

BAY COUNTY APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION

MAY 30, 2001

THE BAY COUNTY APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION MET ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 30, 2001, IN THE FOURTH FLOOR COMMISSION CHAMBERS OF THE BAY COUNTY BUILDING. THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN JOSEPH K. SHEERAN AT 2:05 P.M. WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS AND GUESTS PRESENT.

ROLL CALL: PROSECUTING ATTORNEY JOSEPH K. SHEERAN, CHAIRMAN
COUNTY CLERK LINDA L. TOBER, SECRETARY
TREASURER JEANETTE E. NEITZEL
DEMOCRATIC PARTY CHAIRMAN TONY PAWELSKI
REPUBLICAN PARTY CHAIRMAN MAX D. HOLMAN

ALSO PRESENT: LORAIN A. URBANCIK, SECRETARY TO THE COUNTY CLERK
GARY STANLEY, PLANNING DEPARTMENT
DAVE ENGELHARDT, PLANNING DEPARTMENT
NEWS MEDIA

MINUTES

COUNTY CLERK TOBER MOVED TO APPROVE THE APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS AS PRESENTED FROM THE MEETING HELD MAY 21, 2001. IT WAS SUPPORTED BY MR. HOLMAN AND PASSED BY VOICE VOTE, 5 YEAS, 0 NAYS.

THE COUNTY CLERK DISTRIBUTED MINUTES FROM THE MAY 25, 2001, MEETING FOR MEMBERS TO REVIEW.

PUBLIC INPUT

CHAIRMAN SHEERAN OFFERED TO ACCEPT COMMENTS OF MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD WITH THEIR CONCERNS. THERE WERE NO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT.

VERIFICATION OF PLAN NO. 1

COUNTY CLERK TOBER REPORTED THAT SHE HAD VERIFIED PLAN NO. 1 BY CHECKING THE NUMBERS PRESENTED AND FINDING EVERYTHING IN ORDER.

ADDITIONAL PLANS

COUNTY CLERK TOBER STATED THAT SHE HAD A NINE-MEMBER COMMISSION MAP, BUT IT WAS NOT YET READY TO BE FORMALLY SUBMITTED. SOME OF THE FIGURES WERE NOT YET CORRECT AND IT WAS NOT FULLY LABELED. THE COUNTY CLERK NOTED THAT THERE WERE NO SPLITS IN VOTING DISTRICTS. MEMBERS AND DAVE ENGELHARDT FROM THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT REVIEWED AND DISCUSSED THE PLAN. THE CHAIRMAN POINTED OUT THAT

ONE SPOT HAD A STRANGE SHAPE TO IT, SOMETHING IN THE FORM OF AN ISTHMUS OR AN ISLAND. THE COUNTY CLERK EXPLAINED THAT SHE HAD BEEN TRYING TO AVOID SPLITTING DISTRICTS.

THE COUNTY TREASURER INQUIRED AS TO SUBMITTING PLANS ONLY FOR A NINE-MEMBER COMMISSION. IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT A MOTION HAD BEEN MADE TO SUBMIT PLANS FOR BOTH SEVEN AND NINE MEMBERS. MS. NEITZEL HAD BEEN INTERESTED IN AN 11-MEMBER BOARD, ANTICIPATING POPULATION GROWTH IN THE NEXT TEN YEARS, BUT THAT WOULD NOT FOLLOW THE PREVIOUS MOTION.

IT WAS THE CHAIRMAN'S OPINION THAT THE SOLE FUNCTION OF THIS COMMISSION WAS TO DRAW A MAP FOR COMMISSIONER DISTRICTS. THE TREASURER ADDED THAT THEY MUST SATISFY THE TAXPAYERS AND PROPERLY REPRESENT THEM. THE CHAIRMAN ALSO NOTED THAT THE GOAL IS TO MAKE THE DISTRICTS AS UNIFORM IN SIZE AS IS PRACTICAL, IN ORDER TO EFFECTUATE THE PRINCIPLE OF "ONE PERSON, ONE VOTE."

THE COUNTY CLERK QUERIED WHETHER THE OTHERS HAD BEEN WORKING ON PLANS, AND IT WAS STATED THAT THE DEADLINE TO SUBMIT PLANS WAS FRIDAY, JUNE 1, 2001, AT 5:00 P.M.

THE CHAIRMAN COMMENTED THAT IT WOULD PROVIDE A CLEAN MAP TO PUT ALL OF BANGOR TOWNSHIP INTO ONE COMMISSIONER DISTRICT, BUT THE COUNTY CLERK NOTED THAT THE POPULATION FOR ALL OF BANGOR TOWNSHIP IS 15,547 WHICH IS TOO MANY PEOPLE FOR ONE COMMISSIONER DISTRICT.

THE TREASURER COMMENTED THAT SHE THOUGHT IT WAS MORE EQUITABLE TO SPLIT THE CITY OF BAY CITY, THUS MIXING IT IN WITH THE REST OF THE COUNTY POPULATION. THE CHAIRMAN POINTED OUT THAT DOES NOT COMPLY WITH THE RULES, ONE OF WHICH STATES THAT TOWNSHIPS, VILLAGES, AND CITIES SHALL BE DIVIDED ONLY IF NECESSARY TO MEET THE POPULATION STANDARD.

MORE DISCUSSION FOLLOWED OF THE PLAN, IN PARTICULAR HOW TO ELIMINATE THE ODD SHAPE. THE CHAIRMAN NOTED THAT HE WOULD RATHER SEE A VOTING DISTRICT SPLIT THAN AN IRREGULAR SHAPE.

MS. TOBER STATED THAT SHE HAD ANOTHER NINE-MEMBER PLAN SHE WAS WORKING ON, BUT IT HAD ONE VOTING DISTRICT SPLIT IN WILLIAMS TOWNSHIP. COMMISSION MEMBERS WERE INTERESTED IN REVIEWING THAT PLAN, SO SHE LEFT THE MEETING TO RETRIEVE IT FROM HER OFFICE.

WHILE SHE WAS GONE, COMMISSION MEMBERS ALSO REVIEWED PLAN NO. 1. THE CHAIRMAN ASKED MR. HOLMAN IF HE WISHED TO MAKE ANY STATEMENTS REGARDING HIS PLAN. HE RESPONDED THAT HE WOULD, BUT AT A LATER TIME WHEN MEMBERS HAVE ALL THE SUBMITTED PLANS IN FRONT OF THEM.

AFTER MS. TOBER RETURNED FROM HER OFFICE, COMMISSION MEMBERS REVIEWED THE OTHER NINE-MEMBER PLAN SHE HAD PREPARED. ALSO DISCUSSED BY MS. TOBER WAS

ANOTHER NINE-MEMBER PLAN, WHICH DID NOT WORK BECAUSE THE VARIANCE NUMBERS WERE TOO HIGH.

MR. ENGELHARDT SUGGESTED THAT MEMBERS REVIEW ALL THE PLANS SUBMITTED TO DETERMINE WHICH ONES HAD EVEN DISTRIBUTION OF THE CITY OF BAY CITY AND A POTENTIAL FOR EASY DIVISION OF CITY WARDS AND PRECINCTS WITHIN THE COMMISSION DISTRICT BOUNDARIES.

MORE DISCUSSION FOLLOWED REGARDING THE PLANS. THE COUNTY CLERK ENCOURAGED EVERYONE TO SUBMIT ALL POTENTIAL PLANS, NOTING THAT IT WOULD BE BEST FOR THE COMMISSION TO CONSIDER AS MANY PLANS AS POSSIBLE. SHE REMINDED EVERYONE THAT THE DEADLINE WAS FRIDAY, JUNE 1, 2001, AT 5:00 P.M.

NEXT MEETING

THE CHAIRMAN ANNOUNCED THAT HE HAD A SCHEDULE CONFLICT FOR TOMORROW'S MEETING AT 2:00 P.M. MR. HOLMAN MOVED TO CANCEL THE MEETING SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, MAY 31, 2001, AT 2:00 P.M. IT WAS SUPPORTED BY COUNTY TREASURER NEITZEL AND PASSED BY VOICE VOTE, 5 YEAS, 0 NAYS. THE CHAIRMAN ANNOUNCED THAT THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE FRIDAY, JUNE 1, 2001, AT 2:00 P.M.

IT WAS CLARIFIED THAT THE APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION'S WORK MUST BE COMPLETED 60 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF CERTIFICATION OF THE CENSUS RESULTS BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE, WHICH WAS APRIL 10, 2001. SIXTY DAYS LATER IS SUNDAY, JUNE 10, 2001, WHICH AUTOMATICALLY BECOMES MONDAY, JUNE 11, 2001.

RECESS/ADJOURNMENT

COUNTY TREASURER NEITZEL MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. IT WAS SUPPORTED BY MR. PAWELSKI AND PASSED BY VOICE VOTE, 5 YEAS, 0 NAYS. THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 2:45 P.M.

JOSEPH K. SHEERAN, PROSECUTOR
CHAIRMAN

LINDA L. TOBER, COUNTY CLERK
SECRETARY

JEANETTE E. NEITZEL, TREASURER
MEMBER

TONY PAWELSKI
DEMOCRATIC PARTY CHAIRMAN
MEMBER

MAX D. HOLMAN
REPUBLIC PARTY CHAIRMAN
MEMBER