



WASHTENAW COUNTY APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION

October 25, 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 (City of Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County, MI)
Eli Savit, Washtenaw County Prosecuting Attorney (City of Nashville, Davidson County, TN)
David Frey, Washtenaw County Republican Party Chairperson (City of Trenton, Wayne County, MI)
Chris Savage, Washtenaw County Democratic Party Chairperson (Scio Township, Washtenaw County, MI)

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Ed Golembiewski, Chief Deputy Clerk/Register & Director of Elections
Chelsea Rozek, Washtenaw County GIS Developer
Robert Mulcahy, Deputy Clerk/Program Manager

Lawrence Kestenbaum called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Vice Chair Frey, seconded by Commissioner Savit moved to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2021 Apportionment Commission.

Vote on the motion:

5 Yeas. 0 Nays. 0 Absent. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following members of the public spoke during public comment:

- Dirk Mayhew

Vice Chair Frey thanked Dirk Mayhew for his comments.

Commissioner Savit seconded Vice Chair Frey's comments.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Deliberations toward 2022 Washtenaw County Apportionment Plan

Commissioner Savit provided an update about his memo regarding counting inmate populations for county apportionment purposes. Commissioner Savit recommended including populations at the county jail and federal prisons for apportionment purposes, and not counting residents of the Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility or Cassidy Lake facility, as they are state institutions. Commissioner Savit stated that populations at state institutions that normally reside in Washtenaw County could be included for apportionment purposes but explained the difficulty in gathering that data.

Commissioner McClary agreed with Commissioner Savit's recommendation.

Vice Chair Frey voiced agreement to include as many people as possible in the county apportionment plan.

Vice Chair Frey, seconded by Commissioner McClary, moved to exclude from consideration for county apportionment purposes the populations of the Cassidy Lake Special Alternative Incarceration Facility in Lyndon Township (142 individuals) and the Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility in Pittsfield Township (1974 individuals).

Vote on the motion:

5 Yeas. 0 Nays. 0 Absent. Motion carried.

Commissioner McClary spoke about concerns regarding a submitted proposal that placed two Superior Township precincts within a county commissioner district that includes Ypsilanti Township. She stated she spoke with Superior Township officials and those precincts are relatively urban, and that all parties felt that there would be a benefit to including the precincts with Ypsilanti Township.

Commissioners McClary, Savit, and Vice Chair Frey discussed their concerns that minority representation be preserved or enhanced and ensuring that representation is not distorted or consolidated in the newly created districts.

OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Next meeting date

The Apportionment Commission decided unanimously to hold their next meeting on Monday, November 1st at 4:00 pm.

Vice Chair Frey, seconded by Commissioner Savage, moved to add written comments submitted by the public into the public record of this meeting.

Vote on the motion:

5 Yeas. 0 Nays. 0 Absent. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Kestenbaum adjourned the meeting at 4:39 pm.

Approved: November 1, 2021