



ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD

Alaska Redistricting Board Meeting May 24, 2022 | 3:00 p.m. Teleconference Call

The Alaska Redistricting Board met on May 24, 2022. Present participants are below:

John Binkley	Chair of the Board
Melanie Bahnke	Board Member
Bethany Marcum	Board Member
Budd Simpson	Board Member
Nicole Borromeo	Board Member
Peter Torkelson	Executive Director
Matt Singer	Legal Counsel

Agenda

- Call to Order & Establish Quorum
- Adoption of Agenda
- Adoption of Amended Interim Plan with Anchorage Senate Pairings per Alaska Supreme Court Order
- Board Member Comments
- Adjournment

Call to Order

Chairman Binkley called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. With all board members present, a quorum was established.

Adoption of Agenda

Member Simpson moved to approve the agenda as presented; Member Bahnke seconded the motion.

Member Bahnke requested an explanation of the court order by Matt Singer prior to the adoption of the amendment of the interim plan.

The motion passed.

Adoption of Amended Interim Plan with Anchorage Senate Pairings per Alaska Supreme Court Order

Matt Singer gave an overview of the court ruling: The Alaska Supreme Court issued a dispositional order which states the result of the appeal but does not give the court's full reasoning; this will follow later in a written opinion. The dispositional order affirmed the lower Superior Court's ruling in finding Senate Districts E and L to be unconstitutional. The order affirmed Judge Matthews' order for the board to adopt the Senate pairings in the proposed plan referred to as "Option 2" on an interim basis for the upcoming 2022 State of Alaska elections. The court held that Judge Matthews' order to later adopt a final plan



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remains stayed.

Matt Singer interprets the last sentence on the court order to be direction to the board to adopt a specific interim plan for the 2022 state elections while the other action pertaining to the stay order should await further guidance from a court-issued opinion.

Matt Singer and Peter Torkelson have recommended that the Board add language to the Proclamation that clearly indicates that the specified plan is only adopted on an interim basis for the 2022 state elections and will remain in place until the Board acts again. Peter Torkelson noted that the "Public Notice" section of the www.alaska.gov website has been updated with a draft version of the Proclamation language to be considered by the Board and the Option 2 proposed plan map.

Member Bahnke moved to adopt the amended interim Proclamation plan as ordered by the Supreme Court; Member Borromeo seconded the motion.

The following discussion was held on the motion:

- Member Bahnke expressed gratitude for receiving guidance from the Supreme Court and spoke in favor of the motion.
- Member Simpson expressed intent to support the motion.

Chairman Binkley requested a roll call vote:

- Member Bahnke – Yes
- Member Binkley – Yes
- Member Borromeo – Yes
- Member Marcum – Yes
- Member Simpson – Yes

The motion passed unanimously.

Board Member Comments

- Member Bahnke thanked the following parties: 1) the public for participating in the redistricting process, 2) the litigants on the East Anchorage and Girdwood Senate pairings, 3) the reporters on the redistricting process, and 4) Superior Court Justice Judge Matthews and the Supreme Court.
- Member Marcum stated an apology to military members for the ramifications that will be made to military voters on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER).
- Member Borromeo expressed appreciation to all Alaska Redistricting Board members and staff, noted that the three branches of government are important and should remain independent, and expressed commitment to finishing the redistricting process on a positive note.

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John Binkley, Chair
Melanie Bahnke
Nicole Borromeo
Bethany Marcum
Budd Simpson

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- Member Binkley expressed gratitude to all those who were thanked previously by other board members, specifically the Supreme Court for their expeditious decision to the public to carry on with the June 1, 2022 filing deadline for the state elections to occur on time.

Member Borromeo moved to adjourn the meeting; Member Simpson seconded.

Member Bahnke requested that public comment be included in the agenda if the Board holds another meeting.

The Board meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.