

**MINUTES  
REDISTRICTING OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE  
THURSDAY, AUGUST 19, 2021**

**Members Present:** C. Spears, D. Culbertson, K. Suprise, D. Gabrielson, C. Fallona, J. Nooyen, D. VanderHeiden

**Members Excused:**

Chair Spears called the teleconference meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

**MINUTES OF AUGUST 4, 2021**

MOTION: SUPERVISOR D. CULBERTSON/C. FALLONA MOVED TO APPROVE THE COMMITTEE MINUTES OF AUGUST 4, 2021 AS PRINTED. VOTE: AYES; UNANIMOUS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PERTAINING TO AGENDA ITEMS FOR A PERIOD OF 15 MINUTES (limit 3 minutes per speaker)**

Development and Land Services Director Kara Homan received a letter from Ted Storin and Cheryl Mocadlo, 325 E. Clearfield Lane Appleton, WI 54913, stating they moved to the north side of Appleton a year ago and were surprised to find they were lumped with non-Appleton citizens in rural western Outagamie County for representation in the State Senate and Assembly. Homan reported their concerns were with state legislative districts, however, the public information meeting was for county supervisory districts. Homan made contact with Storin and Mocadlo to clarify matters.

11:05 a.m. Supervisor D. Gabrielson and Supervisor D. VanderHeiden joined the meeting.

11:09 a.m. Chair J. Nooyen joined the meeting.

**DETAILED SCHEDULE REVIEW AND UPDATE ON CENSUS POPULATION DATA**

Homan reported they received the redistricting data on August 16, 2021. The GIS team has been working diligently to create the preliminary supervisory district maps. Homan indicated that by receiving the data earlier, it allows more time to review things and more opportunity for the municipalities and public to provide input. The next critical step will be the public hearing notice. The GIS Team will now be able to provide three maps instead of the two. Homan discussed the ideal options for the timeline which includes a resolution request through the Legislative/Audit and Human Resources Committee on August 24, 2021, and would allow the Phase One work to finish approximately one week prior to the County Board Public Hearing on September 14, 2021.

**REVIEW POPULATION CHANGE BY CURRENT SUPERVISORY DISTRICT 2010-2020**

Homan presented a map of the population change from 2010 census to the 2020 census as a percent change. Homan reviewed the map legend to better understand the population that grew since 2010. Over the last decade, the primary significant growth has occurred from the Town of Vandebroek, over to north Appleton, into north Grand Chute, north Village of Greenville, and southern Town of Ellington. Other areas of growth were South Greenville, Town of Kaukauna, City of Kaukauna, Combined Locks, Town of Buchanan, Town of Center, small portions of Town of Freedom, and to some extent Town of Dale and Village of Hortonville. Population remained relatively stable in the Town of Black Creek/Town of Osborn, areas of Grand Chute, southeast Appleton, north downtown and southwest side of the City of Appleton. Homan reported that some urban communities experienced a population decline that was likely driven by the decrease in average household size which is a nationwide trend.

Homan reviewed Map 2 that demonstrated the impact of the supervisory boundaries and will aid the team in creating the new supervisory district map. Homan interpreted the semantics involved with the map. Each district is numbered along with a percentage of that district's deviation from the target supervisory population pinpointing which districts have overgrown and need to shrink compared to areas that will need to grow in geographic size. Homan reported the supervisory districts will tighten up in the areas that grew the most. The ultimate goal for the new maps will be to reflect a deviation of only 3% or less in each district.

**RECAP/DISCUSS PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING INPUT**

Homan provided a summary of the public information sessions. The only questions came from the Post Crescent seeking additional information and clarification on the redistricting process. There were two topics regarding the communities of interest, particularly in the Village of Greenville and if the sanitary districts would remain as a

community of interest. Homan indicated the Village of Greenville Sanitary District will likely need to be split regardless if it is considered a community of interest. Supervisor Justin Krueger attended the public information session to inquire if the Kimberly School District boundary could be a community of interest. Nancy Jones inquired at the public information meeting to find if there is any ability for elementary attendance areas to be considered a community of interest.

### **REVIEW IDENTIFIED COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST**

Homan presented the original recommendations that were reviewed at the public information meetings. The administrative team attempted to identify communities that existed in the county that function almost as their own village. The ones identified as having a village impression were the Sanitary Districts of Dale, Darboy, Stephenville, Freedom and Lawrence University. Homan discussed if Greenville was still a town, the sanitary district would be more of a community of interest, however the focus now moves to ensuring the urban area composition due to the amount of people that live in the sanitary district. Homan recommended the following as potential communities of interest:

- “Dale” (Sanitary District w/in T. of Dale)
- “Darboy” (Sanitary District w/in T. of Buchanan)
- “Stephenville” (Sanitary District w/in T. of Ellington)
- “Freedom” (Sanitary District w/in T. of Freedom)
- Lawrence University
- “Greenville” (Sanitary District w/in V. of Greenville)

Homan addressed questions that were presented regarding school districts. Kimberly Schools for the most part follow the municipal boundaries of Kimberly, Combined Locks, Darboy and a small section in City of Appleton and are taken care of by preserving communities of interest in municipal boundaries. Homan found it hard for the school districts to be a community of interest. Chair Spears discussed how schools are no longer being used for polling locations and the efforts that served to have the same voting areas for everyone. Supervisor VanderHeiden used the Town of Kaukauna as an example to consider the locations where the school district and the supervisory districts are combined. VanderHeiden pointed out that in the Town of Kaukauna there are now only twelve voters in Ward 2 with the Freedom School District and 30 voters in the Ward 1 Kaukauna School District which required different ballot styles for those combined areas. Supervisor Spears stressed the importance to take into consideration VanderHeiden’s point from the clerk perspective to try and alleviate those issues in future elections, where possible. Supervisor Gabrielson inquired if the four sanitary districts and Lawrence University were already a community of interest. Homan specified the current status of the potential communities of interest. Supervisor Culbertson advised to keep in mind that Dale and Stephenville are tiny sanitary districts.

### **MUNICIPALITIES REQUESTING “WARD” CREATION ASSISTANCE**

Homan discussed a survey that was coordinated with all municipalities and revealed that the Outagamie County GIS team will perform the ward creation for possibly all municipalities with the exception of the City of Appleton. The cities will consider a two-step process of wards and aldermanic districts. County Clerk Jeff King reported that the municipalities are very grateful for the assistance offered by the GIS team and will be good for them and for the county. Supervisor Spears inquired on the municipality approval process. Homan indicated that once Phase 1 is complete, the ward process will begin by reviewing a detailed schedule of all town board meetings and their adoption process so they are able to get the maps to them in a timely manner. Next, there would be a few days built in for discussion between the clerk and the county team to address any necessary administrative modifications. Once the clerk is satisfied, it can go through their legislative process. Chair Spears thanked the team for taking on the extra work for the municipalities.

### **CRITICAL NEXT STEPS-RECEIVE CENSUS DATA; TENTATIVE SUPERVISOR DISTRICT PLAN CREATION**

There are three plan alternatives:

#### **Plan A**

- Use current supervisory boundaries as a basis.
- Use Traditional Redistricting Principles of Compactness, Contiguity and Preserving Municipal Boundaries

**Plan B**

- Use current supervisory boundaries as a basis
- Use Compactness, Contiguity and Communities of Interest with the preservation of municipal boundaries being subordinate to the Communities of Interest

**Plan C**

- Redrawing the supervisory district boundaries from a clean slate, prioritizing Communities of Interest along with the other Traditional Redistricting Principles.

Supervisor Culbertson commended Homan for the approach taken on the redistricting process, being the least politically motivated process in his experience of past three redistricting cycles. Homan indicated the assistance provided by the Community Development Coordinator in St. Croix County, Ellen Denzer, was instrumental with the approach used as this is her fourth redistricting process. Chair Nooyen commended Homan for the public information presentations. Homan pointed out she is only as good as her team commending their performance during these unusual time constraints. Supervisor Gabrielson inquired on the type of software and do they have previous experience. GIS Coordinator/Land Information Officer Brad Bastian indicated they are experienced with the software and commended the state with using the suggestions provided over the years to make sure the updates enhance their performance. Supervisor Spears suggested sending a letter to the state thanking them for the software updates to demonstrate the importance and the significant impact at the county level.

**AROUND THE TABLE**

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/NEXT MEETING**

August 24, 2021, at 1:30 p.m.

August 31, 2021, at 11:00 a.m.

There was discussion on map printing and distribution. The maps will be available for public viewing on the website.

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: SUPERVISOR D. GABRIELSON/J. NOOYEN MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 11:59 AM UNTIL AUGUST 24, 2021, AT 1:30 PM. VOTE: AYES; UNANIMOUS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Respectfully submitted,

*Shelly Tyson*

Shelly Tyson, Legislative Services  
August 19, 2021