

Open meeting law complied with. Quorum verified.

**Call to order:**

The Redistricting Committee meeting was called to order at 1:00 P.M. in the Vilas County conference rooms by Chair Charles Rayala, Jr. with the following committee members present: Jim Behling and Stephen Favorite. Other persons present at various times during this meeting: Andrew Faust, Barb Gibson, Ralph Sitzberger, Dennis Nielsen, Martha Milanowski, Jon Helgeson, Ken Anderson and David Alleman. Town representatives present are listed as follows:

Arbor Vitae: Supervisor Steve Perry and Clerk Mary Rueland.  
Boulder Junction: Chairman Charles Spencer and Clerk Cindy Howard.  
Lac du Flambeau: Supervisors Ginger Schwanebeck and Mike Christiansen.  
Land O' Lakes: Chairman Dan Balog.  
Lincoln: Clerk Shelly Sauvola.  
Phelps: Chairman Colin Snook, Supervisor Gene McCaslin and Clerk Marjorie Hiller.

**Approve agenda to be discussed in any order by the Chair:**

**Motion by J. Behling, 2<sup>nd</sup> by R. Sitzberger (sitting in pending the arrival of S. Favorite) to approve the agenda with the agenda order at the Chair's discretion. All voted aye. Carried.**

**Approve minutes of April 11, 2011 meeting.**

**Motion by J. Behling, 2<sup>nd</sup> by R. Sitzberger (sitting in pending the arrival of S. Favorite) to approve the minutes of the April 11, 2011 meeting as presented. All voted aye. Carried.**

**Tentative redistricting plan:**

**a. Municipal questions, concerns and opposition:**

A. Faust stated that he has reviewed municipal concerns sent to him. G. Schwanebeck questioned the source of the redistricting requirements. A. Faust provided an overview of redistricting requirements, as stipulated by Federal code and the United States Constitution.

Town representatives then presented their individual concerns.

**Lac du Flambeau presented the following:**

1. They are opposed to being represented by a County Supervisor that does not reside within the township. A. Faust replied that the elected County Supervisor was required to represent all residents of his or her district, regardless of township boundaries.
2. They are concerned about election confusion due to the necessity of providing different ballots and poll lists for each ward. A. Faust replied that voting by ward was already a current practice. Redistricting always creates changes that may result in the need to adjust ward boundaries and poll lists, thus causing some initial confusion or unfamiliarity with poll workers and voters. That problem is soon overcome in subsequent elections.

**Arbor Vitae presented the following:**

1. They oppose the change in ward boundaries because it will cause fragmentation and election confusion within those subdivisions. They recommend that ward boundaries

remain as previously drawn as much as possible. A. Faust replied that changes in census blocks resulted in the redrawn ward boundaries.

2. They also are concerned with ward boundary changes causing confusion in the election process.

**Boulder Junction presented the following:**

1. They oppose the change in district boundaries that affect Boulder Junction, specifically in the area of US51, where they would prefer that specific area to be placed into ward 1.

2. They are objecting to the creation of a ward with a population of about 80 residents. At current election turnout rates, that would require about 28 ballots and a separate poll list. They feel that this is an unnecessary waste of money.

There was then a general discussion among the participants regarding the various town objections and concerns presented. Regarding district and ward boundaries and the impact to election costs, A. Faust stated that the Redistricting Committee needed to balance Federal redistricting guidelines with those concerns. He characterized rural redistricting efforts as more difficult due to low population numbers, resulting in the need to set district boundaries that divide townships and create additional wards.

**b. Possible amendments to Tentative Plan:**

At the conclusion of the presentation of objections and concerns and the resultant discussion, A. Faust expressed a willingness to amend the Tentative Redistricting Plan, with the permission of the committee. **Motion by J. Behling, 2<sup>nd</sup> by S. Favorite to instruct A. Faust to amend the Tentative Redistricting Plan per the discussion with the towns. The overall 17% deviation in population counts per County district shall not be exceeded. All voted aye. Carried.**

**Future tasks:**

A. Faust will send amended district maps for dissemination to the towns. An additional Redistricting Committee meeting will need to be held to take action on the proposed amendments.

**Future meeting dates:**

The next meeting will be held on Friday, June 17, 2011 at 11:00 A.M.

**Letters and Communications:**

Nothing presented.

**Adjournment:**

**Motion by S. Favorite, 2<sup>nd</sup> by J. Behling to adjourn the meeting. All voted aye. Carried.** Meeting adjourned at 2:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by:

David R. Alleman

Vilas County Clerk.