Project California
- California Common Cause
- California League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC)
- Community Coalition





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Public speaker comment: There were no public oral comments on Agenda Item #4.

5. CONSENT ITEMS

Items listed under the consent calendar are considered by the CRC Executive Director to be routine in nature and will be enacted by one motion unless a Commissioner requests otherwise, in which case the item will be removed for separate consideration.

The Commissioners discussed and made a motion to approve the minutes for the January 13, 2021, and January 20, 2021, CRC meetings.

Motion Made:	Commissioner Dan Mayeda
Motion Seconded:	Commissioner Jean Franklin
Outcome:	Approved

January 13, 2021, Minutes			
Yes	Commissioner Jean Franklin	Yes	Commissioner Hailes Soto
Yes	Commissioner David Holtzman	Yes	Commissioner Saira Soto
Yes	Commissioner Daniel Mayeda	Yes	Commissioner Priya Sridharan
Yes	Commissioner Mark Mendoza	Yes	Commissioner Brian Stecher
Yes	Commissioner Apolonio Morales	Yes	Commissioner John Vento
Absent	Commissioner Nelson Obregon	Yes	Commissioner Carolyn Williams
Yes	Commissioner Priscilla Orpinela-Segura	Yes	Commissioner Doreena Wong

January 20, 2021, Minutes			
Yes	Commissioner Jean Franklin	Abstain	Commissioner Hailes Soto
Yes	Commissioner David Holtzman	Yes	Commissioner Saira Soto
Yes	Commissioner Daniel Mayeda	Yes	Commissioner Priya Sridharan
Yes	Commissioner Mark Mendoza	Yes	Commissioner Brian Stecher
Yes	Commissioner Apolonio Morales	Yes	Commissioner John Vento
Absent	Commissioner Nelson Obregon	Yes	Commissioner Carolyn Williams
Yes	Commissioner Priscilla Orpinela-Segura	Yes	Commissioner Doreena Wong

6. ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Gayla Kraetsch Hartsough provided an overview to the approach to each action/discussion item on the agenda.

6a. Discussion and Possible Election of Chair and Vice Chair (continuation) – Holly O. Whatley, Esq., CRC Independent Legal Counsel

Holly Whatley introduced the topic of election of Chairs and Vice Chairs.





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Public speaker comment: There were no public comments on this Agenda item.

Commissioner discussions: The Commissioners discussed the election process, including pros and cons of a chair/vice chair versus co-chair leadership, gender mix, one-year terms of office, potential slates and candidates for these leadership positions, and a process for nominating and selecting them.

A motion was made to continue discussion about election of chairs until after adoption of the Bylaws. The motion failed.

Motion Made:	Commissioner David Holtzman		
Motion Seconded:	Commissioner Hailes Soto		
Outcome:	Failed		
No	Commissioner Jean Franklin	Yes	Commissioner Hailes Soto
Yes	Commissioner David Holtzman	Yes	Commissioner Saira Soto
No	Commissioner Daniel Mayeda	No	Commissioner Priya Sridharan
No	Commissioner Mark Mendoza	No	Commissioner Brian Stecher
No	Commissioner Apolonio Morales	No	Commissioner John Vento
Absent	Commissioner Nelson Obregon	No	Commissioner Carolyn Williams
No	Commissioner Priscilla Orpinela-Segura	No	Commissioner Doreena Wong

A motion was made and approved to establish two Co-Chair positions.

Motion Made:	Commissioner Doreena Wong		
Motion Seconded:	Commissioner Apolonio Morales		
Outcome:	Approved		
No	Commissioner Jean Franklin	Yes	Commissioner Hailes Soto
No	Commissioner David Holtzman	Yes	Commissioner Saira Soto
Yes	Commissioner Daniel Mayeda	Yes	Commissioner Priya Sridharan
No	Commissioner Mark Mendoza	Yes	Commissioner Brian Stecher
Yes	Commissioner Apolonio Morales	Yes	Commissioner John Vento
Abstain	Commissioner Nelson Obregon	Yes	Commissioner Carolyn Williams
Yes	Commissioner Priscilla Orpinela-Segura	Yes	Commissioner Doreena Wong

The Commissioners discussed the process for selecting Co-Chairs. The Commissioners proposed that a list of Co-Chair candidates be prepared, including individuals who self-nominate and individuals who are nominated. Each of the Co-Chair candidates would be given time to talk about their qualifications and interest in the position.





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The Commissioners would hold a single round of voting, where each Commissioner has two votes – one vote for each of the two Co-Chair positions. The top two candidates with the most votes would then be selected as the CRC Co-Chairs. In the event, there are not two top candidates who receive 9 votes, the Commissioners would drop the candidates with the fewest votes and conduct a second round of two votes of the Commissioners.

Motion Made:	Commissioner Priya Sridharan		
Motion Seconded:	Commissioner Mark Mendoza		
Outcome:	Approved		
Yes	Commissioner Jean Franklin	Yes	Commissioner Hailes Soto
Yes	Commissioner David Holtzman	Yes	Commissioner Saira Soto
Yes	Commissioner Daniel Mayeda	Yes	Commissioner Priya Sridharan
Yes	Commissioner Mark Mendoza	Yes	Commissioner Brian Stecher
Yes	Commissioner Apolonio Morales	Yes	Commissioner John Vento
Yes	Commissioner Nelson Obregon	Yes	Commissioner Carolyn Williams
Yes	Commissioner Priscilla Orpinela-Segura	Yes	Commissioner Doreena Wong

The Commissioners nominated and self-nominated individuals to serve as Co-Chairs. Commissioner Saira Soto declined her nomination. The final candidates were: Commissioner Holtzman, Commissioner Mayeda, Commissioner Sridharan, and Commissioner Williams.

The candidates then spoke. Commissioner Sridharan withdrew from consideration. The final candidate list consisted of: Commissioner Mayeda, Commissioner Holtzman, and Commissioner Williams. The Commissioners elected Co-Chairs Mayeda and Williams.

CRC Commissioners	Co-Chair Candidates		
	Commissioner Holtzman	Commissioner Mayeda	Commissioner Williams
Commissioner Jean Franklin		1	1
Commissioner David Holtzman	Abstain	Abstain	1
Commissioner Daniel Mayeda		1	1
Commissioner Mark Mendoza		1	1
Commissioner Apolonio Morales		1	1
Commissioner Nelson Obregon		1	1
Commissioner Priscilla Orpinela-Segura		1	1
Commissioner Hailes Soto		1	1
Commissioner Saira Soto		1	1





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CRC Commissioners	Co-Chair Candidates		
	Commissioner Holtzman	Commissioner Mayeda	Commissioner Williams
Commissioner Priya Sridharan		1	1
Commissioner Brian Stecher		1	1
Commissioner John Vento		1	1
Commissioner Carolyn Williams	1		1
Commissioner Doreena Wong		1	1
Tabulations	1	12	14

The Commissioners welcomed the newly elected Co-Chairs. Co-Chair Williams proceeded chairing the balance of the meeting.

Because Agenda Item #6d has been deferred from the past two CRC meetings, the Commissioners agreed to consider this Agenda Item next.

6d. Receive and Consider Approval of Commissioner Selection Report – Gayla Kraetsch Hartsough, Ph.D., CRC Executive Director

Gayla Kraetsch Hartsough presented an overview of the Commissioner selection process.

Public speaker comment: There were no public comments on this Agenda item.

Commissioner discussions: The Commissioners discussed, made a motion, and approved the Commissioner Selection Report.

Motion Made:	Commissioner David Holtzman		
Motion Seconded:	Commissioner Hailes Soto		
Outcome:	Approved		
Yes	Commissioner Jean Franklin	Yes	Commissioner Hailes Soto
Yes	Commissioner David Holtzman	Yes	Commissioner Saira Soto
Yes	Commissioner Daniel Mayeda	Yes	Commissioner Priya Sridharan
Yes	Commissioner Mark Mendoza	Yes	Commissioner Brian Stecher
Yes	Commissioner Apolonio Morales	Yes	Commissioner John Vento
Yes	Commissioner Nelson Obregon	Yes	Commissioner Carolyn Williams
Yes	Commissioner Priscilla Orpinela-Segura	Yes	Commissioner Doreena Wong





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6b. Discussion and Possible Adoption of Bylaws (continuation) – Holly O. Whatley, Esq., CRC Independent Legal Counsel

Holly O. Whatley, Esq., CRC Independent Legal Counsel, suggested the Commissioners focus on communications in the Draft Bylaws since they had not discussed that topic to date.

Public speaker comment: The Commissioners received public comment from the following individuals who each referenced the written letter submitted from their coalition:

- Julia Gomez, ACLU SoCal, reinforced the letter's recommendations pertaining to notice of meetings (14 days) and the importance of public meetings.
- Alejandra Ramirez-Zarate, Advancement Project, wanted a minimum of 2 minutes per speaker and more notice of meetings (14 days).
- Fatima Malik, League of Women Voters of California, spoke on the 2 minute per speaker limit from an equity perspective, requested more time for notice of meetings, and noted the difficulties in locating CRC meeting information on the County's Executive Office's commissioner website.

Commissioner discussions: Commissioner Holtzman explained his latest proposed Bylaws for communications, including *ex parte*. The next iteration of Commissioner Holtzman's proposed Bylaws will be added as supplemental materials to this CRC meeting.

Commissioners expressed their confusion in comparing the Draft Bylaws prepared by Holly Whatley with Commissioner Holtzman's alternative language. Commissioner Holtzman offered to prepare a summary of the two documents for the next meeting.

These discussions on the Bylaws will continue to the next CRC meeting.

6c. Discussion of Commissioner Tasks and Potential Formation of Ad Hoc Working Groups – Gayla Kraetsch Hartsough, Ph.D., CRC Executive Director

Gayla Kraetsch Hartsough provided an overview of potential formation of ad hoc working groups. She offered to design and distribute an online survey for the Commissioners to indicate what ad hoc working groups were of interest to them, including the Commissioners who would like to be the lead Commissioner for a particular working group.

Public speaker comment: There were no public comments on this Agenda item.





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Commissioner discussions: As an interim measure, Gayla Kraetsch Hartsough suggested that four of the Commissioners meet with her via Zoom to review the draft Public Access Plan. She suggested Commissioners Saida Soto, Hailes Soto, Priscilla Orpinela-Segura, and Apolonio Morales, given their backgrounds in outreach, communications, and community engagement and networks. In that way, she can incorporate their insights into the draft Public Access Plan before presenting it before the full Commission. These four Commissioners agreed to assist in this way.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Commission Holtzman asked the Commissioners to consider the following items for future Agendas: 1) a report on the County of San Diego Independent Redistricting Commission, whose 1/28/2021 meeting he was planning to watch; 2) CRC budget, expenses, and contracts; 3) the County's system for posting agendas; 4) requiring Commission pre-approval of website, press releases, and outreach; and 5) asking the State Legislators to move the 2022 primary election day to September, given the likelihood 2020 Census data will be delayed.

Co-Chair Mayeda expressed an interest in having a better understanding of the pros and cons of Robert's and Rosenberg's Rules of Order.

Co-Chair Williams asked the Commissioners to consider means for streamlining and shortening regular meeting duration.

8. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Gayla Kraetsch Hartsough reported that the latest update from the U.S. Census Bureau is that the 2020 Census data may not be available for redistricting purposes until July 31, 2021. Holly Whatley explained the additional 30 days that the State of California requires to update the 2020 Census data regarding official place of residence of incarcerated individuals. This update is required before any final maps can be drawn.

Commissioner Stecher reminded the Commissioners of the Common Cause Redistricting Workshop, scheduled for January 28, 2021, from 9:00 am-noon, and noted that the workshop would be recorded for future viewing.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Morales requested that the CRC meeting be adjourned in memory of José Antonio (Tony) Bernabé Lule, CHIRLA's director of organizing. Tony Bernabé passed away on January 20, 2021, of COVID-19.





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He devoted to his life as an organizer, a day laborer, and a fighter for human and immigrant rights. Commissioner Morales added that we should share our sympathies for the many friends, family members, and community members who have lost loved ones to COVID-19.

Other Commissioners added their condolences to Commissioner Hailes Soto for his loss of his father to COVID-19, also in January 2021.

Motion Made:	Commissioner Morales
Motion Seconded:	Commissioner Wong

The meeting of January 27, 2021, was adjourned at 10:06 p.m.

To sign up for receiving future notices or provide written public comment, email:
CommServ@bos.lacounty.gov

