



COLUMBIA COUNTY

Board of Supervisors

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Columbia County Ad Hoc Redistricting Committee Minutes August 5, 2021

Members present: James E. Foley, Vern E. Gove, Barry Pufahl, Matthew L. Rohrbeck, John Stevenson (arrived at 11:01 am), Mike Weyh

Also in attendance during all or portions of the meeting: Nancy Long, Eric Shimpach, Dean Kaderabek, Sue Moll, Joe Ruf, Brian Zirbes, Marie Moe (City of Portage), Jonathan Richie (Portage Daily Register)

The meeting of the Ad Hoc Redistricting Committee was called to order by Chair Foley at 10:32 a.m. The meeting was properly noticed as required by the Wisconsin Open Meetings Law. The meeting was held at the Administration building, Meeting Room #113-115, 112 E. Edgewater Street, Portage, Wisconsin.

Foley read a statement regarding rules for non-member participation at Ad Hoc Redistricting Committee meetings. There was no Public Input.

Approve Agenda

Motion by Rohrbeck to approve the agenda as published. Second by Weyh. Motion carried.

Elect Officers

Motion by Foley to nominate Rohrbeck for Vice Chair. Second by Pufahl. Motion carried.

Motion by Rohrbeck to nominate Weyh for Secretary. Second by Pufahl. Motion carried.

Redistricting Guidelines

A copy of the "WCA County Decennial Redistricting Handbook (2021 Redistricting Cycle)" was distributed for committee members to review prior to the next meeting. The goal is to maintain an equal population within the districts and to keep districts contiguous and compact.

Establish Timeline

A copy of the "2021 County and Municipal Redistricting Timeline", put together by WCA, was distributed to committee members for review. Kaderabek also distributed a Columbia County Redistricting Timeline for review. Moll emphasized the tight schedule is necessary in an attempt to meet the final deadline for the adoption of a supervisory district plan prior to the timeline for supervisors to circulate papers for the upcoming election in April, 2022. Kaderabek stated the tentative timeline hinges on the date the County receives the census data from the State.

Motion by Rohrbeck to approve the tentative Columbia County Redistricting Timeline as presented. Second by Weyh. Motion carried.

Clarify Roles of Staff and Committee Members

Committee members will be responsible for determining all supervisory district boundaries. Land Information staff will be responsible for the technical portion of the redistricting process and updating the WISE-LR system with the supervisory district maps. They will also offer to assist municipalities with the creation of their ward maps. The County Clerk's Office will serve as the point of contact for redistricting issues and communicating with the municipal clerks. Clerk staff will also work with the Committee Chair for the posting of meeting agendas, public hearing notices and recording of committee minutes.

How to Involve Municipalities in the Process

Moll, with input from Kaderabek, was directed to draft a letter to the municipal clerks regarding the redistricting process and include the tentative timeline.

A "Legal Update-Redistricting: How to Account for the Prison Population" sent by WCA was handed out. Zirbes stated the prison population could be divided between wards within the City of Portage.

Stevenson arrived at 11:01 am

Set Next Meeting Date

The next meeting of the Ad Hoc Redistricting Committee was tentatively set for August 24, 2021 at 9 am at the Administration Building in Rooms 113-115.

Motion by Rohrbeck to adjourn the Ad Hoc Redistricting Committee meeting. Second by Weyh. Motion carried. The Ad Hoc Redistricting Committee meeting was adjourned at 11:09 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Mike Weyh
Ad Hoc Redistricting Committee Secretary

These minutes were recorded by Sue Moll, County Clerk