



WASHTENAW COUNTY APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION

August 30, 2021

MINUTES

A meeting of the Washtenaw County Apportionment Commission was held remotely via Zoom.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lawrence Kestenbaum, Clerk/Register of Deeds (Texas Township, Kalamazoo County, MI)
Catherine McClary, Washtenaw County Treasurer (Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County, MI)
Eli Savit, Washtenaw County Prosecuting Attorney (Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County, MI)
David Frey, Washtenaw County Republican Party Chairperson (Augusta Township, Washtenaw County, MI)
Chris Savage, Washtenaw County Democratic Party Chairperson (Scio Township, Washtenaw County, MI)

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Ed Golembiewski, Chief Deputy Clerk/Director of Elections
Chelsea Rozek, Washtenaw County GIS Developer
Robert Mulcihy, Deputy Clerk

Lawrence Kestenbaum called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT & APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION RESPONSE

Doug Carpenter asked when town halls will be held and about the chance for public input for town halls. Commissioner Savage and Chair Kestenbaum responded that information about Mr. Carpenter's questions would be answered in this meeting.

PREVIOUS BUSINESS

1. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes – July 27, 2021 & August 16, 2021

Commissioner McClary, seconded by Commissioner Savit moved to adopt the minutes of the July 27, 2021 and August 16, 2021 meetings.

Vote on the motion:

5 Yeas. 0 Nays. 0 Absent. Motion Carried.

2. Establish a timeline, meeting frequency, and tentative meeting schedule

Ed Golembiewski provided an update on the Apportionment Commission public forums. The proposed dates and locations of the forums were as follows: September 11, 2021 at the Ypsilanti Performance Space; September 18, 2021 at the Chelsea District Library; and September 27, 2021 virtually via Zoom.

Commissioner McClary voiced desire for all three meetings to be held virtually due to the rise in Covid-19 cases. Commissioner Savage agreed and voiced support to hold all three hearings virtually.

Commissioner Frey, seconded by Commission Savage made a motion to hold all three public hearings virtually.

Votes on the motion:
5 Yeas. 0 Nays. 0 Absent. Motion Carried.

The revised public hearings are as follows:
September 11, 2021 at 11:00 AM – Virtual
September 18, 2021 at 8:30 AM – Virtual
September 27, 2021 at 6:30 PM – Virtual

NEW BUSINESS

The Commission discussed differing legal interpretations about the 60-day deadline for county apportionment decisions. The Commission decided to use September 30, 2021 as the start date for the beginning of the 60-day window when the State Bureau of Elections releases its data, rather than August 12, 2021 when the census data was released.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Commissioners discussed giving speakers a generous amount of time for public comment and creating a common email address, apportionment@washtenaw.org for individuals to submit their input.

Commissioner Savage, seconded by Commissioner Frey made a motion to adopt a 5-minute speaker time for public comment, create a common email address for the Apportionment Commission, and to accept all information from the public.

Commissioner McClary, seconded by Commissioner Frey offered a friendly amendment that the Apportionment Commission accept any information in writing.

Votes on the amended motion:
5 Yeas. 0 Nays. 0 Absent. Amended Motion Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT & APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION RESPONSE

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Kestenbaum adjourned the meeting at 3:36 pm.

Next meeting dates
Public Hearing – September 11, 2021 at 11:00 am via Zoom
Public Hearing – September 18, 2021 at 8:30 am via Zoom
Public Hearing – September 27, 2021 at 6:30 pm via Zoom

Lawrence Kestenbaum, County Clerk/Register

Approved: 9/11/2021