

BAY COUNTY APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION

JUNE 11, 2001

THE BAY COUNTY APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION MET ON MONDAY, JUNE 11, 2001, IN THE FOURTH FLOOR COMMISSION CHAMBERS OF THE BAY COUNTY BUILDING. THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN JOSEPH K. SHEERAN AT 2:20 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: LORAINA A. URBANCIK, SECRETARY TO THE COUNTY CLERK
CYNTHIA A. LUCZAK, DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK
NEWS MEDIA

MINUTES

COUNTY CLERK TOBER MOVED TO APPROVE THE APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS AS PRESENTED FROM THE MEETINGS HELD JUNE 5, 2001, AND JUNE 6, 2001. IT WAS SUPPORTED BY COUNTY TREASURER NEITZEL AND PASSED BY VOICE VOTE, 5 YEAS, 0 NAYS.

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.

COUNTY TREASURER NEITZEL STATED THAT SHE HAD BEEN SORRY TO READ NEGATIVE COMMENTS ABOUT THE COUNTY CLERK IN THE NEWSPAPER AND THAT SHE FELT THEY WERE UNWARRANTED. MS. NEITZEL FELT THAT THESE COMMENTS MADE IT LOOK LIKE THE APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION MEMBERS WERE FIGHTING AGAINST EACH OTHER, AND SHE DID NOT LIKE THAT REPRESENTATION TO THE PUBLIC. THE PLANS HAD BEEN AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION, BUT NO ONE CAME TO THE APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION MEETINGS TO OFFER PUBLIC COMMENT.

COUNTY CLERK TOBER RESPONDED TO MR. PAWELSKI'S COMMENT IN THE NEWSPAPER THAT NOT SPLITTING VOTING DISTRICTS WOULD MAKE THE COUNTY CLERK'S JOB EASIER BY CLARIFYING THAT, IN FACT, HER JOB IS NOT ANY EASIER BECAUSE NO PRECINCTS WERE ELIMINATED AND BECAUSE SHE MUST REPROGRAM ALL 73 PRECINCTS IN THE COMPUTER FOLLOWING REAPPORTIONMENT.

CORRESPONDENCE

COUNTY TREASURER NEITZEL MOVED TO RECEIVE THE LETTER DATED JUNE 11, 2001, FROM MAX HOLMAN, BAY COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY CHAIRMAN, RESPONDING TO TONY PAWELSKI'S LETTER SUBMITTED JUNE 6, 2001. IT WAS SUPPORTED BY COUNTY CLERK TOBER. MR. HOLMAN CORRECTED HIS LETTER IN THE SECOND PARAGRAPH CHANGING "PLAN 3" TO "PLAN 2." THE MOTION TO RECEIVE THE CORRECTED LETTER PASSED BY VOICE VOTE, 5 YEAS, 0 NAYS.

OLD BUSINESS

THE CHAIRMAN STATED THAT ONE ITEM OF OLD BUSINESS HAD BEEN CONDUCTED, IN THAT THE BOARD HAD APPROVED MINUTES FROM THE LAST TWO MEETINGS.

COUNTY TREASURER NEITZEL NOTED THAT, ON THE BACK OF THE NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTED BY THE MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES, THERE WAS A WHOLE PAGE OF DISCUSSION ABOUT REAPPORTIONMENT THROUGHOUT MICHIGAN. SHE STATED THAT MANY COUNTIES HAD THE VIEW THAT THE DECISIONS WOULD NOT SATISFY EVERYONE OR BE POLITICALLY CORRECT IN EVERYONE'S VIEW. SHE ALSO REPORTED THAT MUSKEGON COUNTY HAD REDUCED ITS NUMBER OF COMMISSIONERS FROM 13 TO 5. THEIR SUMMATION WAS TO REDUCE IT TO 5 AND LET THE COURTS TAKE CARE OF THE REST.

ANOTHER ITEM OF OLD BUSINESS WAS PER DIEM AND MILEAGE FOR COMMISSION MEMBERS. THE COUNTY CLERK REPORTED THAT SHE HAD FOUND NOTHING IN THE LAW ADDRESSING THESE MATTERS; THEREFORE, WHEN THE LAW IS SILENT, SHE PRESUMED THESE ITEMS ARE NOT REQUIRED. THE CHAIRMAN STATED THAT, SINCE NO ONE WAS REQUESTING MILEAGE OR PER DIEM, THE QUESTION DID NOT NEED ANY FURTHER RESEARCH.

ANOTHER ITEM OF OLD BUSINESS WAS PAYMENT FOR THE TIME SPENT BY MEMBERS OF THE GIS DEPARTMENT IN PREPARING MAPS FOR THE COMMISSION. THE COUNTY CLERK STATED THAT THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE HAD GIVEN HIS PERMISSION FOR GIS TO ASSIST THE COMMISSION IN DRAWING MAPS. THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION IN REGARD TO WAGES; HOWEVER, THE COUNTY CLERK WAS WILLING TO PAY THE COST OF PAPER AND OTHER SUPPLIES. THE CHAIRMAN ASKED THE COUNTY CLERK TO LOOK INTO THAT

QUESTION WITH THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S OFFICE AND TO INFORM THE CHAIRMAN IF ANOTHER MEETING WAS REQUIRED TO DEAL WITH THE ISSUE.

THE COUNTY CLERK VERIFIED THAT THE APPROVED PLAN HAD BEEN FORWARDED TO THE MICHIGAN BUREAU OF ELECTIONS VIA CERTIFIED MAIL.

NEW BUSINESS

THE COUNTY CLERK VERIFIED FOR MEMBERS THAT THE TAPE RECORDING AND THE SHORTHAND NOTES OF EACH MEETING ARE KEPT ON FILE IN THE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE AND ARE AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW. THEY MIGHT BE NEEDED IN PARTICULAR IF THERE IS A CHALLENGE TO THE ADOPTED PLAN. THE CHAIRMAN ALSO CONFIRMED THAT ANOTHER MEETING OF THE COMMISSION WOULD BE CALLED IF AN APPEAL WAS FILED.

THE CHAIRMAN REQUESTED THAT THE COUNTY CLERK PREPARE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING AND SEND THEM TO THE MEMBERS. IF ANYONE HAS AN OBJECTION, THEY SHOULD INFORM THE CHAIRMAN, AND HE COULD CALL ANOTHER MEETING.

RECESS/ADJOURNMENT

COUNTY TREASURER NEITZEL MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. IT WAS SUPPORTED BY MR. HOLMAN AND PASSED BY VOICE VOTE, 5 YEAS, 0 NAYS. THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 2:35 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