SCHUMACHER: There's another meeting coming up, apparently, at thethat some folks want to go to today in connection with the Economic Development Task Force. So even though there might be other people coming in here, let's try to get started. We'll call the meeting of the Planning Committee to order. Try to dispense with the-- we-- do we have a transcript of the last meeting? And we'll get right into our first item on the agenda, and that is a little preparatory work toward understanding the issues involved with the demographics and redistricting principles. Jerry, if you want to take the ball and run with it?

JERRY DEICHERT: OK. So after the census, part of it is -- that the Constitution requires a census every 10 years to determine how each-how many states each state [SIC] will have in the U.S. House of Representatives. So there's 435 now, and each state has to have at least one. Then after that, all the states rely on those census numbers to redraw all the political districts within the states after reapportionment. And then there's a number of statutes that the state has that say what has to be redistricted and when. But they also have to meet the-- the one-person, one-vote requirements that were established by the Supreme Court in I think it was 1970s-- oh, 1975-responded to mite-- meet the needs of the state by enacting this Public Law 94-171. And it said the Census Bureau has to work closely with officials of the individual states before each census. And under those provisions, the data are-- are delivered to the majority and minority leaders of each Legislature as well as to each governor. So in Nebraska, it's going to be to the executive and then the governor. And some of the important dates for the 2020 census is that in-- in-in early 2020 they start counting group quarters' population, and those are people who live in dormitories, nursing homes, prisons, and all of those. Now, what you may or may not know is that everybody is counted as where they were living on April 1. So all the prisoners are counted in the prison. Some states will have the Census Bureau to go in and find their home address. And therefore, for redistricting, they will use prisoners where they were living before they were incarcerated. But most states don't do that.

WATERMEIER: I am surprised that hasn't been contested.

JERRY DEICHERT: Yeah. I don't know why. I mean, I don't know--

WATERMEIER: But when they do it early 2020-- this isn't your expertise, I understand, just because it is in my district so much. They count our prisoner January 15, they estimate where he is going to be at April 1 because you're saying by law it's supposed to be April 1.

JERRY DEICHERT: It's where they are April 1. So when they go in and-that-- there's a difference between what the prison count for the state and what the census does, they go in and do it totally separate.

WATERMEIER: Oh, sure. OK.

JERRY DEICHERT: So all-- all of and all dormitory residents are counted where they are on April 1, so they're obviously Lincoln residents, I mean, are counted in Lincoln, in dorms, and everything else. Also in Omaha and probably in Lincoln too, the-- the homeless shelters, they're counted. And so where they are at that date. So everybody's counted. And first they-- first start counting and/or setting up where to-- how to count the group quarters folks. In nursing homes it's the same way; they're counted where the nursing home is. Then in March 23, self-response starts. You'll be-- they'll be sending out a -- a -- a postcard or something to have you respond online. And if you don't respond online, eventually you'll get a-- a form in the mail. But they are hoping everybody responds or most people respond online to save the cost of collection. And then April 1 is when the official Census Day, so everything is supposed to be reported as of April 1, regardless of when you fill out the form. Then in May, they start what they call a nonresponse follow-up, where they'll send people out to collect the forms if they haven't gotten one -- they haven't gotten one from an address, and they'll keep doing it until they get something. Then in August, the data collection is complete. And then on December 31, the reapportionment counts are delivered to the president. That is -- that's when it's decided how many states get how many state legislative or Congress-- Congressional representatives. And then on April 1 or before that, no later than April 1, the redistricting counts are delivered to the states so that the individual states can start doing that redistricting. And those data are counted at the individual block level. So they're very detailed geographically. This is just to remind you what happened--

WILLIAMS: That would be in-- in 2021.

JERRY DEICHERT: April 1.

WILLIAMS: Legislature would be in a long session, right?

JERRY DEICHERT: Right.

WILLIAMS: So we would still be in session.

JERRY DEICHERT: You'd still be in session. And that's the way it worked in 2010, is that-- in session? And that was one of the last things that was done during this session.

: Yeah. Yeah.

JERRY DEICHERT: And I think I don't know if it's ever been happened where they've had to have a special session or extend the session to--

: Yeah. Come [INAUDIBLE]

JERRY DEICHERT: I just don't remember on that. But you can see on this map. In 2010, Iowa, Missouri, Illinois, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and several other states lost one representative; Ohio and New York lost two; Texas gained four; and Florida gained one. And you can see the other light blue states each-- Florida gained two and all the other light blue states gained one. Based on the latest population estimates, this is what is expected to happen for 2020. And you can see Nebraska is still expected to keep its three. But Minnesota, Illinois, and again, most of those upper Midwest and some of the New England states will lose. Texas will gain three more. And then you can see Florida will gain two more and some of the other states that are expected to gain. So, again, there's that loss of population in the upper Midwest or a loss of representatives in the upper Midwest. Now, Congressional districts, when they're redistricted, have to be exactly equal in population. So if you look at the 2000, the-- the number was 570,421 people. And that was the same each one of the Legislative District or congressional districts in Nebraska. And by 2010, you can see how much those districts have changed. So District 1, it added 55,000 people. District 2 added 68,000. And District 3 lost 9-- 9,000. So in 2010, the average was 608,780. So those districts had to be adjusted to account for that population. And they had to be exactly equal while they can be off by one person, because then, you know, sometimes you get a third of a person and that's not going to-- you don't have to run around from-- live on the corner and run around in three districts. But anyway, so you can see that based on the effect

of redistricting, what happened to District 1, 2 and 3. So this shows the map before redistricting, and you can notice that most of the eastern fourth of the state was in District 1 and then Douglas County and the eastern portion of Sarpy County was in District 2. After redistricting, you can see that District 3 got a lot bigger. And you can see that District 2 went from eastern Sarpy County to western Sarpy County. And you can see there were a couple of counties that moved from District 1 to District 2, and there may have been one or two that moved from District 2, I mean, from District 1 to District 2. And-- but most of them went from District 2 to District 1 or District 3. I'm sorry. So the 2020 census-- what is it going to ask? There are only 10 questions that are going to be asked on this -- on the form. There is age and date of birth, sex, race and whether Hispanic origin. So there is -- those are two separate questions. One asks, is this person of Spanish or Hispanic origin? Yes or no? And then-- and then it'll ask, what is this person's race? And they could pick more than one race and they can pick Hispanic origin and any number of races. Then there is whether they own or rent their own home, relationship. So the first person who fills out the form, puts a name on it, is considered the householder, and then everything else is in relationship to that person. So it's spouse, child, or something like that. Phone number and potentially the citizenship question will be asked. I don't know that there -- I think there are lawsuits pending and everything else. So I don't know that it's been official that the question will be asked, but it's supposed to be on the form pending other-- other issues. Now, that question was last asked for-- of everybody in 1950. There is also a -- a long form questionnaire that was asked in the Census, asked this -- the short form is asked of everybody and it's always been asked of everybody. And then there was up until 2010, there was a long form that asked income, education and a whole series of other questions that was asked of a sample of about one in six households. And that question then included the citizenship question after 1950. In 2010 and 2020 there was just the short form and there is something called the American Community Survey now, that asks all those long form questions. And that's been-- that was started somewhere around 2000. And that's where we get most of our income-income information, education information. And that's asked of an ongoing sample that is done every month. And it's about over the course of a year. It's about one out of every 50 households in the country get that -- that form, and in rural areas, it's more than that. But basically, it's based on a sample, a smaller sample, and that now asked the citizenship question. But again, I don't know if that's

going to be-- eventually will be on the form, but that's has been scheduled to be on the census form. And I think last time I mentioned that, the -- most of the districts were built by counties and I couldn't remember if it was a statute or in the Constitution. So I did get the Constitution. And if you look at it, it says that -- down at the bottom, it says, "In any such redistricting, county lines shall be followed whenever practicable. But other established lines may be followed at the discretion of the Legislature." And so I have the-the-- the maps that were done in 2010, and they do show that for the most part, whole counties were used in the construction of the -- of the Legislative Districts. But the other one is-- the other interesting thing it says, that -- at the top, it says that if a county contains population sufficient to entitle it to two or more members of the Legislature, it shall be divided into separate and distinct Legislative Districts as nearly equal in population as may be. So that also implies that if a county is divided, each of those districts should be about the same size. Then there are a number of statutes that say what districts have to be, what political subdivisions have to be redistricted, what the procedure is, what happens if they're not done on time, and those kinds of things. I'm not going to go through all of those, but just to show you what those-- those statutes are. And then this one in particular is the statute 32-553. It says that districts shall be substantially equal in population as determined by the most recent federal decennial census. And as I-- for congressional districts, equal has to be exactly equal. But the Supreme Court has-has said that for substantially equal, they apply a 10 percent rule. That is, the size between the largest district and the smallest district can't be more than 10 percent difference. I guess I've got that -- I've got that here. So that's basically with a 10 percent rule is. So looking at the 2010 population for Nebraska, the population was 1,826,351. And so if we look at it, each Legislative District ideally had to be 37,272 people. And if you do plus or minus 5 percent to get to that 10 percent gap-- now it doesn't necessarily have to be plus or minus 5 percent because it's that -- it could be plus 4 percent and minus 6 percent. But I'm just doing this as an illustration to see what's going on. You can see that the range would be from about 35,000-- something to 39,000--something. So what did we have in 2010? The dark bars are the ones that were larger or smaller than outside or outside that range. And you can see that in 2010, nine Legislative Districts were larger. Those top nine were larger than the 5 percent plus 5 percent. And there were 27 that were smaller than that. So there are 13 of them that were-- within that range. So you can see the

majority of the Legislative Districts had to be boundaries had to be changed somehow or another
: What was the set percent again?
JERRY DEICHERT: It's plus or minus five, plus or minus ten percent is the range that they have to be at.
McCOLLISTER: How many do you think would change?
JERRY DEICHERT: This was based on this is based on the 2010. And I've got it, what the projections are for their current. But this is 2010; 27 were smaller than the minimum, and 9 were larger. So 13 out of that, so that's relatively small proportion that fit within that range, so the majority of the districts had to be changed.
LINEHAN: [INAUDIBLE].
JERRY DEICHERT: Sure.
LINEHAN: When? So that one up here at the top is mine, Legislative District 39. I wouldn't be surprised that in 2020 it looks very similar because the growth was astounding. When did the Legislature decide to take District 39 out of the western part of the state and put it in the eastern part of the state?
: Lies.
JERRY DEICHERT: I don't recall. They took 49.
: Just the last one that they recognized.
JERRY DEICHERT:so 49 came out in 2010.
STINNER: Forty-nine went to Gretna.
JERRY DEICHERT: So 39 may have come out in 2000. I don't know when it was.
: Oh, yeah.
JERRY DEICHERT: I don't remember when it was exactly.

LINEHAN: OK. I just wanted to know.

		:	Yeah.										
WATERN head.	MEIER:	Nancy p	probably	has	that	all	tucked	away	in	the	back	of	her
		:	[INAUDI	BLE]	[LAUC	SHTEF	₹]						
JERRY	DEICH	ERT: Yea	ah.										
NANCY	CYR:	I think	it was	[INAU	JDIBLE	E] 2()00 whe	n the	y me	et t	those	dat	es.
		:	Right.										
NANCY	CYR:	And that	t [INAUI)IBLE	l in 2	2011	we move	ed 49	so	it	could	hav	e

LINEHAN: So is it generally the rule you move one every ten years?

JERRY DEICHERT: Well, I don't-- I don't know that there is a rule that you get what--that everyone gets moved, but it's-- it's whenever the numbers are such that you need to change the boundaries. And so, you know, it's been-- I mean, sometimes one, sometimes two.

LINEHAN: You have here.

been--

JERRY DEICHERT: So this shows the map after 2010, and after 2010, there were 14 districts that were completely within Douglas County, 7 that were in Lancaster and 2 that were partially in, and Sarpy had 4 that were fully in and 1 that was partially in. And you can see that as Senator Stinner -- Stinner said that District 49 was moved from western Nebraska to Sarpy County. Prior to redistricting, there were 11 districts completely within Douglas County and 4 partially, 6 in Lancaster and 2 partially, and 3 completely in Sarpy and 4 partially included. So you can see that 25 out of the 49 Legislative Districts were completely within Douglas, Lancaster, and Sarpy Counties. And this looks at the population estimates and these are based on that American Community Survey, so they're accumulated over a five-year period. But what this illustrates is that if we look at the average of the state's population over that time period, it is 38,393 per Legislative District. And you can see what that plus or minus 5 percent range is. And if the redistricting was done, it would have been done then, and you can see that there were about seven districts that were larger than outside that range and about six or so that were below that range. That's not necessarily going to be the case in 2020.

But that just gives you an illustration of where it looks like which districts are growing and which districts are declining. And again, the ones that are the lighter color are the ones that still fall within that plus or minus 5 percent range.

WATERMEIER: Jerry, I hate to get into details but like Senator Linehan's question is, in District 39, the number of this last bar graph we are looking at, the 2012-2016 period, really we're looking at this as probably 2016, the 44,210.

JERRY DEICHERT: It would probably be the average. So you'd say it was probably around like 2014.

_____: So within five years though, it went from being accurate at 37,000 people or--

JERRY DEICHERT: I don't remember what it was.

WATERMEIER: I think it was pretty tight range, though.

JERRY DEICHERT: Yeah.

WATERMEIER: Because it was really 37,000-- the average was 37,200 and had to range from 35,400 to 39,200.

JERRY DEICHERT: So it could have been up to 39,000.

WATERMEIER: Thirty, because of that [INAUDIBLE]

JERRY DEICHERT: There was at least a 5,000 person increase in five years.

WATERMEIER: But more than likely, this number is based off the 2016, or is that an average?

JERRY DEICHERT: It's kind of like an average of the two. Yeah.

WATERMEIER: So within four years it's averaged 5,000 people over its ideal number.

JERRY DEICHERT: Yeah.

WATERMEIER: And which is gonna happen. And then so in another six years it's gonna be probably closer to 50,000. So in your district you're going to lose, you're going to condense 10,000.

LINEHAN: Within three miles from my house, they are currently building about 3,000 houses.

JERRY DEICHERT: Well you can see that -- that it was --

____: You don't have to walk very far.

JERRY DEICHERT: What you can see is the 60,000-- one was the 68,000 after the 2010 census when the average was 37,000 if you go back to that slide.

: Piece of cake.

WATERMEIER: Right.

JERRY DEICHERT: So you can see it was really--

WATERMEIER: Right.

LINEHAN: Hmm.

STINNER: You can walk your whole district in an afternoon.

LINEHAN: [LAUGHS] Night ride. [LAUGHTER] Driving.

JERRY DEICHERT: And then I-- I presented these as of last time as an illustration of what might happen. And this looks at those three largest counties in the state, Douglas, Lancaster, and Sarpy County, and the remaining 90 counties. And these are based on projections that we had done, I think it was in 2013 or so, 2014 at the county level, and you can see that if the trends continue as they have, that Douglas and Sarpy County by 2030 would be almost 60 percent of the state's population. By 2050, it would be two-thirds of the state's population. And if they accounted for that two-thirds of the state Legislative Districts, you know-- again, you know, that's just a big assumption-- that would mean there would be 33 districts in those three counties.

STINNER: And if you throw in Lancaster in that.

JERRY DEICHERT: Well, that's Douglas, Sarpy, and Lancaster, also.

: [INAUDIBLE] all three of those.

LINEHAN: Yeah. That makes sense if it says [INAUDIBLE] where we are.

JERRY DEICHERT: So I mean that-- that's if-- if that-- if all those-- those assumptions hold. But that just gives an illustration of what's going to happen.

SCHUMACHER: And those assumptions basically are the kids based off years of births and deaths.

JERRY DEICHERT: Births, deaths, and migration.

: [INAUDIBLE] in there.

JERRY DEICHERT: Yeah.

SCHUMACHER: So the migration is reasonably small in comparison or --?

JERRY DEICHERT: Migration is-- is in those three counties is-- is- is fairly important. But as I-- as I've-- I've shown many, several times before, in that in many of those rural counties in the state, there's more deaths than births.

SCHUMACHER: So the migration is from-- [INAUDIBLE] Nebraska migration.

JERRY DEICHERT: This is migration from, well, in-- in-- in those three counties, it's-- it's-- it's both. Both from within the state and international, and mostly from within the state and international. Yeah.

LINEHAN: International, meaning--?

JERRY DEICHERT: From outside the U.S., so it could be-- it could be, you know, it could be--

LINEHAN: Documented and undocumented.

JERRY DEICHERT: It could be or it could be citizens who lived abroad. So, I mean, it's-- it's a variety. It's, you know, it doesn't necessarily mean non-citizens. Or, I should say, doesn't necessarily mean foreign-born. Yeah.

WILLIAMS: Although it would be helpful for me, and maybe others here, if someone can talk about the process and procedure that the

Legislature has used going through this, these 10 years when you finally get the numbers.

JERRY DEICHERT: I--

WILLIAMS: What happens? Who does it?

SCHUMACHER: I think Tim and Nancy are here today. If you got time at the end of this maybe they will share some of the insights as to how--

STINNER: I'd like to just know procedurally, what is it then? Who's in charge of it? How that--

WATERMEIER: I think it's up to-- it's changed every year, if that's what you are concerned.

JERRY DEICHERT: Well, I've got-- that part of it is done, so you want-- I can--

LINEHAN: Thank you, everyone. Thank you very much.

_____: You want to--

SCHUMACHER: Yeah. I mean, we can [INAUDIBLE] -- Tim, you want to--Nancy, which one is going to come first? If both of you want to come at once, we'll just chat a little bit seeing as how there's a bunch of conflicting meetings this morning.

NANCY CYR: Well, I-- I assume, practically speaking, in terms of the redistricting process, we have-- it is true the Legislature is in charge of their process. And so they determine how-- each Legislature can determine how they want to conduct their redistricting process. We have used since 2001-- in 2001 and 2011, we used the same process. In the rules currently, that calls for creation of a Redistricting Committee in January of 2000-- it would be 2021. And that committee technically then is in charge of the redistricting process and the Legislative Research Office staffs the Redistricting Committee. So in terms of practically, that is how it's worked the last two rounds. And prior to that, in 1991, the Government Committee did it. In 1981, it was what then was called the Constitutional Revision and Recreation Committee did it. So there have been different ways--

WATERMEIER: That was a standing committee?

 NANCY	CYR:	Uh-huh
NANCY	CYR:	Uh-huh

: Was.

NANCY CYR: Was. It doesn't--

WATERMEIER: That's what I mean, was a standing committee. I didn't know that.

WILLIAMS: And then that, what-- however that is, the Committee then brings it to the full Legislature.

NANCY CYR: Correct, correct. It's a very-- strict.

STINNER: What is the composition of the committee?

NANCY CYR: The committee is, I want to say, nine and no more than four from each political party—or no more than five from each political party. So—and three from each congressional district I believe is how the rules states. So—and they elect a chair. That committee is created or chosen by the Executive Board. And so it's a nine—member committee with the chair, no more than five from a political party, each congressional district represented by three. And—

SCHUMACHER: And then that proposal is subject to amendment on the floor and somebody might have a better idea to draw the lines and so there is a big debate.

NANCY CYR: Each year -- yeah, again, the last two decades, we, the Redistricting Committee has introduced an -- a Legislative Resolution, which in 2001 was LR102. And that resolution prescribed what we call the substantive guidelines for purposes of following redistricting, and what it does, required us-- it created-- prescribed the population deviations in terms of congressional districts need to be as equal as nearly as can be. The Legislative Districts, we had an overall range of 10 percent. In 2011, the Redistricting Committee did adopt that they wanted no more than plus or minus five so that in-- to include that -- to equal that 10 percent deviation. So they did try and maintain that range instead of like the two and eight, which you can, that generally the Supreme Court has held that the overall range of 10 percent is per se constitutional for purposes of one person, one vote for-- in legislative redistricting. So that's why that 10 percent rule is there. There are always some nuances to it. But then the other redistricting principles that guide the committee and guide the

Legislature have come via Supreme Court Opinions that have been issued since the 1960s. And that includes the compact districts and contiguous districts, respect for the historical nature of the districts, a respect for political subdivisions we do have, follow-our constitution, of course, requires us to follow county lines as much as practicable and in terms of what we do from a practical perspective. I will in-- just to back up a little bit in terms of timeline-- we create the Redistricting Committee in January of the year ending in one. So it'd be 2021. We, Nebraska received the redistricting population data from the U.S. Census March 1 of 2011 last time.

WATERMEIER: Let me interrupt there. So--

NANCY CYR: Yes.

WATERMEIER: There-- these key dates that Jerry gave us here was April 1 and when they are due. Can you get them before that?

NANCY CYR: We might.

WATERMEIER: So you did in that year.

NANCY CYR: We did.

WATERMEIER: I'm sorry to interrupt you and your questions because you had asked that--

NANCY CYR: Uh-huh.

WATERMEIER: --how much time you have left.

NANCY CYR: It's no later than April 1 of that year, but we got them March 1.

WATERMEIER: So the committee is formed already in January.

NANCY CYR: Right.

WATERMEIER: And that's the first year of the biennium--

NANCY CYR: Uh-huh.

WATERMEIER: --Long session.

_____: Long session.

WATERMEIER: So they debate that pretty heavily, I'm sure, getting the committee in place and then-- but when are numbers due? When are our legislative decision due?

NANCY CYR: Well, [LAUGH] technically-- and again, the last two decades we have-- your final decision is basically the 88th day of the legislative session.

WATERMEIER: [INAUDIBLE].

NANCY CYR: --in terms of that's when the maps were-- that's when the bills were passed. Actually, last--

WATERMEIER: So they are due that session.

NANCY CYR: We try and have them due that session because in-practically speaking, people who are interested in being candidates,
in particular for the Legislature and perhaps have to be residents of
their district a year prior to being--

WATERMEIER: Yeah.

NANCY CYR: --eligible to be a candidate, so it's kind of that-- that practical nature of the political process somewhat guides or drives the redistricting process. It's just-- it's a pretty intense, essentially, six to eight weeks of-- I can tell you we did-- we started map making-- March 1, we received the population data. It takes some time to merge the population data with the geography. And that's what Tim is currently working with the U.S. Census now, verifying voting district boundaries, county boundaries, city boundaries. And he's been working, we've actually been working on it since-- for two years.

: Yeah.

NANCY CYR: And we'll continue to work on it up until Census Day.

TIM ERICKSON: Right. We are in the-- we submitted the initial data and then we're working with the-- with the Census Bureau right now on the first verification process. And then the second verification process will be next year. I know that since we submitted that initial data, there are already 13 counties that have switched their voting

districts and their voting precincts. So it's-- it's really in a state of flux and continually we're trying to update the information as we get it. And the way we get it, sometimes leaves a little to be desired. I got one map that was basically drawn in here with the squares, and it [LAUGH]-- and they did a--

WATERMEIER: [INAUDIBLE] --

TIM ERICKSON: They didn't know. It was done by hand.

____: --[INAUDIBLE] was just--?

NANCY CYR: Depends on the county.

TIM ERICKSON: Yeah. So--

WATERMEIER: Oh, great.

TIM ERICKSON: So but-- then in some counties we get raw GIS data that we can use and actually add imagery, add streets, subdivisions that have been added since then, and we can be able to put that information in, and make it available to the Census Bureau so that they can do their work as well.

NANCY CYR: It's basically an ongoing boundary verification process. So by the time redistricting is actually happening, we do have the most current geography that we could possibly have. So that's always-that's the goal, anyway.

SCHUMACHER: Now as I remember, there are several maps. You have the judicial map. You have the--

NANCY CYR: We re--

SCHUMACHER: --legislative map, you have the Regents, you have the Public Service Commission. Do all those maps get--? I don't remember this one, not really. You passed it once or do you pass the judicial map, one bill or one motion.

NANCY CYR: They're all separate bills.

SCHUMACHER: All separate.

NANCY CYR: The entities are all separate bills. It just somewhat depends on the process. Last time we passed -- first map we passed was

LB699, which were Supreme Court Judicial Districts. We all-- it's relatively the same week we actually passed that, May 20, 2011. The remaining redistricting bills were placed on Final Reading the next week, May 24. Three of them were passed on May 25. The other two were passed May 26. And the Governor signed them all that day, so-- that in terms of time frame, we started drawing maps on March 24, 2011, and then, essentially then passed the bills May 26, 2011. So it all happens between that timeframe.

SCHUMACHER: And just to pass on a shred of memory here, there-- seems to me, this thing happened because of some appointments, judicial appointments or something else, it had to have the emergency clause or some of them had to have the emergency clause, which needed 30 votes.

NANCY CYR: They all had the emergency clause, I believe.

SCHUMACHER: Right? They did--

NANCY CYR: They didn't all have to.

SCHUMACHER: But they couldn't get the 30 votes because there was a stink about the second district in the jimmying of the boundaries involving Offutt Air Base. And so there was the map that ended up being passed didn't look like the most logical map in the world, for one reason or another. So they couldn't get the 30 votes for the emergency clause or one of these. And that was creating a commotion. Eventually--

NANCY CYR: I think we-- did get--

SCHUMACHER: --common sense ruled out [INAUDIBLE]. We're going to have to do something.

NANCY CYR: Yeah.

SCHUMACHER: They got the 30 votes.

NANCY CYR: Thirty-three.

STINNER: So is the committee appointed by the Exec Committee?

NANCY CYR: Uh-huh. Uh-huh. Right. And basically then after, once the map making began or was able to be begun, the Redistricting Committee advanced the Legislative Resolution that prescribed the redistricting guidelines to the floor, where they held a hearing on the resolution,

committee hearing, advanced it to the floor. And there was discussion on the floor that this particular LR102, there were no amendments to it. Most of the discussion centered on, around the population deviation. I believe, in 2001, there was a slight change or an amendment, but it's treated like a resolution and you can offer an amendment to it if you wanted to. And that was used, as, you know, our guidelines for purposes of the process. And then the committee on its own also adopted what we called administrative guidelines and operational guidelines, which developed— which prescribed kind of some of the practical procedure that we followed in our office. We had our GIS person and we also had set up two workstations for purposes of staff and legislators coming in to work on maps if they wanted to and, you know, offer their own suggestions or ideas to draw maps. Yes.

WATERMEIER: Yeah, Nancy, I'm confused. You said it's like a resolution that can be amended, but yet you have legislative bills that were signed by the Governor.

NANCY CYR: But now the actual redistricting legislation, the bills were signed by the Governor. They were LBs--

WATERMEIER: OK.

NANCY CYR: -- that then the maps were bills.

WATERMEIER: Just-- oh, the maps were bills, the resolution dealt with--

NANCY CYR: Which is the -- guidelines.

TIM ERICKSON: Principles and guidelines.

WATERMEIER: OK.

: Have you guys had a chance to look at it, since we have the last three or four months or so. The Supreme Court had a decision regarding gerrymandering and the impact in some states. Have you guys had a chance to look at that and how?

NANCY CYR: They kind of essentially punted [LAUGHS] in terms of-- as far as saying that-- yeah, I have looked at it a little bit at the-- the decision. There isn't necessarily anything new regarding political gerrymandering because in terms of both Wayfair and not Wayfair. Now, I'm blanking-- sorry-- on that decision, but it was Wisconsin and

Maryland were kind of the two decisions that were joined for purposes of determining when political gerrymandering has occurred, and essentially the Court declined to give us any guidance [LAUGH] at this point in time, so--

TIM ERICKSON: There is another case in Texas, if I remember correctly, that we are expecting a decision as soon as the Court actually comes back and maybe they've kind of left that one up, up in the air. So--

NANCY CYR: For our purposes, it's a little-- people are-- assumed that we get party data for and party numbers for purposes of our redistricting data. We have no party information that-- the Census data that we get from the Census Bureau is all population and demographic data. We have no party data at all.

SCHUMACHER: But the members of the committee individually have access to party data.

NANCY CYR: Correct.

SCHUMACHER: And even though we officially-- what you guys do basically reiterate "Oh, well, this party wants this chunk of land here and the map kind of takes on an unusual [INAUDIBLE], bulge or dip.

NANCY CYR: We-- well, what we did last time, in terms of-- partly because of the nature of the beast in terms of 2001 was after we did some budget cuts and the Research Office actually only had five people. And I was -- I was the only person in the Legislature, I believe, who at that time had done any kind of redistricting before, other than I think Senator Ashford, and he wasn't that interested in it at the time. So it was kind of an adventure. And so what we did do in terms of the actual bills, Legislative Bills for purposes of redistricting, are we adopted maps by reference, as opposed to prior years. We actually wrote out the descriptions of the districts. Well, we adopted maps by reference, and so that seemed to work well. But I will say that it was, from a practical point of view, somewhat difficult for the Redistricting Committee at the time to start in terms of introduce a bill or, you know, what do you want to introduce for your plan? So we, the Research Office, Senator Langemeier, who was chair of the committee at the time, directed us to just using our principles, draw what we called base maps. And that, just as I said, using the principles and the population, draw maps that we thought worked, which we did. And that was what we gave to the committee to

start the discussion regarding what you wanted to do with your districts. And so then they— the committee divided up into subcommittees for purposes of creating maps or determining maps for the PSC, the Supreme Court, the State Board of Education and the Board of Regents. The committee as a whole worked on the congressional map, and then generally speaking for the legislative map, and I— I can't tell you for sure that it happened, but what was— the direction was for each essentially caucus group, geographic caucus to work with the members who were not on the committee on the districts in their area and kind of massage the [INAUDIBLE] that they thought were best and then they come back with the map that we introduced as the bills.

SCHUMACHER: Staffwise, how are we setting for the people with experience from 2010-11 to now? A lot of the same staff?

NANCY CYR: Well, I'm still here [LAUGH].

SCHUMACHER: So if you were Donald Trump, you'd say you have bargaining power?

NANCY CYR: Well, I actually -- well, I've been around here a long time. I know what bargaining power I got. [LAUGH] But I will say what I did do based on that 2001 or 2011 experience is, I kind of brokered a couple of retirements within the division into creating a full-time GIS position, which Tim has now, and so consequently he has both legislative experience and has been around the body for a while, so I don't have to hire like a new GIS person, which we always had to do. We only had authorization to hire a temporary like at first, a full-time temporary person who essentially came in for three years and it would-- had to learn all that stuff in a relatively short period of time. And so I have a full-time person already. Another one of my researchers is going to get trained in GIS, and gonna be a backup person. So I have some of that in place now, so I'm not-- I'm a little ahead of the game. I will be [INAUDIBLE] in this next budget cycle that my subprogram 10, which is GIS redistricting, will need some money because we'll need hardware, licensing, things like new printers, probably, these things.

SCHUMACHER: Now somebody will say, well, if Legislature passes the thing and is then that those maps, the portion that's subject to a lawsuit. So that ends in the federal courts that [INAUDIBLE].

NANCY CYR: Well, I can choose which courts they want to [INAUDIBLE]. We-- so, yes, just, I mean, it is subject to challenge. We had-- there hasn't been a successful challenge since 1991. We did have to come into special session in 1991 because the map was found to be uncons-- the Legislative map was found to be unconstitutional because they divided up Madison County. And so we had to come in and--

SCHUMACHER: [INAUDIBLE] What was the reason it was unconstitutional? [INAUDIBLE]

NANCY CYR: Because of the -- our constitutional provision that says that we follow county lines whenever practicable, the-- on the basis of the 1991 challenge in Day v. Nelson, the Supreme Court-- our State Supreme Court said that if a county is within the range of the ideal population, it should be its own district. And Madison County at that time was within the ideal population. So it was its own district. It should be its own district and not divided, so-- and that's what we do. When we get the numbers, we get the numbers, we divide it by 49, we get our ideal population. And the first thing we do is look at the county populations in those counties that are-- fall in that range. Done. They're the easiest districts to draw because -- that. And then we work out. And so in the nature of the beast, in terms of moving districts, it's hard. We-- the committee sincerely, the last two times really tries to do the least amount of harm to both people and districts. But we usually -- I will say, if there is a district that needs to be moved, it will probably be an even-numbered district because we have tried, practically speaking, to pick a district that is term-limited. So you're not pulling the rug out from incumbents--

_____: Sensible idea.

NANCY CYR: Kind of and so on. But we can't help where the numbers are. You know, in terms of it, it's kind of a-- it's not only total population, but it's where those numbers are, in terms of being able to craft a district, create a district, you know, like District 43 already is over 33,000 square miles so it's kind of, you know, difficult that way. But you'll just-- well, just have to see where the people are and what the figures say. But-- does that help?

STINNER: Thirty-three thousand square miles. Wow.

NANCY CYR: [LAUGH]. It's an adventure, right [INAUDIBLE]?

SCHUMACHER: Did you have a question?

NANCY CYR: I do want to say one other thing. There has been a lot of talk about how rancorous the committee in the process was. It actually wasn't all that rancorous. I mean, it was-- the only-- only the Congressional map was what I would call rancorous. The other maps were pretty easy. Even the Legislative District map was pretty easy and passed with, I don't know if there were any dissenting votes, but I mean it. It kind of-- they all went through the process in terms of-- it was just the Congressional map that was--

WATERMEIER: Did the fact that it was-- no flexibility in the Congressional map any harder? Had to be exact?

NANCY CYR: Well, that is part of it, but there are a variety of ways to make it equal. So, I mean, it--

WATERMEIER: You're right. But I mean, just because of that fact, that's hard.

TIM ERICKSON: Uh-huh.

NANCY CYR: And we can do it. The thing that you-- there is a thing that-- there is a little out in terms of exact population equality, if you can show a state interest that you need to have a little more deviation you need to justify it and create a record that it's justified. But in terms of our--

WATERMEIER: And it's ratified by Congress somehow. Doesn't want anybody else after that, I mean--?

NANCY CYR: No.

WATERMEIER: We decide it's done [INAUDIBLE].

NANCY CYR: Congress-- they just tell us how many representatives we have.

WATERMEIER: OK. I thought maybe you had [INAUDIBLE].

NANCY CYR: No. Uh-uh. But the fact that we have been able to do exact population equality the last two decades somewhat establishes the precedent that we can do it again but that--

SCHUMACHER: The sticky issue in 2011 was the line between the First and Second District. And basically the moving of— they were at the ground at Offutt Air Base, which really didn't have a good logical explanation. That could move into the Omaha district and because the Omaha district would affect the Congressional vote. And so there was—had it been left alone, that just kind of—

STINNER: I can tell you, District 49 moving to Gretna from LeRoy Louden's district was contentious out west. They still talk about it.

NANCY CYR: Yes. I don't think Senator Louden has forgiven us yet. [LAUGH].

STINNER: Well, maybe Senator Harms, I will tell you this.

NANCY CYR: I can tell you that.

STINNER: [INAUDIBLE].

NANCY CYR: And so it's-- but yeah. Because, you know, we're only a body of 49 people, so it's difficult and it's personal. It's almost because we're so small. So it is-- it's hard. And it's usually that it is left to the chair of the Redistricting Committee to go to the Legislature and kind of explain where you're going [LAUGH].

SCHUMACHER: The maps that just have the [INAUDIBLE] or the statistics indicate that Senator Chambers' district as well is losing population--

NANCY CYR: Uh-huh.

SCHUMACHER: --in proportion. So just kind of want your experience—will that district mushroom out and get bigger? Taking in the-- the fringe area around it? Is that how that works?

NANCY CYR: Probably. I mean, you know, maybe. Yes. I mean, we have to be careful, for example, with Senator Chambers' District, just because it's majority-minority district. So we have to make sure that we're not "frapping" you know-- fracturing the district and diluting some of-- some of that. But yeah, I mean, you-- you know-- you keep the core of the prior district. That's a redistricting principle. And then you have to maneuver it to get your ideal population size and-- but so consequently, that's probably what will happen. The same with-- I do, the only thing I caution is in terms of what happened last time. That

as the results of the census in some districts were kind of substantially different than what the estimates were, and so a lot of legislators got really excited in 2020 [SIC] and started having—having us draw maps using estimates and then were somewhat perturbed. Actually, they were mad at us [LAUGHTER] that the maps came back in 2011, their districts look so different. It's like, you know, that's because you were using estimates in 2010. The 2020 estimates, which were different than what, you know, census number was. So there is a bit, a note of caution there that you can get—try and get maybe some general ideas if you want, but you have to always understand in the back of your mind that you're dealing with estimates.

WATERMEIER: You can have them sign a disclaimer that says, "You have a better chance at estimates."

NANCY CYR: You know, Senator Krist had--

WATERMEIER: Two years out.

NANCY CYR: Senator Krist had a map drawn that didn't get rid of anybody, but at the same time, that map violated a whole bunch of other redistricting principles. So it's like everybody gets to save their seat. But they were crossing county lines. They were destroying courts or private districts. And, you know-- but it did keep 49 people. No rural district technically had to move. So it could be done.

TIM ERICKSON: And one other thing on the estimates, obviously, that life happens as well. I've already had somebody call me and ask me what was going on in Cheyenne County simply because of a-- with the effect of Cabela's actually.

STINNER: I was thinking about them.

TIM ERICKSON: So yeah. So those-- those types of things, so-- basing it on estimates can be somewhat treacherous.

SCHUMACHER: There's a little long-range planning clearly in 2030. How much cushion do we have over congressional districts before we lose a district?

NANCY CYR: Not much cushion because we're at the-- near the bottom of those, you know, the mark where we might lose-- lose a district. So depending on where, you know, we don't have a lot of cushion.

SCHUMACHER: So let's suppose 2030 comes around.

NANCY CYR: Right.

SCHUMACHER: And we have two instance--

WILLIAMS: [INAUDIBLE] six or seven.

NANCY CYR: OK.

WILLIAMS: But as long as we grow at the same rate as the U.S., we're going to be close to being OK. And that's what we've been doing in the last few years. But there is a little cushion--

SCHUMACHER: If we had to do two, is there any way that Omaha and Lincoln would be in the same district or is there just too much population there?

NANCY CYR: I think there is too much population.

SCHUMACHER: So it would be Lincoln probably one district, then Omaha in another district.

NANCY CYR: Perhaps.

TIM ERICKSON: Probably.

NANCY CYR: It's kind of [INAUDIBLE]

TIM ERICKSON: Basically, what I have seen now is that some states use what it's called the horizontal approach. Some use a vertical approach to being able to make the changes, depending on where the numbers actually go. It just depends on where we-- we have the I-80 corridor. And essentially that's continuing to grow at a larger rate than some of the other areas, which I mean, could change the way that we do that. And you can take a different approach. To be able to make those districts and map them out accordingly. So it just depends on what kind of growth happened, what kind of businesses are-- are providing jobs in that specific area. So it-- it's gonna be-- we'll have to figure that out on the fly.

NANCY CYR: And that's the thing. A lot of this does happen, I mean, since-- as I said, between March and May, you're figuring it out a lot kind of on the fly. It's a very intense eight weeks. In terms of committee hearings, I will back up just a little bit. The rule requires that we have-- hold hearings on the bills in each congressional district. What we did there was do video conferencing. We had a whole day of hearings and the committee-- we were located here in Lincoln. We did four cities in the morning and four more in the afternoon. And we did Omaha, North Platte, Norfolk, Alliance. [INAUDIBLE] but we benefit, so we hit us. But we-- we didn't travel. We used electronics and it worked.

SCHUMACHER: Last year, so we had a bill to turn this over to some committee or something since that bill didn't go anywhere. But do other states do it that way or the way we kind of do it [INAUDIBLE]?

NANCY CYR: Yes. I mean, there's -- there's that. Yeah. There's a lot of states that have commissions and there are a lot-- there are states-again, there's just a lot of different ways to do it. Of course, you have the famous Iowa plan. Then you have commissions. There are also states that have commissions that do congressional redistricting, but not Legislatures or vice versa. Or they have two commissions: one that does legislative, one that does congressional. So, I mean, there's just -- I will say, for purposes of what it does in terms of the process, generally in that -- those processes, the Legislature still has the final say on adopting the plan. And I think our Constitution would require that because it requires that the Legislature redistrict. So I think that that's what you would have to do, but it, whether it-- it doesn't immune you-- it's not a fail-safe for purposes of lawsuits or anything. I mean, redistricting is a personal, contentious political issue, politics at its purest. And so if somebody wants to challenge a plan, they'll challenge a plan. Anything

SCHUMACHER: Jerry, do you have anything to add?

JERRY DEICHERT: The other thing I have is that every government entity that does elect my district has to redistrict so that's the school district, the city council, and the county commissioners, ESUs-- they all have to redistrict too.

NANCY CYR: I think the statute says that they have to redistrict within six months--

JERRY DEICHERT: Six months after--

NANCY CYR: --after a legislative plan is adopted. I believe.

JERRY DEICHERT: Yeah. That's what it says. And then, if they don't then the county attorney has to do something. And if he doesn't or she doesn't, they go-- they move. I mean, I just-- there's a whole series that dominoes if it doesn't get done. But most of those areas right now, they all have GIS too, so they can do it a lot quicker than they used to be, where county commissioner [INAUDIBLE].

NANCY CYR: I mean, we marked maps with colored pencils, here. I mean, we have evolved a little bit since we had a purple pencil and a yellow pencil that we [INAUDIBLE] circle boundary questions and pages and pages of hard copy maps that look like blueprints. And so we used to-so we have come up ways.

JERRY DEICHERT: Population numbers.

NANCY CYR: Yeah. Yeah.

STINNER: Still have any of those old maps?

NANCY CYR: We might have made a copy [LAUGH] I don't think. I think we did [INAUDIBLE]. I think we got rid of them all. So that-- anyway, that's the fun ahead for many of you.

: After me. [LAUGHTER].

NANCY CYR: But if anybody want, I do, you know, I can-- that's it. LR102 from 2001, are there-- the procedure or the substantive guidelines I have cobbled together just for my-- I think I did it for Senator Watermeier earlier, but I have a little 2011 redistricting timeline, if anybody wants to see how the process works.

VARGAS: [INAUDIBLE] Redistricting. Oh, the history.

NANCY CYR: Oh, the case law history, a snapshot.

VARGAS: Yeah.

NANCY CYR: Yeah. Yeah. Uh-huh, uh-huh. So we have a lot of information if you want it [LAUGH].

WATERMEIER: How big is that last one you were just talking about?

NANCY CYR: The snapshot?

WATERMEIER: Yeah.

NANCY CYR: Just four pages.

WATERMEIER: OK. Send it to me.

NANCY CYR: OK.

____: [INAUDIBLE].

NANCY CYR: You want it, too? I'll be happy to.

WATERMEIER: But what you just mentioned, I forgot. We went-- two redistricting cycles used LR201-- 201 and 2011.

NANCY CYR: Well, it was--

WATERMEIER: So you [INAUDIBLE]

NANCY CYR: --LR102 in 2011. But we did give--

____: One problem.

NANCY CYR: --frankly is-- whatever number it was in 2001, it's the same--

WATERMEIER: --that we used in 2011. And that's still standing as case. Nothing changed. We use that.

NANCY CYR: Why-- I--

WATERMEIER: But we still have to adopt it.

NANCY CYR: I think you start.

WATERMEIER: OK. So they adopted it in 2011.

NANCY CYR: They adopted it both in 2001 and then introduced and adopted it in 2011.

WATERMEIER: So as with-- confusing part is, I wasn't sure whether it's just laying their rules and you just have a stand-by thing that you enact. But you do have to take actions anyway [INAUDIBLE].

NANCY CYR: I mean, this year there was this-- Senator Vargas introduced a bill.

WATERMEIER: We had three of them in Exec Board. We just let them all lay.

NANCY CYR: Yeah, this past year.

WATERMEIER: They were just too contentious and we're too far out. Honestly, we're just too far out.

NANCY CYR: I think Senator Vargas' bill essentially tried to put in most of the substantive guidelines in statute, which some states do it, in which is-- again, that's a policy choice for our Legislature. It's still-- the Legislature would still be able to have additional substantive guidelines that they would follow if they wanted to. It's all a-- it's a policy choice for-- again, each Legislature gets to decide their process because they are in charge. So-- and we are the helpers. [LAUGH] We are the elves. [LAUGHTER].

WATERMEIER: So-- very good.

NANCY CYR: OK.

_____: Thank you.

NANCY CYR: You are welcome.

SCHUMACHER: Thank you for your [INAUDIBLE].

NANCY CYR: Sure.

JERRY DEICHERT: You know, I-- I didn't bring a copy of last month's agenda, where we had those topics listed. I'm sorry. OK. Thank you. What I did today is I did put together something just for your information and we don't have to cover it but did just put together, like, two or three slides for each one of these, we called greatest hits. And-- so you can look at that, with the exception of pediatric

cancer. I believe you were gonna be getting a discussion on that some other-- sometime this year. On that, I don't recall exactly.

WILLIAMS: There's a study that came out of-- it's mine, and I think it came out of Appropriations. It's going to be done at UNMC.

JERRY DEICHERT: Yes. Yeah, that's that's the one. And so I think that--

WILLIAMS: That was kind of covered.

JERRY DEICHERT: I think that was kind of covered. But I did-- I did put together just some slides and you've got that in your packet to kind of highlight some of these issues. I can go over some of that if you would like, but there are just a few things in there that I think would be of interest to you, especially with the discussion last time on water that I can't remember what it is. It's like 3 percent of the water in Nebraska is used for--

_____: Here. Tap water, that's a good one.

JERRY DEICHERT: -- by localities. Meaning, the vast majority of the water. Let's see if I've got that number here. Three percent-- less than 3 percent of public -- public drinking water accounts for less than 3 percent of all water used in the state. And one of the things about these policy briefs, I think what Senator Schumacher was-- was inferring was that we do have some funds that we can use to address some specific issues so we can get people like we-- we went to the water for food folks and they did the one on water and we did to somebody in public administration at UNO did on local government pensions. And so we do have some ways of using people other than just the three of us. Well, the two-- the two of them, [LAUGHTER] not the three of us anymore, but-- and so we could do that. So if there's any other topics, what we had suggested is we-- we have at the college, if you look at under the urban research grant reports, as a college, we had some funding available for staff and faculty at -- in our college to do things that were more urban related. And you can see we listed several of those items there. There was something looking at long-term care workforce, social media for emergency management, juvenile reentry, and support for the impact of head injuries on delinquency. And those have been done. And so if there are any of those topics you'd like some information on with some kind of policy implications, we could address or have-- have those speakers come in, presenters

come in and make a presentation on-- on any one of those topics. Then we had a list of-- based on our discussion with some senators and UNO staff and other folks, what issues that may be of interest. And so we've got, like, racial demographics and racial projections for the state and counties that -- housing affordability, R and D, economic development. I mean, how do you do-- how do you help people? Or do you help the places? That kind of -- that kind of discussion is where to-where did the money go? And how should that be? Do you do growth centers or do you do everybody or should you target that? Van pools-van pools are a major trans-- transit activity that that's gonna be started where-- especially in smaller communities where there are no other forms of transportation. TIF, Medicaid expansion, business development in general. And then these were at-- the other issues were just some things that -- I don't remember. I think those came out of a discussion with Senator Schumacher when you came by our office. And so looking at how important are transfer payments in-- for each county? What can we do to attract more skilled workforce? Workforce development in general. And then higher education. How are we preparing students for the right jobs? So if there's any of those topics that you would like, we can find some folks that can-- that are specialists in those areas, and we'll go and -- UNL, UNO, UNK, UNMC. It doesn't-- makes no difference. We'll find them-- try to find somebody who's interested in that topic.

STINNER: I do want to make a comment. Out west, we're having a heck of a time with drinking water meeting the EPA standards because of uranium, arsenic, and nitrate levels. We're actually looking at, "we" meaning the western part of state-- Scottsbluff to Bridgeport-- the town's putting together a pipe from Wyoming. And this project is going to be a very, very expensive project. I mean, we're talking, you know, a \$500 million project. I have no idea where they're going to get the money, but the EPA is looking at it in a positive fashion because we continue to fail tests in the Mitchells, in the Minatares, in Scottsbluff and Gering. So that's a real issue. And we may be coming to the state for some additional help or grants or something along those lines. The other one is that I'm very much concerned about is long-term health care, nursing homes, status of nursing homes. Just got a message from Mitchell that their cost allocation actually went down so they're going to lose 7 percent. Now this is a nursing home that was on the edge of failure, got LB840 money from the city of Scottsbluff to stay in business. And all these small towns, I know, not just in western Nebraska, but all these small towns, are having

problems with -- with water, sewage, all of the compliance issues that they have to have, plus trying to provide streets and roads and all the rest of that. Lots of stress. I do have a stress test LR that we went through. Municipalities didn't like my-- my idea of a stress test because nobody wants to go on a watch list. But they readily admitted that they failed almost every test that I had out there. So this is something that I think we ought to be aware of as senators because we discontinued aid to cities and counties in 2010 and have never reestablished that. And it was about \$40 million at that time. So it's something I think that should be on our radar screen. Nursing homes, if they're not owned by a city, if they're not home-- owned by a hospital, and they are in rural Nebraska, they are in trouble. It's just -- it's -- it's a downward spiral simply because to break even, they can't and then get, you know, cut-- continually get regulated by the feds as well as the state. And of course, they have to maintain their facilities. There's no extra money for that. So that's my comment. [INAUDIBLE] Those are two critical items, I think.

SCHUMACHER: You may have hit on probably-- some point needs to be the core focus of this committee. We-- we-- we pretty much know what those trends look like for those small communities. And to what extent do you cut your losses? Do you not put-- encourage USDA to put a new water tower and a new sep-- septic or sewer system in or subsidize something that [INAUDIBLE].

STINNER: The thing about it is, they do have access to loans and capital right now. But the problem is, is paying for it because it continues to take out of their budget for police and fire and other things. They're restoring their-- their-- their roads back to gravel simply because they don't have it in the budget to continue to-- to have, you know, roads are all going to be gravel roads. But-- I continue to see this, no matter where I go.

SCHUMACHER: And [INAUDIBLE] --

STINNER: Banks are [INAUDIBLE]

SCHUMACHER: --to look at the number, the number of Legislative Districts inside those three counties. Those three counties probably aren't going to play Santa Claus.

STINNER: No.

SCHUMACHER: And so how do we deal with the problems of health care, of education, of transportation in the face of those pretty much irreversible trends?

STINNER: And you'll remember, too, that we put a cap, "we" meaning the Legislature, put a cap, a hard cap on what cities can ask for in terms of tax asking. Bad subject right now because of property tax, but because of that lid that they put on, they don't have a whole lot of other places to go.

SCHUMACHER: So is that a legitimate role? I mean, we're supposed to look at and come up with legislation, things like that? Is that a legitimate role for this committee yet, or certainly next committee, to say to the Legislature, look, caps are a good thing but we need to do something because the caps are having a bad effect under these conditions.

STINNER: It is not-- it is not a good subject to bring up. But I think it's certainly something we need to understand. First of all, we need to-- to-- to have the picture of what is happening in small-town Nebraska.

SCHUMACHER: But unless the discussion here or whatever forum occurs can get to a large enough number on the floor, it doesn't have an impact on public policy.

STINNER: Right.

SCHUMACHER: But we can know those numbers; we can know that they're pretty stable and fairly predictable. But when it comes to saying, okay, let's get rid of the lids for some local governments, we [INAUDIBLE]. And so how do we-- how do we govern invasive deployment of resources and planning for the state when we know a lot of things already? And that-- that's a challenge for this committee, and it's probably [INAUDIBLE] legitimate roles in a shorter time frame. I don't know if anybody's got the heart and stomach for it, but there's probably a fairly good chance we're going to have Medicaid expansion on the ballot. You know-- too bad Mike left. You know, what contingency plans do we have there? If it passes, what impact is it going to have on us? What-- if the Congress goes, you know, revokes the program, will it revoke it for kids or for states who were grandfathered in? Will we be in or out? Is it a terrible idea because there was no way in hell we can afford it? that's a discussion that

somebody should be having because then people are going to be voting on. If they want emotion, who knows which way it goes?

STINNER: Yeah. And the polling shows it will pass, though.

SCHUMACHER: What's that?

STINNER: Polling right now shows 65 percent it will pass.

SCHUMACHER: OK.

STINNER: So if— all I'm trying to do right now as part of Appropriations is get a number. I get a number from Morfeld that says \$80 million. The governor says \$110 million. Somebody says that when we looked at the fiscal notes before, that it actually put \$10 million and then it went to \$25 and then it scaled up.

SCHUMACHER: So.

STINNER: So I don't-- I don't know how to react. And I know where--where-- where we can take it out of the budget. Nobody is going to like it. They'll have to [INAUDIBLE]--

SCHUMACHER: [INAUDIBLE]

STINNER: -- the place you got. I mean, that's--

SCHUMACHER: We know Revenue Committee isn't going to do anything for the rest of the year. So we do a lot of work the rest of the year. But nevertheless, is that a proper role for this committee? To say, herehere's what we're looking at, here's the options, and so that everybody can have the facts on the table, for good or for bad. Do we want to bite into that? That's a pretty bitter apple. But do we want to buy into it?

WATERMEIER: I think it is a good place for us because it's where you prioritize-- prioritize the things.

SCHUMACHER: I mean, I leave that to the committee because it's not a battle I'm going to have to fight, but I'm certainly willing to say, this is a proper forum to plan for these contingencies. And it gives some public discussion out on this issue from what hopefully is a halfway impartial eye.

STINNER: Right. Well, I could—— I can tell you on budgetwise, what we're flexible with before we bump into statutes and mandates and all the rest of that stuff, so—— that would be helpful to have a discussion, I believe. But this is—— this is a difficult subject simply because of all the unknowns. One of the unknowns is to match rating. You know, the federal government continues to look at pulling those numbers down. Other things are waivers. What kind of waivers are we going to offer or not offer or do away with them? There's—— there's lots of different questions. So having somebody that is familiar with it would not be bad. I'm actually going to have a special meeting with the Appropriations after the election to discuss some of those items, but to familiarize our committee more—— can become more intimate in our knowledge of that what Medicaid's about. There are so many moving parts and so many options that we need as an Appropriations Committee to be able to really dig through it, so—

SCHUMACHER: I am asking you, guys: do you have a stomach for this? Take on the next meeting or so and start [INAUDIBLE]?

STINNER: I would rather take on municipalities myself.

WILLIAMS: But Tom, I have a stomach for it if that's the question. But I think we're also treading into an area that is, it seems to me, is the Appropriations Committee's responsibility-- I don't think we should be telling the voters how to vote on the issue. I think that's their decision to make. But analyzing what's going to happen if it passes, somebody needs to be doing that. I absolutely agree. I'm not sure that's this committee.

WATERMEIER: Well, I would maybe disagree a little bit, now, with you thinking that it belongs in Appropriations because really, Appropriations' job is to appropriate what's left over. I think it's someone else's job in the whole body to prioritize. Now we have this, an additional \$80 million liability. How do we prioritize that, exactly? John, you had mentioned it was going to come out of higher ed. The next person is going to say no; it ought to come out of HHS somehow. But most of that is mandated. You can't change that.

STINNER: That's just what I want to say.

WATERMEIER: Somebody may say, no, it ought to come out of Property Tax Credit Fund. That's political fight. So--

STINNER: Yeah.

WATERMEIER: I would agree long before it gets to Appropriations and this is probably about as good a committee, as the Legislature has the next five months to actually talk about it.

SCHUMACHER: And it's -- it is within our statutory outlay --

WATERMEIER: Yeah.

SCHUMACHER: I don't want to try and organize something and find out that this committee really thinks it's a bad idea to go down that road. Well, we certainly look at that and try to give facts out. I don't know. So I certainly [INAUDIBLE] make a motion that would say we're going to recommend the vote is yea or nay.

WATERMEIER: No. But like what Matt is also saying is that you could influence voters if you came out with this, it's \$120 million. You know, is it-- yeah, I can see whether you could-- someone would say you're influencing that vote.

STINNER: I-- I think there are so many moving parts that are unknown at this particular point in time. Having more information, that's what we're trying to gather right now in my office, trying to look at every state that's done expansion and what the effect has been. What they projected it to be versus what it is. So we have some way of measuring it when we begin to say if it's fast. I want all the political crap out of the way, I just want factual information in front. That's all I want. I want to be able to deal with-- with the facts. And then-- then wait it up to the Legislature to set some other priorities. All I'm saying in terms of higher ed is, and you know this as well, you don't run into mandates into these-- into the individual side. Sure, you can take it out of the Property Tax Relief Fund. Good luck on that idea. But-- or do you take it--

____: Uh-huh.

STINNER: --if it is \$110 million. If it's \$60 million, I [INAUDIBLE].

WATERMEIER: But you're right. You need to get a handle on what it is. That's good research to have that study.

STINNER: Got-- got to have as much-- as much information as we can in front of us.

WILLIAMS: How long will it take?

STINNER: I don't know who gathers that. I'm trying to gather it at my office but--

: [INAUDIBLE]

STINNER: Fiscal-- fiscal is doing that now. And as for me because [INAUDIBLE] of see that.

WILLIAMS: That's providing the numbers.

STINNER: Right. And so is the Budget Office trying to do some workups and-- the thing about it is, every time I meet with them, it's, you know, what does-- what's it going to look like and who are you going to meet? Yeah. How many small businesses are going to discontinue covering the medical care, saying, OK, you can just take Medicaid now? Don't know the answer to that. How many waivers are going to be in this? What's the federal government's program [INAUDIBLE]? All of those things thrown in there. There's like 25 questions that they asked me when I was talking with them.

SCHUMACHER: Those are the issues that before the voters put the Legislature in the predicament of having to deal to deal with it-[INAUDIBLE]

STINNER: --[INAUDIBLE] at least get all the-- all the facts out so that you can make an informed decision.

_____: Right.

SCHUMACHER: And this-- this may be an appropriate role for us if you guys say so.

STINNER: It is politically volatile--

SCHUMACHER: Who cares? You guys are gonna be past the election. Matt, you're already out this time around, too, right?

WILLIAMS: Yeah, I am ready.

SCHUMACHER: And you and I aren't going to be able to [INAUDIBLE]. So-this is probably time to do it [LAUGHTER].
WILLIAMS: Stinner and I don't have opponents.
STINNER: But we might have after after this [LAUGHTER].
SCHUMACHER: It's like, almost too late, by the time do some
STINNER: No I it's it's it's a big subject. Getting information out so that people can make prudent decisions, I think is absolutely
SCHUMACHER: What's your resources like to do?
: Well, I mean, we can we can work with Senator Stinner to see what kind of what kind of information that you need. And you know
: Yeah.
: [INAUDIBLE] state Legislatures in there, you know. There have been a lot of studies to because it's been in place long enough that you can see what some of the impact has been.
: Yeah.
: So it would be a matter of getting some some of the finance folks, everybody
STINNER: Thing about it is, we've drained the swamp on Medicaid. In fact, they're probably going to come up with a deficit request somewhere in \$15 million category. So we're already behind.
SCHUMACHER: We just got to have a meeting and declare our answer.
: Yeah.
JERRY DEICHERT: But I can have Craig [PHONETIC] contact Senator Stinner, Craig Mark [PHONETIC] and
STINNER: OK. I'll be in next week for a couple of days, three days,

and then I'll be in for a full week the week after that. I'll catch

you then.

SCHUMACHER: And would you have access to the-- the issue that was raised? How it's panned out in other states?

STINNER: What?

SCHUMACHER: Cheaper, [INAUDIBLE]?

STINNER: I'm using -- I'm using as many of those CSGs and all those associations, ALEC and CSG and all the rest.

JERRY DEICHERT: Yes, there are a number of organizations that have go through.

STINNER: Everybody to try to get as much information [INAUDIBLE] as we can. But--

JERRY DEICHERT: I would say there are a number of studies that have looked at it-- looked at that.

STINNER: Somebody said there is a Washington study-- Washington State study-- that's pretty good to look at but--

SCHUMACHER: Are you guys game to look into some of this?

JERRY DEICHERT: Excuse me?

SCHUMACHER: Are you guys game to look into that?

JERRY DEICHERT: Sure. Yeah. I can commit that. [LAUGHTER] Yeah, no, I will-- I will. I know because John, John was-- was the one who brought the topic up originally and I think that, yeah--

: Yeah.

JERRY DEICHERT: -- and I'll have Craig Mark.

STINNER: The other thing is, Jerry, that we need it-- we need to have some census data on how many people won't-- that are-- that will fall into that category.

JERRY DEICHERT: Sure. We got, you know-- we'll look at the numbers like the percent of people who, such and such percent of poverty [INAUDIBLE]. You know, those-- just those basic that, well, if

everybody-- what-- what's the upper bound of people, that could be eligible this year--

STINNER: [INAUDIBLE].

JERRY DEICHERT: Other circumstances now.

____: Yeah.

SCHUMACHER: One of the-- the issues I seem to remember from a few years ago, the first issue, that is-- when you first do this, there is a surge because you have pent-up need. It's-- it's-- it's the system. And that's a legitimate issue. What kind of surge are you expecting and who is going to pick up the tab for that? Is it the feds? Are we in the 90 percent level or are they still doing 100 percent or are they at 90 percent? [INAUDIBLE]

: I can't remember what the levels were, but they were past 100 percent for sure and we may be past the 90 percent level now.

SCHUMACHER: So the idea that the feds offered to kick in 100 percent for the first three or four years was because of this surge. And as-

STINNER: I think we are down inside 90.

SCHUMACHER: Ninety?

STINNER: Yeah.

SCHUMACHER: [INAUDIBLE] that already. But I know that— whether or not the surge impact happened in these other states that did it right away, did they see a— a demand surge and then level off? Those are questions because if there's a surge pumped into the numbers, too.

____: Uh-huh.

STINNER: I think we have some fiscal notes over here, too, that areare two years old, and I think one of the fiscal notes was actually Morfeld's bill that never got out, so-- we need to take a look at that. We're trying to get some information on that. But really, just understanding Medicaid, period, is-- is a struggle. There's a lot of things to go on in Medicaid that-- you know, your utilization numbers, all that kind of stuff. And they shift around quite a bit. Who's going

to get sick and who isn't going to get sick? It's-- it's complicated. It's interesting.

SCHUMACHER: And you have the old age component. You know, where that one is headed.

STINNER: Aging, aging population problem, yes, are challenges.

SCHUMACHER: All right, so Matt [INAUDIBLE], for something --?

WILLIAMS: Yeah. And-- and this kind of leads into it, just a little bit. A guy that I've gotten to know really well over a number of years is Dr. Joe Miller. And Joe was a family practice physician in Lexington for a lifetime, and probably eight or nine years ago, started a-- you've heard the term "patient-centered medical home concept" and his clinic in Lexington is one that did the experimental thing with Medicaid or Medicare at that time on that practice. And it was highly successful, what they've done with that. We've also-- we passed legislation on direct primary care, Senator Riepe's legislation, doing that. Joe has since left Lexington and works for an organization in Omaha called Think Medical Care--

SCHUMACHER: Uh-huh.

WILLIAMS: --you know what I'm talking about with that. They are actually owned by Blue Cross, is for full disclosure there. But this is a medical care facility that does primary care, emergency care, and pharmacy. Are kind of their three biggies that they do. But their practice does it in a different way to deliver these services. And I suggested to Joe the other night when we were talking about this whole direct primary care and he said, No, no, no, no. Direct primary care, the way I perceive it is where my business or as an individual, you pay a flat fee of some kind per month or per year, and for that, you get a menu of services. This is different than that, that the patients here, the clients there don't pay a fee like that. But the practice is set up differently. And in the past year, the number that he told me was that they have taken somewhere between \$40 and \$50 million one year, \$40 or \$50 million out of the healthcare cost system for their people. It is hugely successful by spending actually a little bit more money and more time on primary care, which then reduces the incidence of primary care turning into, you know, a longer-term chronic kind of thing. An example would be in the diabetes area, where through the monitoring that they do with blood sugar and all of this, the patient

doesn't have those two or three episodes a year where they spend a night or two in the emergency room that's costing dollars here. It's costing a little more on the primary care because they-- they do the monitoring right and those kind of things. But I think it's something that at least for this committee, when we think about this long-term healthcare direction and also for the HHS Committee that fits in those kind of things, I would be willing, if people here would be interested, of arranging a tour for us, of going up and just understanding what this kind of medical care, what they provide is. I think, I think is something that we-- we-- it would be worth an afternoon or a morning to Omaha to do something like that in the next couple of months, you know, just to show up.

SCHUMACHER: [INAUDIBLE] middle of August or so. That work for everybody?

STINNER: Yeah, middle of August.

: I just wanted to be sure of something. In September you would be in caucuses. Along with this one, when I mentioned this, it reminded me of the university had done a study about medical care in the state of Nebraska. The state of Nebraska has the second most hospitals in the country behind Texas. And so every little town has a full hospital. And really what the article was talking about is a lot of these hospitals really should be relegated to a high-level clinic and have kind of spoken of the type of arrangement on the hospitals. And this talks directly to me because in Scottsbluff, I've got a Trauma II Center Hospital, which is the highest elevated hospital you can have. The next one closest to us is in Kearney. And so it covers a whole-- I mean, geography-wise, it covers a lot of territory. But interestingly, you know, Alliance has now pumped up their services and stuff like that. They didn't need to spend millions and millions of dollars, in my estimation and according to this article. So this is something that you can just put [INAUDIBLE] outside of things, you want to fit in a workforce and put them in the best possible places.

WILLIAMS: Joe Miller would tell you, [INAUDIBLE] Medicaid expansion.

STINNER: Yeah, well, OK.

WILLIAMS: But what you are saying, at the same time you're providing higher quality care to the people. You know, the family doesn't really like to, you know, that has to spend two nights or three nights

because they didn't monitor their blood sugar [INAUDIBLE] right. Now they're at home, maybe in bed.

SCHUMACHER: So, gentlemen, would you say there's a correlation between the number of cattle and the number of hospitals?

: Yes.

STINNER: [INAUDIBLE]. This is one of those volatile subjects that you're going to get beat over the head. And I will not bring this forward, but if you really want to solve some of the workforce problems that you have in the medical side of things, and if you want to start bending down the cost curve, trying to maintain a full-scale hospital in some of these small towns does not make sense, just doesn't.

Example. That's where-- nobody is here and I can say this. I have five critical access hospitals in my Legislative District. The furthest distance from one to the other is 60 miles, OK? And that's Gothenburg to Broken Bow-- 60 miles. Just outside my Legislative District, we have full medical facilities in North Platte on one side, Kearney on the other side, which is again, just a little over an hour's drive for virtually anybody in my Legislative District. Each one of those hospitals has their own MRI machine, has [INAUDIBLE] and is serving their local needs really, really well. But talk about a system that causes higher healthcare costs.

WATERMEIER: Yes.

WILLIAMS: And staffing all of them.

STINNER: Staffing -- staffing is becoming a bigger and bigger problem. I know we have a problem in Scottsbluff.

WILLIAMS: And in-- in Gothenburg, they now employ 160 or 170 people at our hospital. That's a big deal. I mean, those are good jobs, those, I mean--

WATERMEIER: But maybe not sustainable because of what you have on both sides.

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: It [INAUDIBLE]--WILLIAMS: North Platte, Kearney, and in between, Gothenburg, Cozad, and Lexington, the interstate, bang, bang, bang. WATERMEIER: Broken Bow to the north. WILLIAMS: And Callaway. WATERMEIER: And-- Both? WILLIAMS: Callaway and Broken Bow. Callaway has an MRI machine. WATERMEIER: Any time MRI machines can be running 24 hours a day and they are running two others. WILLIAMS: The only way to pay for it. SCHUMACHER: Did you get -- did Blue Cross give you guys a copy of that book on-- The Broken Medical Systems? WILLIAMS: No, but I'd like to have one. SCHUMACHER: We'll have to see if we can get -- he's got some. That was--STINNER: But this is akin to kind of consolidating counties and---SCHUMACHER: Consolidating counties, on the other hand, I think a study that does add them up--STINNER: A couple of highlights in an area. SCHUMACHER: It doesn't work. JERRY DEICHERT: It doesn't save money. ____: Oh, OK. JERRY DEICHERT: Because in some ways, it does. But when you think about Sheriff's Department -- there's a lot more travel. You've got to build new facilities. _____: Yeah.

JERRY DEICHERT: So inevitably
: [INAUDIBLE] amount of distance you've got to cover [LAUGH].
[
JERRY DEICHERT: Yeah, and so you got a central place. And so then you got to do something about that. And so what what
STINNER: I just think all the online those stuff that we do.
JERRY DEICHERT: [INAUDIBLE] What would what would save money, they said, is if the state takes over some functions, like they started to take over assessment.
STINNER: Uh-huh.
JERRY DEICHERT: And then you have and so maybe that's or or sharing services without merging. But but sharing services.
STINNER: Yeah.
JERRY DEICHERT: And having interlocal agreements.
WILLIAMS: Well, I will try to get something out and maybe pick two or three days that work and give people some options.
WATERMEIER: I wouldn't be afraid of the August date 'cause I'll be free again in September and all of a sudden [INAUDIBLE]
STINNER: I am gone middle part of August.
: No problem, [INAUDIBLE]
WATERMEIER: While you were gone, Matt, we re-disagreed.
: OK.
WATERMEIER: Just so you know.
WILLIAMS: But you can keep walking.
: Yeah, keep walking. [LAUGHTER].
: Thanks. I appreciate it.

: [MULTIPLE OVERLAPPING VOICES]
WATERMEIER: You need more clear direction for next month?
SCHUMACHER: Oh, I think we've got a general idea.
: [INAUDIBLE]. We are gonna do this two years?
SCHUMACHER: [INAUDIBLE] am talking about anything else?
: [INAUDIBLE] Or maybe I don't know.
: I'm going to have a heck of a talk.
: [INAUDIBLE] a few things.
WATERMEIER: I am.
WILLIAMS: When is our meeting in August?
WATERMEIER: Ten, you have is on this calendar here.
SCHUMACHER: Try to coordinate with the Economic Development Task Force so that people don't have to drive
: Oh, sure.
SCHUMACHER:specially.
WILLIAMS: Is there some other reason why that would have to be here? Or what if we
: I would say
WILLIAMS: Would anybody consider having our meeting in Omaha and having the tour coincide with it and meet at their place?
SCHUMACHER: I don't think there is any rule that we have to meet here
WATERMEIER: Other than we just economic development is in the afternoon. That's why we are doing.
WILLIAMS: That'd be the only
WATERMEIER: Yeah. I mean

WILLIAMS: Joe said he needs about an hour and half, two hours.
STINNER: You don't do anything, transcriptwise in this [INAUDIBLE].
WATERMEIER: Just line up Matthew [INAUDIBLE].
: We are doing this.
WATERMEIER: Take a chance. We don't get the best turnout in here anyway. [LAUGHTER] This way you might get Lou Ann and Merv
: Yup.
WATERMEIER:better if you are in Omaha anyway.
SCHUMACHER: We can always We don't have to use [INAUDIBLE]. We can just take
WATERMEIER: [INAUDIBLE] got three of them.
SCHUMACHER: [INAUDIBLE] show-and-tell [INAUDIBLE] anyway.
WATERMEIER: [INAUDIBLE]
STINNER: I'll see what I can scratch [INAUDIBLE] on the Medicaid side
SCHUMACHER: Well, the Medicaid thing, on the other side of the coin, that would be one where I would anticipate there would be some interest from the press.
: Yeah?
SCHUMACHER: So that that maybe should be here.
: Uh-huh.
SCHUMACHER: There's nothing to say we couldn't do it the afternoon before. But that's the 9th, isn't it?
STINNER: We can do it in October. Give me more time to gather the information.
: Kind of hard for you to have very much by the 10th of August on that topic.

: Get me

SCHUMACHER: We may very well move-- that might be more than a two-hour meeting, too. So we might want to move that Planning Committee meeting from the 10th to another day.

STINNER: I think you want to have HHS people in here, so you get a deeper understanding of [INAUDIBLE].

SCHUMACHER: We might want to [INAUDIBLE] the 20th of the month or something.

STINNER: We can have fiscal staff also. I mean, I don't know. I can--

SCHUMACHER: So they have at least five, six weeks to play with. Why do we not necessarily meet on the 10th right now? So [INAUDIBLE] said something about [INAUDIBLE].

STINNER: Now we're got to coordinate with the managed care folks. Can we do the expansion? That ought to be [INAUDIBLE].

WILLIAMS: Did you mean by that we wouldn't have potentially a Planning Committee meeting on the 10th but still maybe use that day?

SCHUMACHER: Use that day and then we will have the real-- because if we're going to take a serious bite at Medicaid, you are not going to get done in two hours. It'll be an all-day affair.

STINNER: At least all morning.

SCHUMACHER: At least all morning, yes.

WILLIAMS: I'll call Joe and see if that is a possibility.

STINNER: You want to invite HHS or the committee, any other committees, to join us?

SCHUMACHER: That's a pretty small room to do that.

STINNER: Or we can move to another room.

WILLIAMS: We are complicating things.

____: Yeah, [INAUDIBLE]

WILLIAMS:	Sharing	ideas.	But if	· if we	have a	tour of	the op	eration
in Omaha,	I would	like to	extend	an inv	itation	to the	members	of the
HHS Commit	ttee, whi	lch I al	lso serve	e on, to	o see it	t too.		
SCHIMACHEI	2. Naree	T mear	n Tamk	nere to	_			

SCHUMACHER: Agree. I mean, I am here too. WILLIAMS: Merv's here. Lou Ann. _____: [INAUDIBLE] I think Lou Ann is on it too. : So you got three. WILLIAMS: You've got three. I know Kolterman because I've talked to him. He's interested in it and has a background in some of that stuff he is on HHS for. STINNER: Got Crawford. WILLIAMS: Sara Howard. : Sara Howard to promote the [INAUDIBLE]. _____: Erdman. ____: [INAUDIBLE] ____: Erdman might be a problem [INAUDIBLE] WATERMEIER: Yeah, just give him plenty of warning. I would think he would attend. : I'll see if that day would work.

SCHUMACHER: Anything else anybody's got suggestions for? Motion to adjourn then?

WATERMEIER: You're the chairman.

SCHUMACHER: We stand adjourned. OK, thanks, folks.