

Commission to Redesign the Mississippi State Flag
August 18, 2020
Two Mississippi Museums, Jackson
MINUTES

1. Welcome

Reuben Anderson, chair of the Commission to Redesign the Mississippi State Flag, called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

The following commission members were present:

Frank Bordeaux

J. Mack Varner

T.J. Taylor

Cyrus Ben via Zoom

Sherri Bevis via Zoom

Mary Graham via Zoom

Betsey Hamilton via Zoom

Robyn Tannehill via Zoom

Also present were MDAH staff, members of the public and the media, and attorneys Whit Rayner of Jones Walker and Tommy Goodwin from the Office of the Attorney General. Vexillologist Clay Moss joined via Zoom.

2. Minutes

The chair asked the commissioners to review the minutes from the last meeting.

On a motion by Taylor, seconded by Bordeaux, the commission voted unanimously to approve the minutes from August 14, 2020.

3. Discussion of Top Nine Flags

The commissioners discussed the top nine flags. The commission also reviewed the results of the non-binding public poll that had been on the MDAH website. The chair announced that over 48,000 votes had been cast as of 3 p.m. on August 17. Of the nine, there was a clear top four with two tied for fifth.

4. Top Five Vote

Bordeaux motioned to accept the top six flags from the non-binding poll as the commission's vote. There was no second, and the motion failed.

Tannehill requested to look at alternate versions of the flags that the commissioners had edited. The commissioners discussed the alternates and decided which ones would be on their ballot.

On a motion by Bordeaux, seconded by Taylor, the commission voted unanimously to vote on their top five flags.

Commissioners physically at the meeting voted on paper ballots. Four commissioners participation via Zoom emailed their ballots, and one commissioner participating via Zoom called in her ballot. A tie occurred for the fifth flag, and the chair voted to break the tie.

The top five results are as follows and in no particular order:



5. Next Steps

The commission discussed their next steps in the process. The designs would be sent to the flag manufacturer by noon on August 18 for flag production. The commissioners will then see the flags on a flag pole outside of the Old Capitol Museum on August 25.

6. Meeting Dates

The commission will meet again on August 25 at 10:30 a.m. in front of the Old Capitol Museum. The following meeting will be on September 2 at 10:30 a.m. at the Two Mississippi Museums.

7. Adjournment

There being no further business, the chair asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

On a motion by Bordeaux, seconded by Taylor, the commission voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.