

Approved 10/26/21
MINUTES
REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE
May 25, 2021
Immediately following Executive Committee

MEMBERS PRESENT	Andrew Rand – Chairman; James Fennell – Vice-Chairman; Linda Daley, James Dillon, Sharon Williams - County Board Members
MEMBERS ABSENT	
OTHERS PRESENT	Scott Sorrel - County Administrator; Shauna Musselman – Assistant County Administrator; Jennie Cordis Boswell – State’s Attorney’s Office; Jennifer Groves Allison, Eden Blair, Brandy Bryant, Betty Duncan, Kate Pastucha, Steve Rieker, Phil Salzer – County Board Members

Call to Order

Chairman Rand called the meeting to order at 4:12 p.m.

Discussion

• **Schedule**

Mr. Sorrel advised that the adoption of the new County Board map is required by statute to be adopted at a regular meeting of the county board by July 1, 2021 or the first regular county board meeting July 8, 2021, whichever comes later. He stated that if the board is unable to adopt a new map by the July meeting the County Clerk, by statute, will appoint a reapportionment committee, and that committee will draw the map.

• **Process**

Mr. Sorrel commented that the most current Rules of Order contains language stating that going forward the County Board would be comprised of an 18-member body and those members would be in single member districts. He stated that each district shall be equal in population to each other, adding that with the current census data, that would equate to approximately 10,000 people per district. He also advised that each district shall be comprised of contiguous territory, as nearly compact as practicable, townships and municipalities may be divided only when necessary to confirm to the population requirement, and each district may be created in such a manner so that no precinct shall be divided between two or more districts. He also stated that each district may be 5% plus or minus of the ideal size.

Mr. Sorrel advised that one license will be purchased for each of the two major parties, and each party will draw a map and work out differences between themselves. Mr. Sorrel further explained that this committee submits one name and contact information from each party, and that member will be granted license access. He emphasized that county staff will have no role in the drawing of the map, as the process is partisan and political. He stated that Counties Code requires use of decennial census data, which is different from state constitution requirements for state legislative districts, and added that decennial census data will not be released by the United States Government prior to the July 2021 deadline. He advised that a legislative solution is possible, but is not guaranteed to be adopted before the deadline. He remarked that he is proposing utilizing 2019 American Community Survey (ACS) data. He explained that ACS is data from the U.S. Census Bureau and a census taken intermittently between each decennial census and contains the necessary level of data to draw the county board map. He also noted that a process exists to make minor modifications to the map if the 2020 decennial census data is drastically different from the 2019 ACS data.

Mr. Sorrel advised that the committee and county board may post the draft map to the county website for public inspection. He commented that in 2011, the map was posted after the committee's approval of the map and prior to the board meeting in which the map was adopted.

Mr. Sorrel advised that after adoption, the Election Commission will use the map and associated data to draw new Precinct maps. Additionally, he stated that the resolution to adopt the map will include language permitting the Election Commission to make minor modifications, consistent with 2001 and 2011 process.

The meeting adjourned at 4:47 p.m. upon a motion by Chairman Rand.

Recorded & Transcribed by: Jan Kleffman