

## Manistee County Apportionment Commission Minutes

The Manistee County Apportionment Commission met on Thursday, September 2, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. in the County Board of Commissioner's Room. The meeting was also available by Zoom. The meeting was called to order by Chair, Jason Haag, County Prosecuting Attorney.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll call was taken by the Clerk and all members reported present:

Jason Haag, Prosecuting Attorney; Rachel Nelson, County Treasurer; John Helge Chairperson Democratic Party (on-line); Jeff Lawrence, Chairperson Republican Party; and Jill M. Nowak, County Clerk.

Others Present: Lindsey Marquardt, Chief Deputy County Clerk.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

### APPROVAL OF THE JULY 20, 2021 MANISTEE COUNTY APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION MINUTES

Moved by Lawrence, seconded by Nelson to approve the July 20, 2021 Manistee County Apportionment Commission Minutes. **Ayes: All. Motion Carried.**

### DISCUSSION CONCERNING THE SIXTY (60) DAY TIME LIMIT FOR PLAN SUBMISSION

There are numerous dates being given as the "Official" date for release of the Official Census Data. The Census data was released on August 12, 2021. The Secretary of State Office states the Legacy data release date is September 1, 2021 with an "Official" date of September 30, 2021. So, when does the clock start?

The Michigan Association of County Clerk's received a legal opinion that states the Official census data was released on August 12, 2021. Mr. Haag also noted that August 12, 2021 seemed to be the date from the Prosecutor's list serve (although not an official opinion) and Ms. Nelson indicated August 12, 2021 is the date that was noted in the County Treasurer list serve. There was concern that if August 12, 2021 is the "Official" date and Commissions didn't act with this date, that we could miss the deadlines. The difference in the legacy data and the official data is that prison and jail counts are included in legacy data. Manistee County has approximately 1,000 incarcerated in the prison and an average of 22.7 per month incarcerated in the County Jail. The block of population for the prison is noted as its own block on the data but the jail population is not. It was a **consensus** to use August 12, 2021 as the date for the Official Apportionment Census data.

## ACCESS FOR THE RE-APPORTIONMENT TOOL AND USER AGREEMENTS

Jill Nowak explained that if Commission members would like access to the County Commissioner District (CCD) Apportionment Tool, they may gain access by going to a website and registering. They must also complete a User Agreement for the State of Michigan. This access would allow a member to create or edit an Apportionment Plan. Everyone has received the link to a training video and quick start instructions. After discussion concerning the slight change in County population, it was thought that the current plan with new population numbers could be used, and it may not be necessary for numerous Plans to be submitted. Therefore, no Committee members requested access. The County Clerk and Chief Deputy Marquardt have access and will continue to work on a Plan. The prison population will be removed from the legacy data numbers. Ms. Nowak noted that Plan changes require extra work in the County Clerk's Office in the Qualified Voter File (QVF), street indexes, sending new voter cards etc.

## REVIEW OF MATERIALS

The Commission reviewed the maps of the current Plan.

## DISCUSSION REGARDING THE NUMBER OF COMMISSIONER DISTRICTS

Based on the preliminary population numbers, there has not been much change in population throughout the County. Population grew by 299 persons or 0.99%. With the materials that were previously distributed and this information, it was agreed to keep the number of County Commissioner Districts at seven (7).

Moved by Lawrence, seconded by Helge to retain the current amount of County Commissioner Districts at seven (7). **Ayes: All. Motion Carried.**

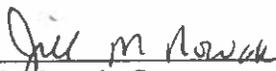
## PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

## SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was scheduled for Friday, October 1, 2021 at 1 p.m. in the County Board of Commissioners Room. Current maps with legal descriptions and official numbers will be presented. Ms. Nowak will prepare a proposed Resolution to adopt a Plan.

Adjourned at the Call of the Chair at 1:30 p.m.



Jill M. Nowak, Secretary of the Apportionment Commission