

**MINUTES
REDISTRICTING OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, AUGUST 31, 2021**

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

Members Excused:

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

MINUTES OF AUGUST 24, 2021

MOTION: SUPERVISOR C. FALLONA/D. VANDERHEIDEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE COMMITTEE MINUTES OF AUGUST 24, 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)-NONE

REVIEW/DISCUSS FEEDBACK RECEIVED ON PRELIMINARY SUPERVISOR DISTRICT PLAN- OPTIONS A & B

Development and Land Services Director Kara Homan reviewed the Summary of Municipal and Public Input Matrix found below:

Commenter	Pros	Cons	Preference	Other Comments	Staff Remark
C. Swedberg, Clerk, Vandenbroek	A&B - overall done well	A&B - CTH J - can we move 17 residents back to Dist. 13?	none.		Yes - we can and recommend to the committee to advance this change in their recommended map.
C. Pluger, Clerk, Bovina	A&B - both keep town w/one ward	--	either ok.		
L. Decker, Clerk, Little Chute	--	--	none.	General questions on how districts change, and how that may affect wards	Responded to clerk. Will address ward mapping in Phase 2.
J. Anderson, Clerk, Oneida	A&B - look less complex than last year	Concerned about impact to wards/ballots			Will address ballot/ward concerns in Phase 2.
D. Vanderheiden, Clerk, T. Kaukauna	A&B - new boundaries may help simplify ward/ballots	--	none.		
L. Neuenfeldt, Clerk, Hortonia	A - Similar to existing map	B - Different than existing map	Plan A	Will follow up with board to ID if preference is only because it's closest to old map, or if there is other reasons	Note - A splits Hortonia into two districts; B preserves Hortonia in one district.
K. Schultz, Resident	--	A&B: Too Many Districts	--	Recommends reduction in board size	Decision already made to remain at 36 supervisors.
M. Farina, Resident	--	A&B - more squiggly lines / less compact than current map.		See Citizen email for full set of questions & concerns	Staff provided detailed response to Citizen this morning- staff response is attached.
S. Kenney, Clerk, C. Kaukauna	A&B Incorporate recent annexations	--	either ok.		
J. Booth, Clerk, Hortonville	--	--	Plan A	No reason given	Staff followed up asking for pros/cons and reason for preference; no response received as of Tuesday morning.

Homan reviewed a substantial request from the Town of Vandenbroek, along Highway J, noting a correction that there are nineteen residents, not seventeen as indicated in the graph, requested to move back to District 13. Homan demonstrated the change request on the maps and after an internal analysis, decided that moving the nineteen residents back to District 13 would not have an impact on the equal population calculations and would be fine for compactness and contiguity. The requested change will enhance the principle to preserve and keep municipalities together. There was a concern expressed from the Town of Oneida with the impact to the wards and ballot styles. Homan indicated those are adjustments that will be addressed in Phase 2. Supervisor VanderHeiden indicated that the new boundaries would help simplify ward/ballot styles.

Homan reported on the resident feedback provided. Kurt Schultz recommended a reduction in county board size. Marcel Farina expressed concerns of gerrymandering pointing to the squiggly lines and less compactness. Homan explained the squiggly lines are rivers used as boundaries that cannot be changed since those boundaries are designated by the Census Bureau and the saw tooth patterns are municipal boundaries by a function of how annexation and municipal growth happens in Wisconsin. Homan reported there were a few situations, in order to meet the equal population threshold, it was necessary to carve out individual blocks.

Homan reviewed information provided in a memo that indicated she spoke with officials from the Town of Hortonia, Town of Dale, Town of Ellington and Village of Hortonville to address the nonconformities between Plans A & B throughout their communities. The Town of Hortonia expressed a preference between maps, indicating their Board preferred Plan A, primarily because it was most similar to the existing Supervisory Map. The Village of Hortonville switched from a preference of Plan A to no preference once they understood that both maps kept the Village entirely in one District. The Town of Dale indicated that it makes sense to keep the Dale Sanitary District in one Supervisory District which would point to Plan B as their preference. The Town of Ellington had no preference, even if that meant Stephensville Sanitary District needed to be split up.

MOTION: SUPERVISOR J. NOOYEN/C. SPEARS MOVED TO HONOR THE REQUEST FROM THE TOWN OF VANDENBROEK TO REDRAW PLAN A AND PLAN B TO MOVE NINETEEN PEOPLE FROM DISTRICT 10 TO DISTRICT 13. VOTE: AYES; UNANIMOUS. MOTION CARRIED.

DISCUSS/DETERMINE PLAN PREFERENCE AND ANY CHANGES NEEDED PRIOR TO COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Homan indicated that the decision between Plan A and Plan B comes down to a policy decision of the board and can be summarized as follows:

1. If the Committee values the principles of Compactness & Contiguity over Preservation of Political Subdivisions and Communities of Interest, the Committee should recommend advancing Alternative Plan A to the Legislative/Audit and Human Resources Committee.
2. If the Committee values the principles of Preservation of Political Subdivisions and Communities of Interest over Compactness & Contiguity, the committee should advance Alternative Plan B to the Legislative/Audit and Human Resources Committee.

Homan reported the plans are very similar and Plan B does not have substantial issues with Compactness and Contiguity. The biggest deviation from those principles under Plan B, is a small island in the Town of Hortonia which goes against contiguity, however, islands are allowed as long as it is preserving a unit of government. In this case, it allows the Town of Hortonia to be completely covered by District 31 compared to Plan A that splits the Town of Hortonia. Homan presented how the Village of Hortonville has a deficiency in compactness but it does preserve the Town of Dale. Homan reviewed the Stephensville Sanitary District in Plan B to demonstrate how the Census Bureau used a river as a continuation of a block and is a geographic anomaly. The blocks created by the Census Bureau cannot be split, therefore that boundary is squiggly. The population density is very low in that area and only impacts a small amount of people. Homan summarized that Plan B has deficiencies in compactness and contiguity but it does preserve the Stephensville Sanitary District, Town of Dale and Town of Hortonia keeping them all in one district. Homan summarized that Plan A is much more compact and much more contiguous. It splits the Town of Hortonia into two supervisory districts, breaks up a Community of Interest in the Dale Sanitary District and splits the Stephensville Sanitary District into two districts. Homan indicated they do not have a staff recommendation since both Plan A and Plan B are very similar maps but reveal competing policy issues. It comes down to a policy issue with a decision to be made according to which values are stronger or take precedence.

Supervisor Culbertson reported that it is unfortunate of differing preferences of the Town of Dale and the Town of Hortonia which complicates the matter. Supervisor Culbertson indicated that Stephensville Sanitary District is a very small community and would not hurt to split it, therefore, his preference is Plan A. County Board Chair Nooyen recommended Plan A which values the principles of Compactness and Contiguity over the Preservation of Political Subdivisions and Communities of Interest. He addressed the discussions that have taken place for years

regarding fair maps, which points to the guiding principles and philosophy of Plan A. The splitting of a District is not a bad thing as long as it makes sense and is fair. Supervisor VanderHeiden indicated Plan B will run into creating an extra ward which will require an extra ballot style, therefore her preference was Plan A. Supervisor Fallona indicated a preference for Plan A. Supervisor Gabrielson indicated a preference for Plan A with the cleaner lines but could support Plan B due the similarities. Supervisor Surprise indicated both maps are good options but had a preference to Plan A. Chair Spears indicated that the splits are not bad for smaller communities as it allows for more representation and more voice for that area on the County Board which pointed to her preference of Plan A.

MOTION: SUPERVISOR D. CULBERTSON/J. NOOYEN MOVED TO RECOMMEND THE MODIFIED VERSION OF PLAN A AS THE OUTAGAMIE COUNTY TENTATIVE SUPERVISORY DISTRICT PLAN TO THE LEGISLATIVE/AUDIT AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE. VOTE: AYES; UNANIMOUS.

MOTION CARRIED.

NEXT STEPS – POTENTIAL ADDITIONAL MEETING TO REVIEW FINAL CHANGES TO PREFERRED PLAN, MAKE FINAL RECOMMENDATION TO LEGISLATIVE/AUDIT AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Chair Spears reported the recommendation of Plan A would be forwarded to the Legislative/Audit and Human Resources Committee to be considered at the next meeting on September 14, 2021. There will then be a Public Hearing prior to the County Board meeting on the same date.

Homan indicated her team will finish up Phase 1 with the Legislative/Audit and Human Resources Committee and County Board. The team will then move to Phase 2 working with the municipalities on the ward plans and go through their adoption procedures. In Phase 3, this committee will need to take action for the Final Supervisory District Plan.

AROUND THE TABLE

Chair Spears thanked the committee for their diligence reviewing and providing input. The team has made it extremely simplified and easy for the committee to understand quickly and accurately. Supervisor Fallona also commended the team for taking a large amount of detail and making it so easy to understand the differences.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be November 2, 2021, at 11:00 a.m. or call of the chair, if necessary.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: SUPERVISOR D. GABRIELSON/D. VANDERHEIDEN MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 11:38 AM UNTIL NOVEMBER 2, 2021, OR CALL OF THE CHAIR. VOTE: AYES; UNANIMOUS. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelly Tyson

Shelly Tyson, Legislative Services
August 31, 2021