

Minutes
Linn County Temporary Redistricting Commission
Thursday, December 16, 2021
3:00 p.m.

Call to Order: The Linn County Temporary Redistricting Commission met in the Informal Board Room at the Jean Oxley Linn County Public Service Center on December 16, 2021. Vice Chair Ralph Russell called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Members Present: Cindy Golding, Sarah Halbrook, Ralph Russell, and Nate Willems.

Members Absent: Linda Langston

Others Present: Brent Oleson, Deputy Director of Policy and Administration; Lisa Epp, Deputy Linn County Attorney; Eric Loecher, Auditor's Office

The minutes of the meeting of December 7, 2021, were approved.

Rural Linn County Reprecincting Plans

Eric Loecher briefly reviewed the two reprecincting plans for unincorporated Linn County developed by the Auditor's office, both of which had been discussed at the last meeting of the Commission. The most significant difference between the two plans is that Plan 01 combines Boulder and Buffalo Townships into one precinct and Brown and Linn Townships into one precinct. (Neither Buffalo nor Linn Townships include any incorporated towns.) Plan 02 is closer to the current map.

Motion from Willems, seconded by Golding, to preliminarily approve Plan 01 as the reprecincting plan for unincorporated Linn County. The Commission briefly discussed polling place accessibility and the reduction of election costs associated with Plan 01. The motion passed unanimously.

Incorporated Jurisdictions Reprecincting Plans

Several incorporated jurisdictions' reprecincting plans were received; this Commission has no input on individual jurisdictions' reprecincting plans, but those plans will be part of the total package the Commission will forward to the Secretary of State's office. Several multi-jurisdictional agreements for the Chair's signature were also received.

Motion from Willems, seconded by Golding, to acknowledge receipt of the incorporated jurisdictions reprecincting plans and to authorize the Vice Chair's signature on the agreements. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Hearing Date

Brent Oleson reported that a public hearing must be held to give the public the opportunity to weigh in on the proposed reprecincting plan for unincorporated Linn County. Due to legal notice requirements, the public hearing cannot be held prior to Tuesday or Wednesday of the week after Christmas. Oleson noted that a regular meeting of the Commission will be held immediately after the public hearing for a final vote on the plan.

Motion by Golding, seconded by Willems, to set the public hearing date for Tuesday, December 28, 2021, at 1:30 p.m. and authorize publication of such date and time. The motion passed unanimously.

Auditor's Office Update

Loecher confirmed that the newly formed precincts created by the combination of Boulder and Buffalo Townships and Brown and Linn Townships would be labeled as Boulder-Buffalo and Brown-Linn.

Certification of Populations

Loecher distributed materials showing the populations of the precincts in the proposed Plan 01 for the Commission members to review. He will email the documents to the members after the meeting.

Motion from Golding, seconded by Willems, to authorize the Vice-Chair to sign the certification of the populations of the preliminarily adopted reprecincting plan. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:46 p.m.