



111 S. MICHIGAN AVE.  
SAGINAW, MI 48602

**VANESSA GUERRA**  
COUNTY CLERK

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK  
KYLE A. BOSTWICK

# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

SAGINAW COUNTY APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION

**2021 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

**BEGINS AT 5:30 PM**

**JULY 27, 2021**

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS CHAMBERS, 2<sup>nd</sup> FLOOR

111 SOUTH MICHIGAN AVE.

SAGINAW, MI 48602

**THIS MEETING IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Vanessa Guerra, Saginaw County Clerk  
Posted: July 22, 2021

# **SAGINAW COUNTY APPORTIONMENT COMMITTEE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING 2021**

*Tuesday, July 27, 2021*

*5:30 p.m.*

*Saginaw County Governmental Center  
Board of Commissioners Office, Rm. 200  
111 S. Michigan Ave. Saginaw, MI  
(989) 790-5244*

## **AGENDA:**

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call:
  - John McColgan**, Prosecuting Attorney
  - Vanessa Guerra**, County Clerk
  - Tim Novak**, Treasurer
  - Robert Anderson**, Chair of Republican Party
  - Christine Maul**, Chair of Democratic Party
4. Public Comment
5. Distribution of Materials by Acting Chairperson
6. Election of Permanent Committee Chairperson
7. Adopt Procedural Guidelines
8. Presentation from County GIS
9. Discuss Future Meeting Dates
10. Public Comment
11. Adjourn

**APPORTIONMENT OF COUNTY BOARDS OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**Act 261 of 1966**

AN ACT to provide for the apportionment of county boards of commissioners; to prescribe the size of the board; to provide for appeals; to prescribe the manner of election of the members of the county board of commissioners; to provide for compensation of members; to prescribe penalties and provide remedies; and to repeal acts and parts of acts.

**History:** 1966, Act 261, Eff. Mar. 10, 1967;—Am. 1968, Act 153, Imd. Eff. June 13, 1968;—Am. 1969, Act 137, Eff. Mar. 20, 1970;—Am. 1998, Act 203, Eff. Mar. 23, 1999.

*The People of the State of Michigan enact:*

**46.401 County apportionment commission; apportionment of county into county commissioner districts.**

Sec. 1. (1) Within 60 days after the publication of the latest United States official decennial census figures, the county apportionment commission in each county of this state shall apportion the county into not less than 5 nor more than 21 county commissioner districts as nearly of equal population as is practicable and within the limitations of section 2.

(2) If a county is not in compliance with section 2 on the effective date of the amendatory act that added this subsection, the county apportionment commission of that county shall, within 30 days of the effective date of the amendatory act that added this subsection, apportion the county in compliance with section 2. For subsequent apportionments in a county that is apportioned under this subsection, the county apportionment commission of that county shall comply with the provisions of subsection (1).

**History:** 1966, Act 261, Eff. Mar. 10, 1967;—Am. 1968, Act 153, Imd. Eff. June 13, 1968;—Am. 1969, Act 137, Eff. Mar. 20, 1970;—Am. 2011, Act 280, Eff. Mar. 28, 2012.

**Constitutionality:** The Michigan Supreme Court reversed a Court of Appeals ruling which held that the first sentence in section 1(2) of 2011 PA 280, MCL 46.401, violates section 29 of article IV of the state constitution of 1963. The Court of Appeals ruled that the provision constituted an improperly enacted local act and should be stricken from the act (*Frank Houston et al. v Governor and Oakland County Board of Commissioners*, Nos. 308724 and 308725). The Michigan Supreme Court, in its holding that the law is constitutional, stated that while the law may apply only to Oakland county immediately, the law could apply to any county in the future that meets the population requirements.

**46.402 Number of county commissioners based on county population.**

Sec. 2.

County Population	Number of Commissioners
Under 5,001	Not more than 7
5,001 to 10,000	Not more than 10
10,001 to 50,000	Not more than 15
Over 50,000	Not more than 21

**History:** 1966, Act 261, Eff. Mar. 10, 1967;—Am. 1969, Act 137, Eff. Mar. 20, 1970;—Am. 2004, Act 369, Imd. Eff. Oct. 11, 2004;—Am. 2011, Act 280, Eff. Mar. 28, 2012.

**46.403 County apportionment commission; membership; convening apportionment commission; adopting rules of procedure; quorum; action by majority vote; conducting business at public meeting; notice of meeting; availability of certain writings to public.**

Sec. 3. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the county apportionment commission shall consist of the county clerk, the county treasurer, the prosecuting attorney, and the statutory county chairperson of each of the 2 political parties receiving the greatest number of votes cast for the office of secretary of state in the last preceding general election. If a county does not have a statutory chairperson of a political party, the 2 additional members shall be a party representative from each of the 2 political parties receiving the greatest number of votes cast for the office of secretary of state in the last preceding general election and appointed by the chairperson of the state central committee for each of the political parties. In a county with a population of 1,000,000 or more that has adopted an optional unified form of county government under 1973 PA 139, MCL 45.551 to 45.573, with an elected county executive, the county apportionment commission shall be the county board of commissioners. The clerk shall convene the apportionment commission and they shall adopt their rules of procedure. A majority of the members of the apportionment commission shall be a quorum sufficient to conduct its business. All action of the apportionment commission shall be by majority vote of the commission.

(2) The business which the apportionment commission may perform shall be conducted at a public meeting

held in compliance with the open meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to 15.275. Public notice of the time, date, and place of the meeting shall be given in the manner required by the open meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to 15.275.

(3) A writing prepared, owned, used, in the possession of, or retained by the commission in the performance of an official function shall be made available to the public in compliance with the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.231 to 15.246.

**History:** 1966, Act 261, Eff. Mar. 10, 1967;—Am. 1977, Act 185, Imd. Eff. Nov. 17, 1977;—Am. 2011, Act 280, Eff. Mar. 28, 2012.

#### **46.404 County commissioner districts; guidelines for apportionment.**

Sec. 4. In apportioning the county into commissioner districts, the county apportionment commission shall be governed by the following guidelines in the stated order of importance:

(a) All districts shall be single-member districts and as nearly of equal population as is practicable. The latest official published figures of the United States official census shall be used in this determination, except that in cases requiring division of official census units to meet the population standard, an actual population count may be used to make such division. Other governmental census figures of total population may be used if taken subsequent to the last decennial United States census and the United States census figures are not adequate for the purposes of this act. The secretary of state shall furnish the latest official published figures to the county apportionment commissions forthwith upon this act taking effect, and within 15 days after publication of subsequent United States official census figures.

A contract may be entered into with the United States census bureau to make any special census if the latest United States decennial census figures are not adequate.

(b) All districts shall be contiguous.

(c) All districts shall be as compact and of as nearly square shape as is practicable, depending on the geography of the county area involved.

(d) No township or part thereof shall be combined with any city or part thereof for a single district, unless such combination is needed to meet the population standard.

(e) Townships, villages and cities shall be divided only if necessary to meet the population standard.

(f) Precincts shall be divided only if necessary to meet the population standard.

(g) Residents of state institutions who cannot by law register in the county as electors shall be excluded from any consideration of representation.

(h) Districts shall not be drawn to effect partisan political advantage.

**History:** 1966, Act 261, Eff. Mar. 10, 1967;—Am. 1969, Act 137, Eff. Mar. 20, 1970.

#### **46.405 Apportionment plan; filing by county apportionment commission; access.**

Sec. 5. The apportionment plan approved by the commission shall be filed in the office of the county clerk at which time it shall become effective, and copies of it shall be forthwith forwarded by the county clerk to the secretary of state for filing and shall be made available at cost to any registered voter of the county.

**History:** 1966, Act 261, Eff. Mar. 10, 1967.

#### **46.406 Apportionment plan; petition for review.**

Sec. 6. Any registered voter of the county within 30 days after the filing of the plan for his county may petition the court of appeals to review such plan to determine if the plan meets the requirements of the laws of this state. Any findings of the court of appeals may be appealed to the supreme court of the state as provided by law.

**History:** 1966, Act 261, Eff. Mar. 10, 1967.

#### **46.407 Apportionment plan; failure of apportionment commission to submit; submission by registered voter.**

Sec. 7. If the apportionment commission has failed to submit a plan for its county within 60 days but not less than 30 days after the latest official published census figures are available or within such additional time as may be granted by the court of appeals for good cause shown on petition from the apportionment commission, any registered voter of the county may submit a plan to the commission for approval. The commission shall choose from among those submitted to it a plan meeting the requirements of the laws of this state and file such plan in the office of the county clerk as set forth in section 5 within 30 days after the deadline for the filing of the commission's own plan or any extension granted thereon.

**History:** 1966, Act 261, Eff. Mar. 10, 1967.

#### **46.408 Official apportionment plan.**



Sec. 8. Once an apportionment plan has been found constitutional and according to the provisions of this act and all appeals have been exhausted, or if no appeal is taken, when the time for appeal has expired, that plan shall be the official apportionment plan for the county until the next United States official decennial census figures are available.

**History:** 1966, Act 261, Eff. Mar. 10, 1967.

**46.409 County board of commissioners; number per district; prohibited representation.**

Sec. 9. The electors of each district established in accordance with this act shall elect 1 county commissioner to the county board of commissioners. There shall be no representation on the county board of commissioners other than that set forth by the provisions of this act.

**History:** 1966, Act 261, Eff. Mar. 10, 1967;—Am. 1969, Act 137, Eff. Mar. 20, 1970.

**46.410 County commissioners; terms.**

Sec. 10. The term of each commissioner shall be concurrent with that of state representatives as specified in article 4, section 3 of the state constitution.

**History:** 1966, Act 261, Eff. Mar. 10, 1967;—Am. 1969, Act 137, Eff. Mar. 20, 1970.

**46.411 Candidate for office of county commissioner; qualifications; nomination; filing fee; eligibility.**

Sec. 11. A candidate for the office of county commissioner shall be a resident and registered voter of the district that he or she seeks to represent and shall remain a resident and registered voter to hold his or her office, if elected. Nominations and elections for commissioners shall be by partisan elections. In order for the name of a candidate for nomination for the office of county commissioner to appear on the official primary ballot, a nominating petition or \$100.00 filing fee shall be filed with the county clerk. The nominating petition shall have been signed by a number of qualified and registered electors residing within the district as determined under section 544f of the Michigan election law, 1954 PA 116, MCL 168.544f. The deadline for filing nomination petitions or filing fees is the same as for a candidate for state representative. A person who has been convicted of a violation of section 12a(1) of 1941 PA 370, MCL 38.412a, is not eligible to be a county commissioner for 20 years after the conviction.

**History:** 1966, Act 261, Eff. Mar. 10, 1967;—Am. 1969, Act 137, Eff. Mar. 20, 1970;—Am. 1982, Act 504, Eff. Mar. 30, 1983;—Am. 2002, Act 158, Eff. Jan. 1, 2003.

**46.411a County board of commissioners; candidates for office, filing fees, returns and forfeitures.**

Sec. 11a. For candidates paying a filing fee in lieu of filing petitions under section 11, the filing fees shall be returned to all such candidates who shall be nominated and to a like number of candidates who are next highest in order thereto in the number of votes received in the primary election; and in case 2 or more candidates shall tie in having the lowest number of votes allowing a refund hereunder, the sum of \$100.00 shall be divided or prorated among them. The deposits of all other defeated candidates, as well as the deposits of all candidates who may withdraw or be disqualified, shall be forfeited and the candidates shall be notified of the forfeitures.

**History:** Add. 1969, Act 284, Eff. Mar. 20, 1970.

**46.411b Violation of MCL 168.1 to 168.992 applicable to petitions; penalties.**

Sec. 11b. A petition under section 11, including the circulation and signing of the petition, is subject to section 488 of the Michigan election law, 1954 PA 116, MCL 168.488. A person who violates a provision of the Michigan election law, 1954 PA 116, MCL 168.1 to 168.992, applicable to a petition described in this section is subject to the penalties prescribed for that violation in the Michigan election law, 1954 PA 116, MCL 168.1 to 168.992.

**History:** Add. 1998, Act 203, Eff. Mar. 23, 1999.

**46.412 Vacancy in office of commissioner; appointment; special election.**

Sec. 12. (1) When a vacancy occurs in the office of commissioner by death, resignation, removal from the district, or removal from office, the vacancy shall be filled by appointment within 30 days by the county board of commissioners of a resident and registered voter of that district. A person who has been convicted of a violation of section 12a(1) of 1941 PA 370, MCL 38.412a, shall not be eligible for appointment to the office of county commissioner for a period of 20 years after conviction. Subject to subsection (2), the person appointed to fill a vacancy shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.

(2) A special election scheduled for August 6, 2013 by a county board of commissioners to fill a vacancy

in the office of commissioner that occurred in 2013 before the effective date of the amendatory act that added this subsection shall be held, and the person elected at the special election held on August 6, 2013 to fill the vacancy in the office of commissioner shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.

**History:** 1966, Act 261, Eff. Mar. 10, 1967;—Am. 1969, Act 137, Eff. Mar. 20, 1970;—Am. 1972, Act 180, Imd. Eff. June 17, 1972;—Am. 1978, Act 18, Imd. Eff. Feb. 15, 1978;—Am. 1982, Act 504, Eff. Mar. 30, 1983;—Am. 2013, Act 84, Imd. Eff. June 28, 2013.

#### **46.413 Failure to fill vacancy; special election.**

Sec. 13. (1) If the county board of commissioners does not fill a vacancy in the office of commissioner as provided in section 12 within 30 days, that vacancy shall be filled by a special election. The special election shall be called by the county board of commissioners.

(2) The person elected at the special election to fill the vacancy in the office of commissioner shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.

**History:** Add. 2013, Act 84, Imd. Eff. June 28, 2013.

#### **46.414 Repeal; effective date; validity of actions.**

Sec. 14. Section 27 of Act No. 279 of the Public Acts of 1909, as amended, being section 117.27 of the Compiled Laws of 1948, is repealed. This section shall become effective in any county upon taking office of supervisors elected pursuant to this act. Any action taken by any board of supervisors shall not be invalid solely due to the provisions of this section.

**History:** 1966, Act 261, Eff. Mar. 10, 1967;—Am. 1968, Act 153, Imd. Eff. June 13, 1968.

#### **46.415 County board of commissioners; compensation and mileage reimbursement of members.**

Sec. 15. (1) A member of the county board of commissioners shall receive the compensation and mileage reimbursement fixed by resolution of the county board of commissioners or for a county which has a county officers compensation commission, fixed by a determination of the county officers compensation commission which is not rejected.

(2) The per mile mileage reimbursement fixed by the county board of commissioners or the county officers compensation commission shall not exceed the mileage reimbursement set for state officers as determined by the state officers compensation commission.

(3) Except as provided under subsection (5), changes in compensation shall become effective only after the time members of the county board of commissioners commence their terms of office after a general election, provided that it is voted upon before the commencement of the new terms of office, or for a county which has a county officers compensation commission, after the beginning of the first odd numbered year after the determination is made by the county officers compensation commission and is not rejected.

(4) This section shall not be construed to prohibit a structured change in compensation implemented in phases over the term of office.

(5) A change in compensation under subsections (1) and (3) may be made in 2005 to be effective on or after January 1, 2006.

(6) As used in this section, "compensation" shall not include mileage reimbursement.

**History:** 1966, Act 261, Eff. Mar. 10, 1967;—Am. 1968, Act 153, Imd. Eff. June 13, 1968;—Am. 1969, Act 137, Eff. Mar. 20, 1970;—Am. 1975, Act 207, Imd. Eff. Aug. 21, 1975;—Am. 1978, Act 476, Eff. Dec. 1, 1978;—Am. 1980, Act 187, Imd. Eff. July 3, 1980;—Am. 2005, Act 20, Imd. Eff. May 5, 2005.

#### **46.416 References to county supervisors deemed to mean county commissioners.**

Sec. 16. All references to county supervisors or county boards of supervisors in any other act shall be deemed to mean county commissioners and county boards of commissioners as established by this act and such county boards of commissioners shall be the county board of supervisors referred to in article 7 of the state constitution.

**History:** Add. 1969, Act 137, Eff. Mar. 20, 1970.

**SAGINAW COUNTY COMMISSION DISTRICTS  
PRECINCTS INCLUDED  
BOUNDARY DESCRIPTIONS  
Adopted 5-20-2011**

**District 1:** Precincts: Kochville, Saginaw Township 12, Thomas Township 1, Tittabawassee Township 1, 2, 3, 4.

Description: Starting at the northwest corner of Tittabawassee Township, east on Hotchkiss to Hospital, south on Hospital to Freeland, east on Freeland to northeast corner of Kochville Township, south to Kochville/Zilwaukee Township line, follow township line west then south to Venoy, south on Venoy to Tittabawassee, west on Tittabawassee to Bay, south on Bay to McCarty, west on McCarty to Lawndale, north on Lawndale to the Tittabawassee River, southeast on Tittabawassee River to a point approximately 570' northwest of Frost and River Road the southwesterly to River Road, southeast on River Road to Frost , then along the southerly line of the Freeland School District to Orr, north along Orr to southwest corner of Tittabawassee Township, north on west line of Tittabawassee Township to the northwest corner of Tittabawassee Township.

**District 2:** Precincts: Carrollton Township 1, 2, Saginaw City 13, Saginaw Township 10 and 11, Zilwaukee City, Zilwaukee Township.

Description: Starting at Mackinaw and Weiss, north on Mackinaw to McCarty, east on McCarty to Bay, north on Bay to Tittabawassee, east on Tittabawassee to Venoy, north on Venoy to Kochville/Zilwaukee Township line, follow township line east and then north to Freeland Road (Bay/Saginaw County line), east on Freeland to east line of Zilwaukee Township, south on east line of Zilwaukee Township to south line Zilwaukee Township, west on south line Zilwaukee Township to the Saginaw River, southwesterly along the Saginaw River to I-675 then northwest along I-675 to a point where I-675 if extended would intersect Clark, west along Clark to Stone, north on Stone to the north line of Saginaw City Precinct 14, west on said north line to the northwest corner of Precinct 14, south on west line of Precinct 14 to State, west on State to Avon, north on Avon to Weiss, west on Weiss to Mackinaw.

**District 3:** Precincts: Saginaw Township 4, 7, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15, 16.

Description: Starting at the intersection of the Tittabawassee River and Tittabawassee Road, east on Tittabawassee Road to Lawndale, south on Lawndale to McCarty, east on McCarty to Mackinaw, south on Mackinaw to Weiss, west on Weiss to the east line of Section 16 T12N-R4E, south on said east line to Passolt, south on Passolt to State, west on State to Sullivan, south on Sullivan to Swarthout, west on Swarthout to Hawthorne, south on Hawthorne to Brockway, northwest on Brockway to Lawndale, north on

Lawndale to State, west on State to the Tittabawassee River, northwest on Tittabawassee River to Tittabawassee Road.

**District 4:** Precincts: James Township, Saginaw City 10, 20, Saginaw Township 1, 5, 6, Spaulding Township.

Description: Starting at the southwest corner of James Township, north along west line of James Township to Ederer, east on Ederer to River, north on River to the northwest corner of James Township, east on the north line of James Township to the Tittabawassee River, northerly on the Tittabawassee River to State, east on State to Lawndale, south on Lawndale to Brockway, easterly on Brockway to Center, south on Center to Gratiot, east on Gratiot to Westchester, south on Westchester to Crutchfield, east on Crutchfield to Foxboro, south on Foxboro to Dartmouth, west on Dartmouth to Westchester, north on Westchester to Draper, west on Draper to Somerset, south on Somerset to Sudbury, west on Sudbury to Stoneham, north on Stoneham to Draper, west on Draper to Center, south on Center to the north line of Section 23 T12N-R4E, east along said north line to the northeast corner of Section 33, south along the east line of Section 33 to the north line of the Saginaw City Precinct 20, along said north line to Michigan and Stewart, southeast on Stewart to Salt, southeast along Stewart if extended to the Saginaw River, north on Saginaw River to Hess, east on Hess to Marion, south on Marion to Williamson, southeast on Williamson to Treanor, east on Treanor to Sheridan, south on Sheridan to the southeast corner of Spaulding Township, west on the south line of Spaulding Township to the southwest corner of James Township.

**District 5:** Precincts: Jonesfield Township, Lakefield Township, Richland Township 1, 2, Thomas Township 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7.

Description: Starting at the southwest corner of Lakefield Township, north on the west line of Saginaw County to the northwest corner of Jonesfield Township, east on the north line of Jonesfield Township to the northwest corner of Richland Township, east on the north line of Richland Township to the northeast corner of Richland Township, then south on Orr Road to the south line of the Freeland School District, east along said school district line to the Tittabawassee River, south along the Tittabawassee River to the north line of James Township, west on the north line to River Road, south on River Road to Ederer, west on Ederer to the northwest corner of Swan Creek Township, west along the north of Swan Creek Township to the north line of Fremont Township, west along the north line of Fremont Township to the east line of Lakefield Township, south along the East line of Lakefield Township to the south line of Lakefield Township, west on the south line of Lakefield township to the southwest corner of Lakefield Township.

**District 6:** Precincts: Brady Township, Brant Township, Chapin Township, Chesaning Township 1, 2, Fremont Township, Marion Township, St. Charles Township Precinct 1, 2, Swan Creek Township.

Description: Starting at the southwest corner of Saginaw County thence north on west line of Saginaw County to the north line of Marion Township, east on north line of Marion Township to the northeast corner of Marion Township, north along the west line of Fremont Township to Ederer Road, east on Ederer Road to the northwest corner of James Township, south on west line of James Township to the south line of James Township, east along the south line of James Township to the northeast corner of St. Charles Township, south along the East line of St. Charles Township to the northeast corner of Chesaning Township, south long the east line of Chesaning Township to the south line of Saginaw County, west along the south line of Saginaw County to the southwest corner of Saginaw County.

**District 7:** Precincts: Albee Township, Birch Run Township 1, 2, Bridgeport Township 3, 4, Maple Grove Township, Taymouth Township 1, 2.

Description: Starting at the southwest corner of Maple Grove Township, thence north on the west line of Maple Grove Township to the southwest corner of Albee Township, north on the west line of Albee Township to the northwest corner of Albee Township, east along the north line of Albee Township to the southwest corner of Bridgeport Township, north on the west line of Bridgeport Township to Williamson, southeast on Williamson to Studor, north on Studor ro King, east on King to Dixie Highway, southeast on Dixie Highway to Elmport, west on Elmport to Mapleport, south on Mapleport to Williamson, southeast on Williamson to railroad, south on railroad to the Cass River, thence along the Cass River to the west line of Frankenmuth Township, south on the west line of Frankenmuth Township to Townline Road, east along Townline Road to Dixie Highway, southeast on Dixie Highway to Canada Road, east along Canada Road to Reese Road, south along Reese Road to Willard, west on Willard to Sheridan, south on Sheridan to Johnstone, west on Johnstone to the southwest corner of Maple Grove Township.

**District 8:** Precincts: Birch Run Township 3, Blumfield Township, Bridgeport Township 1, 2, 5, Buena Vista Township 1, Frankenmuth Township 1, 2, Frankenmuth City 1, 2.

Description: Starting at Veterans Memorial Parkway and the south line of Zilwaukee Township, east on said south to the westerly line of Buena Vista Township, north on the westerly line of Buena Vista Township to the north line of Buena Vista Township, east on the north line of Buena Vista Township to the east line of Buena Vista Township, south on said east line to Reimer, south on Reimer to Krabbe, west on Krabbe to Reimer, south on Reimer to the northwest corner of Blumfield Township, east along the north line of Blumfield Township to Reese Road and the east line of Blumfield Township, south on said east line to Canada Road, west on Canada Road to Dixie Highway, northwest on Dixie Highway to Townline Road, west on Townline to the west line of Frankenmuth Township, north on the west line of Frankenmuth Township to the Cass River, northerly on the Cass River to CSX railroad bridge, north on CSX rail line to Williamson, northwesterly on Williamson to Mapleport, north on Mapleport to Elmport, east on

Elmport to Dixie Highway, northwesterly on Dixie Highway to King , west on King to Dixie Highway, northwesterly on Dixie Highway to Cora, northeasterly on Cora to the City Limits, City of Saginaw, follow the City Limits east and north to the south line of Buena Vista Township, east on the south line of Buena Vista Township to Reimer and Bradley, north on Reimer to Holland, west on Holland to I-75, north on I-75 to Veterans Memorial Parkway, north on Veterans Memorial Parkway to the south line of Zilwaukee Township. Also: Starting at the intersection of the most northwesterly line of East Outer Drive and Williamson, northwesterly on Williamson to Sheridan, north on Sheridan to Treanor, east on Treanor to the City Limit of the City of Saginaw, due south from said intersection to east Outer Drive, southwest on East Outer Drive following along the most northwesterly branch thereof to Williamson.

**District 9:** Precincts: Buena Vista Township 2, 3, 4, 5, Saginaw City 2, 3, 6, 7, 8.

Description: Starting at the southeast corner of Buena Vista Township, west on the south line of Buena Vista Township to the City Limits of the City of Saginaw, follow the City Limit line to its intersection with Williamson , northwesterly on Williamson to Marion, north on Marion to Wisner, east on Wisner to Jefferson, north on Jefferson to Hiland, east on Hiland to Owen, north on Owen to Webber, east on Webber to Sheridan, north on Sheridan to railroad, east on railroad to Genesee, north on Genesee to Hartsuff, east on Hartsuff to 15<sup>th</sup>, north on 15<sup>th</sup> to Perkins, east on Perkins to 15<sup>th</sup>, north on 15<sup>th</sup> to Walnut, east on Walnut to 15<sup>th</sup>, north on 15<sup>th</sup> to Janes, west on Janes to 15<sup>th</sup>, north on 15<sup>th</sup> to Lapeer, east on Lapeer to railroad, northwesterly on railroad to intersection with Wadsworth if extended to west side of railroad, east on Wadsworth if extended from the west to the eastern side of the railroad, then due north from said point to the Saginaw River, northeasterly on the Saginaw River to the south line of Zilwaukee Township, east on the north line of Zilwaukee Township to Veterans Memorial Parkway, south on Veterans Memorial Parkway to the south bound off ramp I-75, south on I-75 to Holland, east on Holland to Reimer, south on Reimer to the southeast corner of Buena Vista Township.

**District 10:** Precincts: Saginaw City 1, 4A, 4B, 5, 11, 12, 14, 15, 18B.

Description: Starting at the northwest corner of the City of Saginaw, east on Weiss to Avon, south on Avon to State, east on State to a line 125' east of Mason and running parallel to it, north on said line to an intersection with the line of Pleasant Street if extended west, east to Pleasant Street then east on Pleasant Street to Stone, south on Stone to Clark, east on Clark to Eddy, southeasterly from said point to the intersection of Davenport and south bound I-675, east on south bound I-675 to the Saginaw River, northeasterly on the Saginaw River to a point due north of the intersection of Wadsworth if extended to the east side of the railroad, south to said point of intersection of Wadsworth if extended and the east side of the railroad, southerly along the railroad to Lapeer, west on Lapeer to 15<sup>th</sup>, south on 15<sup>th</sup> to Janes, east on Janes to 15<sup>th</sup>, south on 15<sup>th</sup> to Walnut, west on Walnut to 15<sup>th</sup>, south on 15<sup>th</sup> to Perkins, west on Perkins to 15<sup>th</sup>, south

on 15<sup>th</sup> to Hartsuff, west on Hartsuff to Genesee, south on Genesee to railroad, west on railroad to Sheridan, south on Sheridan to Holland, west on Holland to the Saginaw River, south on the Saginaw River to Court, northerly on Court to Bay, north on Bay to Congress, west on Congress to Mackinaw, north on Mackinaw to State, west on State to Passolt, north on Passolt to Weiss.

**District 11**: Precincts: Saginaw City 9, 16, 17, 18A, 19, Saginaw Township 2, 3.

Description: Starting at the intersection of the railroad and South Center Road at the south west corner of Section 28 T12N-R4E, north on South Center to Draper, east on Draper to Stoneham, south on Stoneham to Sudbury, east on Sudbury to Somerset, north on Somerset to Draper, east on Draper to Westchester, south on Westchester to Dartmouth, east on Dartmouth to Foxboro, north on Foxboro to Crutchfield, west on Crutchfield to south bound Westchester, north on south bound Westchester to Gratiot, west on Gratiot to Center, north on Center to Brockway, southeast on Brockway to Hawthorne, north on Hawthorne to Swarthout, east on Swarthout to Sullivan, north on Sullivan to State, east on State to Mackinaw, south on Mackinaw to Congress, northeasterly on Congress to Bay, south on Bay to Court, southeast on Court to the Saginaw River, northeast on the Saginaw River to Holland, east on Holland to Sheridan, south on Sheridan to Webber, west on Webber to Owen, south on Owen to Hiland, west on Hiland to Jefferson, south on Jefferson to Wisner, west on Wisner to Marion, south on Marion to Hess, west on Hess to the Saginaw River, south on the Saginaw River to a point where Stewart Street if extended would intersect the river, northwesterly from said point to Stewart and Salt, northwesterly on Stewart to Michigan, follow north and west along the north line of Saginaw City Precinct 20 to the south line of Section 28 T12N-R4E, west on said south line to South Center Road.

# **NOTICE**

## **SAGINAW COUNTY APPORTIONMENT BOARD ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

**Saginaw County Governmental Center  
Board of Commissioners Conference Room  
2<sup>nd</sup> Level  
111 S. Michigan  
Saginaw, MI**

**Thursday, March 10, 2011  
10:00 a.m.**

**Posted: March 3, 2011  
Susan Kaltenbach, Saginaw County Clerk**



SAGINAW COUNTY APPORTIONMENT COMMITTEE  
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING  
MINUTES

March 10, 2011

Saginaw County Governmental Center  
Board of Commissioners Conference Room A/B

The meeting was called to order by Saginaw County Clerk, Susan Kaltenbach at 10:00 a.m.

Present: Treasurer Marvin Hare, Prosecutor Michael Thomas, Republican Party Chairperson Ms. Helene Wiltse and Democratic Party Chairperson Ms. Garnet Lewis.

Also Present: Dan Hoffmann, Geographic Information System (GIS); Johnathan Miller, Saginaw County ISS; Barry Barber, the Saginaw News; Donald Milne, Republican Party mapping support and Chief Deputy County Clerk, Thressa Zolton.

Introductions were made and a copy of the agenda, duties of the County Apportionment Commission, a copy of the Rules of Procedure used by the Apportionment Commission of 2001 and current written descriptions of Commissioners Districts was presented to each member.

Clerk Kaltenbach reviewed the duties of the County Apportionment Commission with committee members.

The Rules and Procedures document of 2001 was reviewed and the following changes were made to reflect the method of operation for this year's commission. Motion by Marvin Hare supported by Garnet Lewis to add to rule number 2 the following words "except prisoner population". Motion carried. Motion by Marvin Hare supported by Garnet Lewis to add to the Rules of Procedure a rule number 15 that reads "Rule could be amended by majority vote at meeting where a quorum is present". Motion carried. Motion by Garnet Lewis supported by Marvin Hare to accept the Rules of Procedure as amended which carried unanimously.

Clerk Kaltenbach opened the floor for any public comments. There were no public comments.

Clerk Kaltenbach called for nominations for Chairperson of the 2011 Apportionment Commission. Helene Wiltse nominated Clerk Sue Kaltenbach to serve as Chairperson of the 2011 Apportionment Commission. Mike Thomas supported the motion. Motion carried.

The following meeting dates were set by the committee:

Friday, April 8, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.

Monday, April 18, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.

Monday, April 25, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.

The Apportionment Committee meetings will take place in Emergency Operation Center (EOC) training room located on the lower level of the Saginaw County Governmental Center. Johnathan Miller (ISS) will arrange for use of the EOC training room.

Chairperson Kaltenbach informed committee members that Michigan has not received any Census 2010 data yet. When the Secretary of State receives the data, it will be sent to counties in an electronic format. Counties will have 60 days upon receipt of the data to develop a plan. Kaltenbach informed the committee members that she had received a \$3,400 quote from AutoBound Redistricting Software. This is the same software that the State will be using for redistricting. Autobound is a complete network ready redistricting solution covering every aspect of redistricting from the initial database development to final plan analysis. It is compatible with GIS. Johnathan Miller, ISS, explained the software would be on a central server which would allow committee members access from their county office or a county computer. Chairperson Kaltenbach informed committee members the county does not have a specific budget for the Apportionment Commission but the County Apportionment Commission is funded by the county; and Controller, Marc McGill, has stated that funding for this purchase is available. Motion by Garnet Lewis supported by Marvin Hare to purchase the AutoBound Redistricting Software at a cost of \$3,400. Motion carried with Helene Wiltse voting no.

From the discussion Dan Hoffmann (GIS) will meet with committee members to help them create their plan for redistricting using the software.

Meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Recorded by Thressa Zolton, Chief Deputy County Clerk

# SAGINAW COUNTY APPORTIONMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

April 8, 2011

Saginaw County Governmental Center  
Emergency Management Meeting Room

The meeting was called to order by Saginaw County Clerk, Susan Kaltenbach at 10:00 a.m.

Present: Treasurer Marvin Hare, Prosecutor Michael Thomas, Republican Party Chairperson Ms. Helene Wiltse and Democratic Party Chairperson Ms. Garnet Lewis.

Also Present: Dan Hoffmann, Geographic Information System (GIS); Johnathan Miller, Saginaw County ISS; Larry Sims, County Commissioner Eddie Foxx and Chief Deputy County Clerk, Thressa Zolton.

Motion by Hare, supported by Lewis to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2011 meeting as presented.

Chairperson Kaltenbach read the official letter dated April 6, 2011, from the Secretary of State, Ruth Johnson which included the U.S. Census Bureau's Web site: <http://www.census.gov> where the data is available. The County Apportionment Commission must complete the redistricting of county commissioner districts established in our county no later than June 6, 2011.

Chairperson Kaltenbach asked for Public Comments.

Larry Sims asked that the committee look at reducing the number of commissioners with the reduction of population and the present budget. Mr. Sims informed committee members that Dave's Redistricting software is free on the internet and will do all the breakout of information that is needed.

Members discussed whether the Freeland prisoners had been deleted from our data. Mike Thomas will contact the proper authorities and then contact members with the correct prisoner population which would need to be deleted.

Dan Hoffmann reviewed with members the AutoBound Redistricting Software which we purchased to use for districting. Dan has not had time to review all the information. There was also discussion on members being able to use the software on their home computers. Dan stated that the software could only be on the GIS computer and laptop.

Discussion took place on the percentage of minority population and what parts should be used in the makeup of the districts. The Department of Justice requires the black and Hispanic percentages be submitted to them in districts which involve Buena Vista Township.

A review of past, present and future County Commissioner districts took place. When Saginaw County went from Supervisors to Commissioners, they went with 21 Commissioner districts. In 1970 that number was reduced to 15 Commissioners as is in effect today. Discussion of the pros and cons of downsizing the number of commissioners followed.

Motion by Lewis, supported by Hare to cancel the April 18<sup>th</sup> meeting to allow members to draw plans to submit. The next meeting will be April 25<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Recorded by Thressa Zolton, Chief Deputy County Clerk

SAGINAW COUNTY APPORTIONMENT COMMITTEE  
MINUTES

April 25, 2011

Saginaw County Governmental Center  
Emergency Management Meeting Room

The meeting was called to order by Saginaw County Clerk, Susan Kaltenbach at 10:00 a.m.

Present: Treasurer Marvin Hare, Prosecutor Michael Thomas, Republican Party  
Chairperson Ms. Helene Wiltse and Democratic Party Chairperson Ms. Garnet  
Lewis.

Also Present: Dan Hoffmann, Geographic Information System (GIS); Johnathan Miller,  
Saginaw County ISS; Sherrill Smith, League of Women Voters, Larry Sims,  
Barry Barber, Saginaw News Reporter and Chief Deputy County Clerk, Thressa  
Zolton.

Motion by Hare, supported by Lewis to approve the minutes of the April 8, 2011 meeting as  
presented. Motion Carried

Chairperson Kaltenbach asked for Public Comments. There was no public comment.

Chairperson Kaltenbach informed members the deviation percentage to use for their plans is  
11.5% or plus or minus 5.95%. Total population for Saginaw County is 200,169 minus 1,486  
prisoners leaving a total 198,683.

There were no proposed plans submitted.

Mr. Thomas stated his case for reducing the number of county commissioners.

The next meeting date will be May 13, 2011 at 9:00 a.m.

Motion by Wiltse, supported by Lewis to adjourn the meeting at 10:29 a.m. Motion Carried.

Recorded by Thressa Zolton, Chief Deputy County Clerk

SAGINAW COUNTY APPORTIONMENT COMMITTEE  
MINUTES

May 13, 2011

Saginaw County Governmental Center  
Emergency Management Meeting Room

The meeting was called to order by Saginaw County Clerk, Susan Kaltenbach at 9:00 a.m.

Present: Treasurer Marvin Hare, Prosecutor Michael Thomas, Republican Party Chairperson Ms. Helene Wiltse and Democratic Party Chairperson Ms. Garnet Lewis.

Also Present: Dan Hoffmann, Geographic Information System (GIS); Bill Jeruski, GIS Technician; Leola Wilson, Larry Sims, Barry Barber, Saginaw News Reporter and Chief Deputy County Clerk, Thressa Zolton.

Motion by Lewis, supported by Wiltse to approve the minutes of the April 25, 2011 meeting as presented.  
Motion Carried

Chairperson Kaltenbach asked for Public Comments. There was no public comment.

Chairperson Kaltenbach informed members there is a Federal halfway house which houses 18 people which was not removed from the census total. Total census population number which will be used is 198,201.

Chairperson Kaltenbach passed out plans submitted by Hare, Wiltse and Thomas. Hare's plan proposes 11 districts which meets the population standards within the prescribed levels of deviation. The plan seems to consider the minority district needs and keep municipalities together which should satisfy the Department of Justice Section V where our final plan must be submitted. No precincts are split.

Lewis called for the number of commission district which the committee wanted to use for Saginaw County. Motion by Lewis, supported by Hare, to make 11 commission districts. Motion failed with Hare and Lewis voting yes.

The committee continued to review the other plans which had been submitted.

Wiltse's plans of a 5, 9 and 11 districts and Thomas' plan of a 5 district were presented. Thomas also had a 7 plan which he submitted which had not been given yet to GIS to be presented in that format.

Due to the lack of time for all members to thoroughly review all of the information presented, Chairperson Kaltenbach requested everyone review the plans that have been presented and the committee agreed to meet again on Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.

Motion by Hare, supported by Wiltse to adjourn the meeting at 10:44 a.m. Motion Carried.

Recorded by Thressa Zolton, Chief Deputy County Clerk

SAGINAW COUNTY APPORTIONMENT COMMITTEE  
MINUTES

May 20, 2011  
Saginaw County Governmental Center  
Emergency Management Meeting Room

The meeting was called to order by Saginaw County Clerk, Susan Kaltenbach at 9:05 a.m.

Present: Treasurer Marvin Hare, Prosecutor Michael Thomas, Republican Party Chairperson Ms. Helene Wiltse and Democratic Party Chairperson Ms. Garnet Lewis.

Also Present: Dan Hoffmann, Geographic Information System (GIS); Ann Doyle, Saginaw County Commissioner; Sherrill Smith, Larry Sims, Barry Barber, Saginaw News Reporter and Chief Deputy County Clerk, Thressa Zolton.

Motion by Wiltse, supported by Hare to approve the minutes of the May 13, 2011 meeting as presented. Motion Carried

Received and filed a letter from Adam Pavlik urging the committee to consider increasing the size of the Board to the statutory maximum of 21.

Chairperson Kaltenbach asked for Public Comments. There was no public comment.

Thomas passed out his proposed plan of 9 districts. Chairperson Kaltenbach, informed committee members the proposed plan doesn't not meet the population standards within the prescribed levels of deviation in precinct 1.

Wiltse presented her proposal for 9 districts which meets the population standards within the prescribed level of deviation.

Motion by Wiltse to accept her proposed 5 plan failed due to lack of support.

Motion by Wiltse to accept her proposed 9 plan failed due to lack of support.

Motion by Hare, supported by Lewis to approve Hare's proposed 11 districts which meets the population standards within the prescribed levels of deviation. The plan seems to consider the minority district needs and keep municipalities together which should satisfy the Department of Justice Section V where our final plan must be submitted. No precincts are split. There was no discussion. Motion carried 4 to 1 with Wiltse voting no.

Chairperson Kaltenbach informed committee members once the county apportionment commission adopts an apportionment plan and files it with the county clerk, each county clerk must file a copy of the plan to the Secretary of State. County clerks must include the following with the filing:

Copy of the resolution adopting the redistricting plan;  
A map showing the new district lines;  
District populations;  
A description of the new district boundaries

Chairperson Kaltenbach asked for Public Comments. A question was asked if the adopted plan precinct numbers would stay the same. Consensus of committee members was to leave the numbers as presented on the map of the plan.

Motion by Lewis, supported by Hare to adjourn the meeting at 9:23 a.m. Motion Carried.

Recorded by Thressa Zolton, Chief Deputy County Clerk



## **CERTIFICATION**

**State of Michigan)**

**County of Saginaw)**

I, THE UNDERSIGNED, THE DULY QUALIFIED AND ACTING CLERK OF SAGINAW COUNTY, MICHIGAN, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ATTACHED MINUTES ARE A TRUE AND COMPLETE COPY OF THE PROCEEDINGS TAKEN AT A MEETING OF THE SAGINAW COUNTY APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION HELD ON THE 20<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MAY, 2011. THE ORIGINAL IS ON FILE IN MY OFFICE. I FURTHER CERTIFY THAT NOTICE OF SAID MEETING WAS GIVEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT.

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**SAGINAW COUNTY CLERK**

SAGINAW COUNTY APPORTIONMENT  
COMMITTEE  
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING  
AGENDA

June 6, 2011  
3:30 p.m.  
111 S. Michigan Ave.  
Saginaw County Governmental Center  
Board of Commissioners' Conference Room  
2<sup>nd</sup> Level

- I. Approval of minutes from May 20, 2011 meeting
- II. Approval of Resolution to forward adopted plan to Secretary of State and  
U. S. Department of Justice

**RESOLUTION**

**SAGINAW COUNTY APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION**

**COUNTY OF SAGINAW**

**Re: APPROVING THE FINAL REAPPORTIONMENT PLAN TO TAKE EFFECT JANUARY 1, 2013 FOR COUNTY COMMISSION DISTRICTS BASED ON THE 2010 CENSUS**

**PRESENT:** *Susan Kaltenbach, Saginaw County Clerk; Marvin Hare, Saginaw County Treasurer; Michael Thomas, Saginaw County Prosecutor; Helene Wiltse, Saginaw County Republican Party Chair.*

**ABSENT:** *Garnet Lewis, Saginaw County Democratic Party Chair*

Motion by Hare to adopt the following resolution. Seconded by Wiltse.

At a meeting held on Monday, June 6, 2011 at 3:30 p.m., in the office of the Saginaw County Board of Commissioners, 111 S. Michigan Ave., Saginaw, Michigan

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Michigan Public Act 261 of 1966, each county in Michigan shall determine the number of commissioners needed to conduct the business of the county through the apportionment process every ten years based on the Federal Census;

WHEREAS, the Apportionment Commission met 5 times in public posted meetings for this process to review the various plans submitted;

WHEREAS, the Commission reviewed each plan as to the State requirements for Apportionment, as well as, the requirements of the Federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, Section 5, in which Buena Vista Township is a "covered jurisdiction";

WHEREAS, the Commission voted to accept the Final Saginaw County Redistricting Plan on May 20, 2011 by a vote of 4 to 1 which apportioned Saginaw County into 11 districts of approximately 18,018 people within the State required deviation of +/- 5.95%;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Saginaw County Apportionment Commission hereby approves the submission of the Final Saginaw County Redistricting Plan as the final apportionment plan for Saginaw County to the Saginaw County Clerk, the Secretary of State of Michigan and the U. S. Department of Justice as required by the Federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, Section 5.

**SAGINAW COUNTY APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION**

Susan Kaltenbach, Chair

**ADOPTED: 4 Yeas, 0 Nays**

Yeas: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Nays: \_\_\_\_\_

### **CERTIFICATION**

**State of Michigan)**

**County of Saginaw)**

I, THE UNDERSIGNED, THE DULY QUALIFIED AND ACTING CLERK OF SAGINAW COUNTY, MICHIGAN, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ATTACHED RESOLUTION IS A TRUE AND COMPLETE COPY OF THE PROCEEDINGS TAKEN AT A MEETING OF THE SAGINAW COUNTY APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION HELD ON THE 6<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JUNE, 2011. THE ORIGINAL IS ON FILE IN MY OFFICE. I FURTHER CERTIFY THAT NOTICE OF SAID MEETING WAS GIVEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**SAGINAW COUNTY CLERK**

June 9, 2011

TO: Chief, Voting Section  
Civil Rights Division  
Room 7254-NWB  
Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Ave, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20530

FROM: Susan Kaltenbach, Saginaw County (MI) Clerk

RE: Reapportionment: 2011

I am submitting the new apportionment plan adopted for Saginaw County, Michigan as of May 20, 2011. Included in this submission are:

- A copy of the resolution adopting the redistricting plan;
- A map showing the new district lines;
- District populations;
- A description of the new district boundaries.

My understanding is that this submission is required for Buena Vista Township which is one of two "covered jurisdictions" in Michigan.

Our Apportionment Commission was very aware of the need to look at and keep the proper ethnic ratios. We went from 15 to 11 districts based on the 2010 Census. Each district has approximately 18,000 residents. There are no split precincts, they are contiguous and within the required variances.

Buena Vista will be served by 2 commissioners which is no different than the previous plans. Districts 8,9,10 all have possibilities of representation by the required ethnic groups under the Civil Rights Act.

I am available for questions, if needed: 989-790-5244 or [skaltenbach@saginawcounty.com](mailto:skaltenbach@saginawcounty.com)

# SAGINAW COUNTY APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION

## Rules of Procedure

1. In accordance with the law, three or more members of the Commission represent a quorum at any meeting. A majority vote of the quorum present is required to take action.
2. The sum of all cities, villages and townships in the county shall be used as the total county population figure in preparing a plan except prison populations: i.e. Saginaw Correctional Facility.
3. Only members of the Apportionment Commission may submit plans except as otherwise provided by law.
4. No one Apportionment Commissioner shall submit more than three plans.
5. Each plan submitted shall contain the following information:
  - A. Two Saginaw County maps clearly identifying each proposed Commissioner District. One map shall be made available for inspection in the Office of the County Clerk. The other map is the property of the Commission.
  - B. Seven copies of detailed census information clearly indicating the population figures in each proposed district. One copy shall be used for verification purposes, one copy shall be made available for inspection in the Office of the County Clerk, and the Chairman shall have one copy delivered to each of the five Commissioners for their consideration within 24 hours of receipt.
6. *word description* The Chairman shall have delivered to each member all census information within 24 hours after the date the Secretary of the State of Michigan certifies the federal census figures.
7. All plans shall be submitted to the Office of the County Clerk. The County Clerk's Office shall time stamp, assign a number and indicate the member's name on each plan received.

8. The member may make amendments to their plan for the purposes of making adjustments to district lines and/or population figures.
9. Errors found in the verification process of a plan submitted by a member shall be noted in writing; and the Chairman shall make six copies of the noted errors. One copy will be made available in the office of the County Clerk and one copy will be delivered to each of the five commissioners within 24 hours. If a plan is verified as being correct, the Chairman shall have each member notified by telephone or writing. Correction of errors shall be made by the author in the form of an amendment to his/her plan.
10. Amendments shall be delivered to the office of County Clerk within 28 days after the date the Secretary of State certifies the census.
11. Amendments to each plan shall contain the same information required in number 5 (A) and (B) of these Rules of Procedure, as well as, the member's name and the assigned plan number.
12. A final plan shall be verified and approved by the Commission within 60 days from the date the Secretary of State certifies the census.
13. Meetings of the Commission shall be set as follows:
  - A. Upon call of the Chairman
  - B. Upon a signed written request to the Chairman by three members of the Commission.
  - C. Upon a majority vote of the members present at a meeting
14. All members called shall conform to the Open Meetings Act.
15. Rules could be amended by majority vote at a meeting where a quorum is present.

Revised: March 10, 2011

**GRAND TRAVESRE COUNTY  
APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION**

**2021 RULES OF PROCEDURE**

1. In accordance with the law, three or more members of the Commission represent a quorum at any meeting. A majority vote of the quorum present is required so that action can be taken.
2. The sum of all cities, villages, and townships in the County shall be used as the total County population figure in preparing the plan.
3. Only members of the Commission may submit plans except as otherwise provided by law.
4. No one commissioner shall submit more than three plans.
5. Each plan submitted shall contain the following information:
  - A. One Grand Traverse County map that clearly identifies each proposed commissioner district shall be made available in the Office of the County Clerk and on the website for inspection purposes.
  - B. Seven copies of detailed census information that clearly indicates the population figures in each proposed district shall be made available. One copy shall be used for verification purposes. One copy shall be made available in the Office of the County Clerk for inspection purposes. The Chairman shall have one copy sent to each of the five commissioners within 24 hours after receipt for their consideration.
  - C. A word description of each district shall be made available for clarification purposes.
6. The County Clerk shall have delivered to each member all census information within 14 days after the effective date the Secretary of State of Michigan certified the Federal Census figures.
7. All plans shall be submitted to the Office of the County Clerk within 33 days after the effective date the Secretary of State certifies the census. The County Clerk's Office shall time stamp, assign a number and indicate the author's name on each plan received.
8. The author of each plan may make amendments to his or her plan for the purpose of making adjustments to the district lines and/or population figures.



9. Errors found in the verification process of a plan shall be noted in writing. The Chairman shall make six copies of the noted errors and shall have one copy made available in the Office of the County Clerk. One copy shall also be sent within 24 hours to each of the five commissioners. If a plan is verified as being correct, the chairman shall have each member notified in writing. Correction of errors shall be made by the author in the form of an amendment to the plan.
10. Amendments shall be delivered to the Office of the County Clerk within 40 days after the effective date the Secretary of State certifies the census.
11. Amendments to each plan shall contain the same information required in number 5A, 5B, and 5C of these Rules of Procedure as well as author's name and the assigned plan number.
12. A final plan shall be verified and approved by the commission within 60 days from the effective date the Secretary of State certifies the census.
13. Meetings of the Commission shall be set as follows:
  - A. upon call of the Chairman
  - B. upon a signed written request to the Chairman by three members
  - C. by majority vote of the members present at the meeting
14. All meetings called shall conform to the open meetings provision of the law.
  - A. Public Comment shall be at the beginning and end of the agenda and members of the public shall have three (3) minutes to speak.
15. The Commission shall forward any legal questions to the County's Deputy Civil Counsel for an opinion.

APPROVED BY THE APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION ON July 15, 2021

  
Chair  
Grand Traverse County Apportionment Commission

# Muskegon County 2021

## RULES OF PROCEDURE

1. Meetings of the Commission shall be set as follows:
  - A. Upon call of the Chairman
  - B. Upon a signed, written request to the Chairman by three members
  - C. By majority vote of the members present at the meeting
2. All meetings called shall conform to the open meetings provision of the law.
  - A. Public comments should be limited to 2 minutes per person.
3. In accordance with the law, MCL 450.2523 three or more members of the Commission represent a quorum at any meeting. A majority vote of the quorum present is required so that action can be taken.
4. A Public Hearing doesn't require a quorum because no policy will be set at these hearings.
5. The sum of all cities, townships and villages in the County shall be used as the total County population figure in preparing a plan.
6. Only, members of the Commission may submit plans except as otherwise provided by law. (MCL 46.407 sec 7)
7. No one commissioner shall submit more than two plans.
8. Each plan submitted shall contain the following information:
  - A. One Muskegon County map that clearly identifies each proposed commissioner district shall be made available in the Office of the County Clerk for inspection purposes.
  - B. Seven copies of detailed census information that clearly indicates the population figures in each proposed district shall be made available. One copy shall be used for verification purposes. One copy shall be made available in the Office of the County Clerk for inspection purposes. The Chairman shall have one copy sent to each of the five commissioners within 24 hours after receipt for their consideration.
  - C. A word description of each district shall be made available for clarification purposes.

9. The County Clerk shall have delivered to each member all census information within 14 days after the effective date the Secretary of State of Michigan certified the Federal Census figures.
10. All plans shall be submitted to the Office of the County Clerk within 33 days after the effective date the Secretary of State certifies the census. The County Clerk's Office shall time stamp, assign a number and indicate the author's name on each plan received.
11. The author of each plan may make amendments to his or her plan for the purpose of making adjustments to district lines and/or population figures. Amendments that basically represent a whole new plan shall not be permitted.
12. Errors found in the verification process of a plan shall be noted in writing. The Chairman shall make six copies of the noted errors and shall have one copy made available in the Office of the County Clerk. One copy shall also be sent within 24 hours to each of the five Commissioners. If a plan is verified as being correct, the Chairman shall have each member notified in writing. Correction of errors shall be made by the author in the form of an amendment to the plan.
13. Amendments shall be delivered to the Office of the County Clerk within 40 days after the effective date the Secretary of State certifies the census.
14. Amendments to each plan shall contain the same information required in number 5A, 5B and 5C of these Rules of Procedure as well as author's name and the assigned plan number.
15. A final plan shall be verified and approved by the Commission within 60 days from the effective date the Secretary of State certifies the census.

APPROVED BY THE APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION ON 6-16-2021

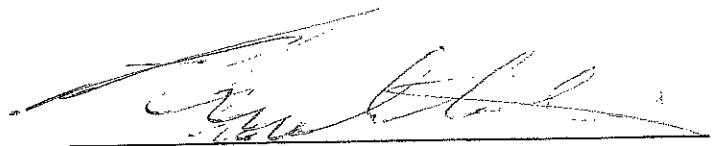
Muskegon County Apportionment Commission

## MUSKEGON COUNTY APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION RULES OF PROCEDURE

1. In accordance with the law, three or more members of the Commission represent a quorum at any meeting. A majority vote of the quorum present is required so that action can be taken.
2. The sum of all cities, townships and villages in the County shall be used as the total County population figure in preparing a plan.
3. Only, members of the Commission may submit plans except as otherwise provided by law.
4. No one commissioner shall submit more than two plans.
5. Each plan submitted shall contain the following information:
  - A. One Muskegon County map that clearly identifies each proposed commissioner district shall be made available in the Office of the County Clerk for inspection purposes.
  - B. Seven copies of detailed census information that clearly indicates the population figures in each proposed district shall be made available. One copy shall be used for verification purposes. One copy shall be made available in the Office of the County Clerk for inspection purposes. The Chairman shall have one copy sent to each of the five commissioners within 24 hours after receipt for their consideration.
  - C. A word description of each district shall be made available for clarification purposes.
6. The County Clerk shall have delivered to each member all census information within 14 days after the effective date the Secretary of State of Michigan certified the Federal Census figures.
7. All plans shall be submitted to the Office of the County Clerk within 33 days after the effective date the Secretary of State certifies the census. The County Clerk's Office shall time stamp, assign a number and indicate the author's name on each plan received.
8. The author of each plan may make amendments to his or her plan for the purpose of making adjustments to district lines and/or population figures. Amendments that basically represent a whole new plan shall not be permitted.

9. Errors found in the verification process of a plan shall be noted in writing. The Chairman shall make six copies of the noted errors and shall have one copy made available in the Office of the County Clerk. One copy shall also be sent within 24 hours to each of the five Commissioners. If a plan is verified as being correct, the Chairman shall have each member notified in writing. Correction of errors shall be made by the author in the form of an amendment to the plan.
10. Amendments shall be delivered to the Office of the County Clerk within 40 days after the effective date the Secretary of State certifies the census.
11. Amendments to each plan shall contain the same information required in number 5A, 5B and 5C of these Rules of Procedure as well as author's name and the assigned plan number.
12. A final plan shall be verified and approved by the Commission within 60 days from the effective date the Secretary of State certifies the census.
13. Meetings of the Commission shall be set as follows:
  - A. Upon call of the Chairman
  - B. Upon a signed, written request to the Chairman by three members
  - C. By majority vote of the members present at the meeting
14. All meetings called shall conform to the open meetings provision of the law.

APPROVED BY THE APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION ON February 23, 2011



Muskegon County Apportionment Commission  
Tony Moulatsiotis, Chairman









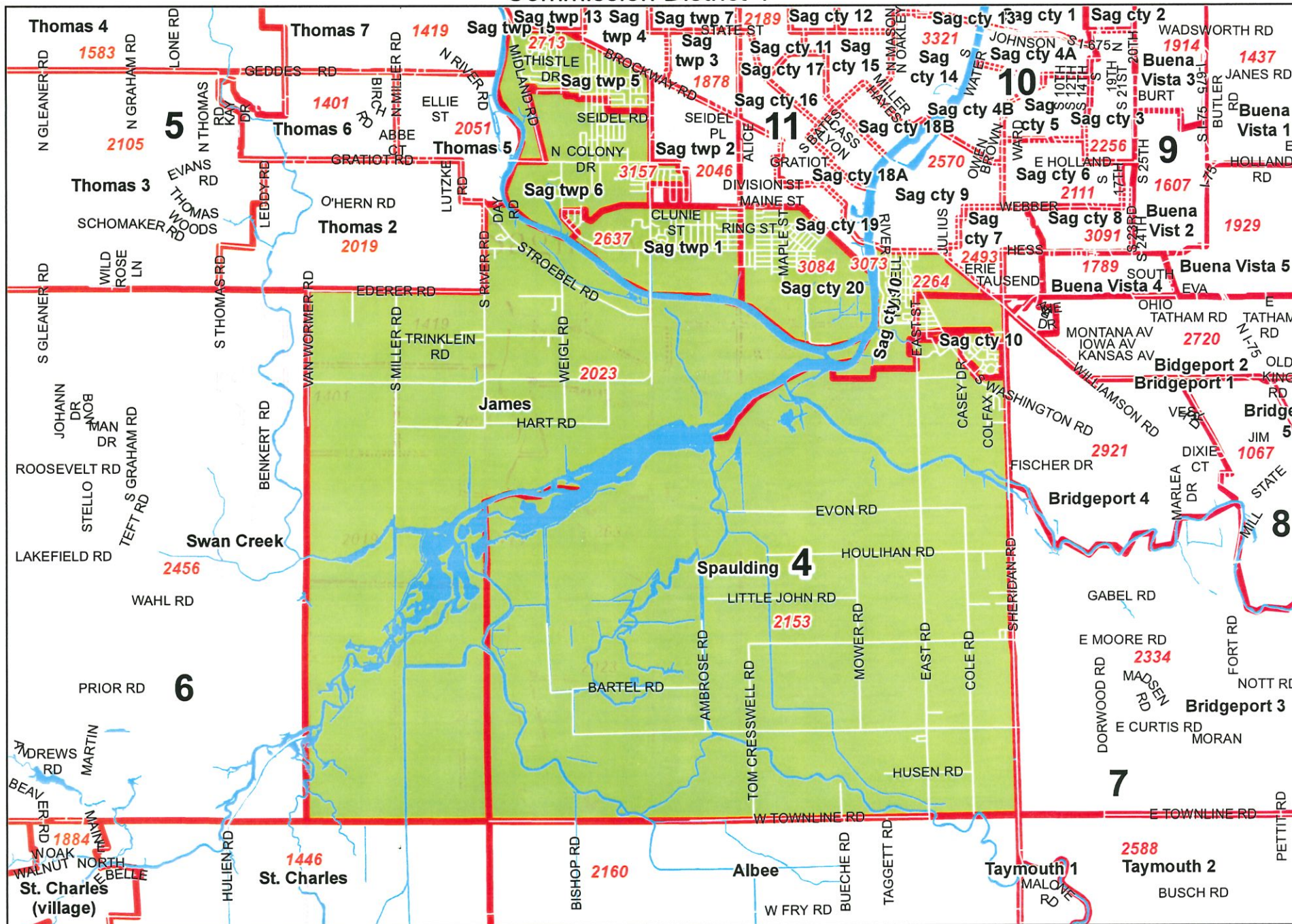




# Saginaw County

Plan Adopted 5/20/11

## Commission District 4





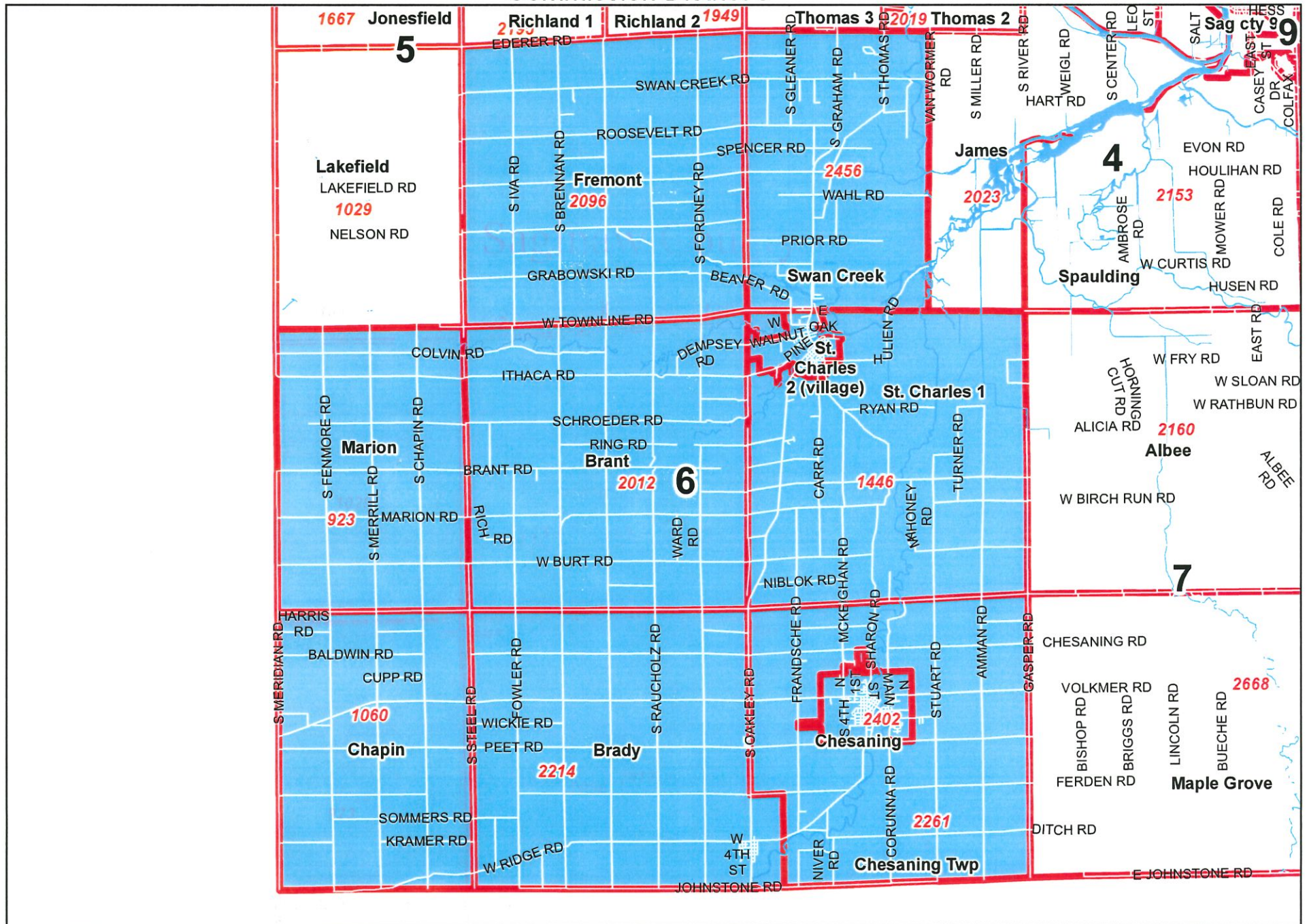




# Saginaw County

Plan Adopted 5/20/11

## Commission District 6

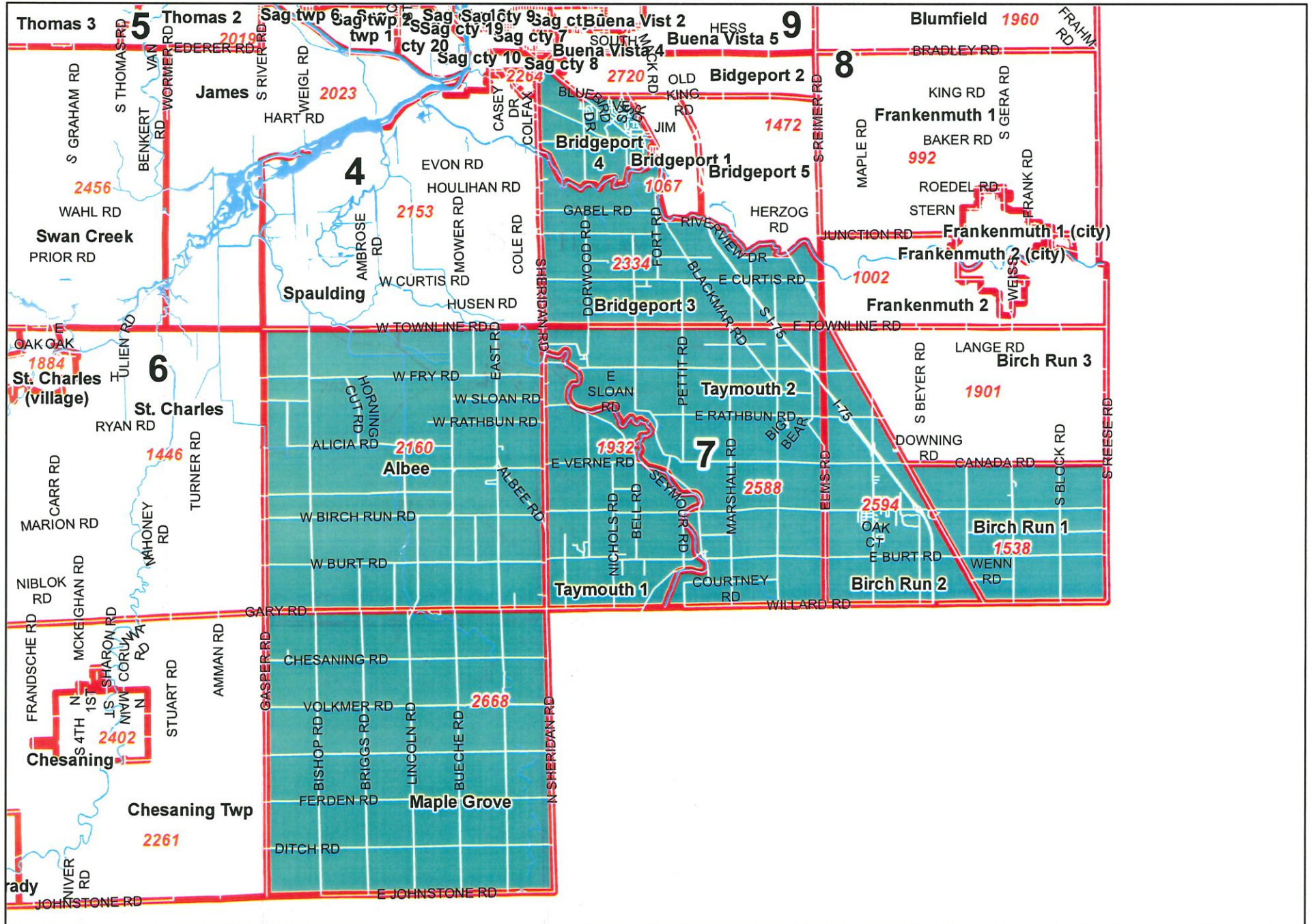




# Saginaw County

Plan Adopted 5/20/11

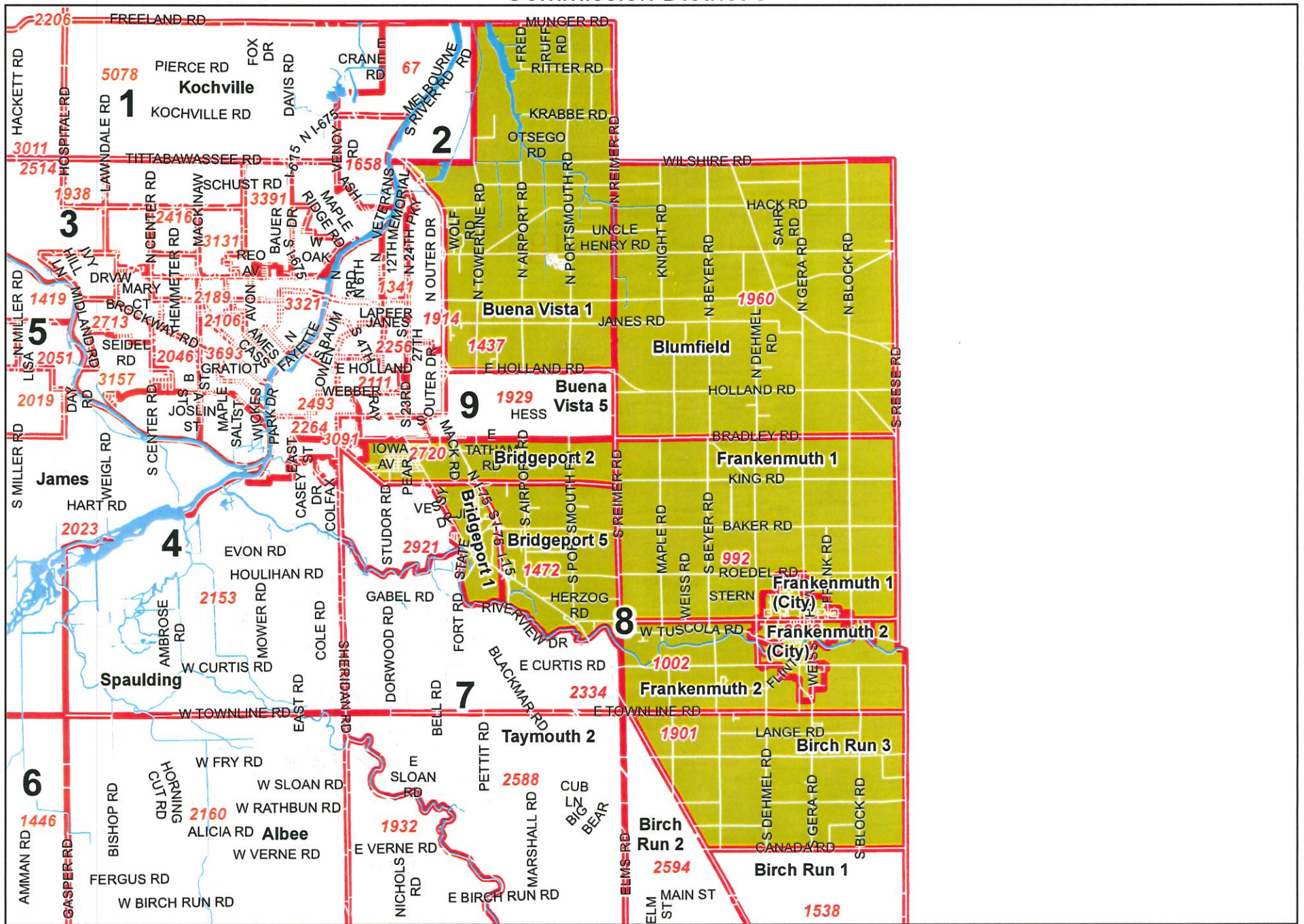
## Commission District 7





# Saginaw County

## Commission District 8

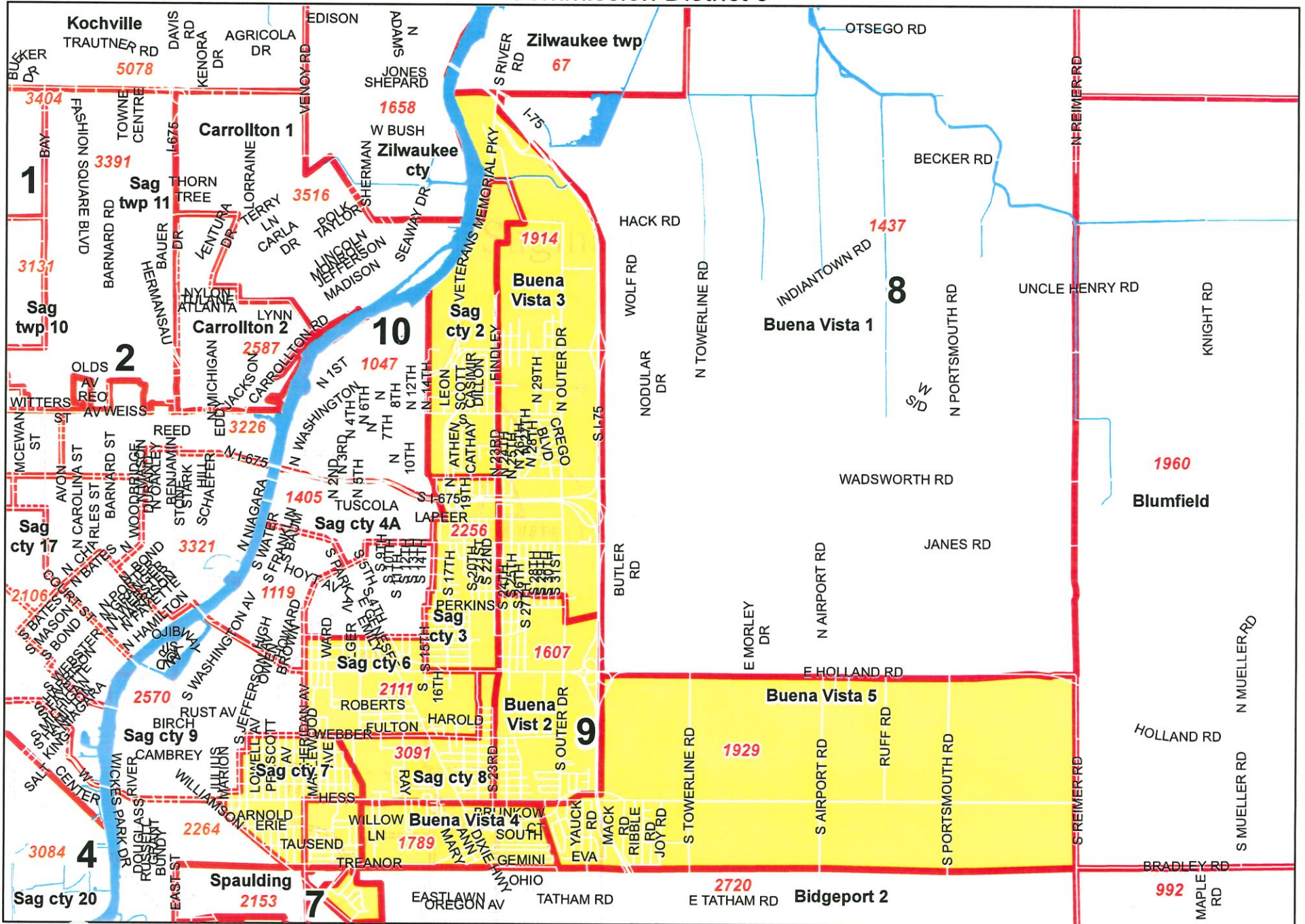




# Saginaw County

Plan Adopted 5/20/11

## Commission District 9





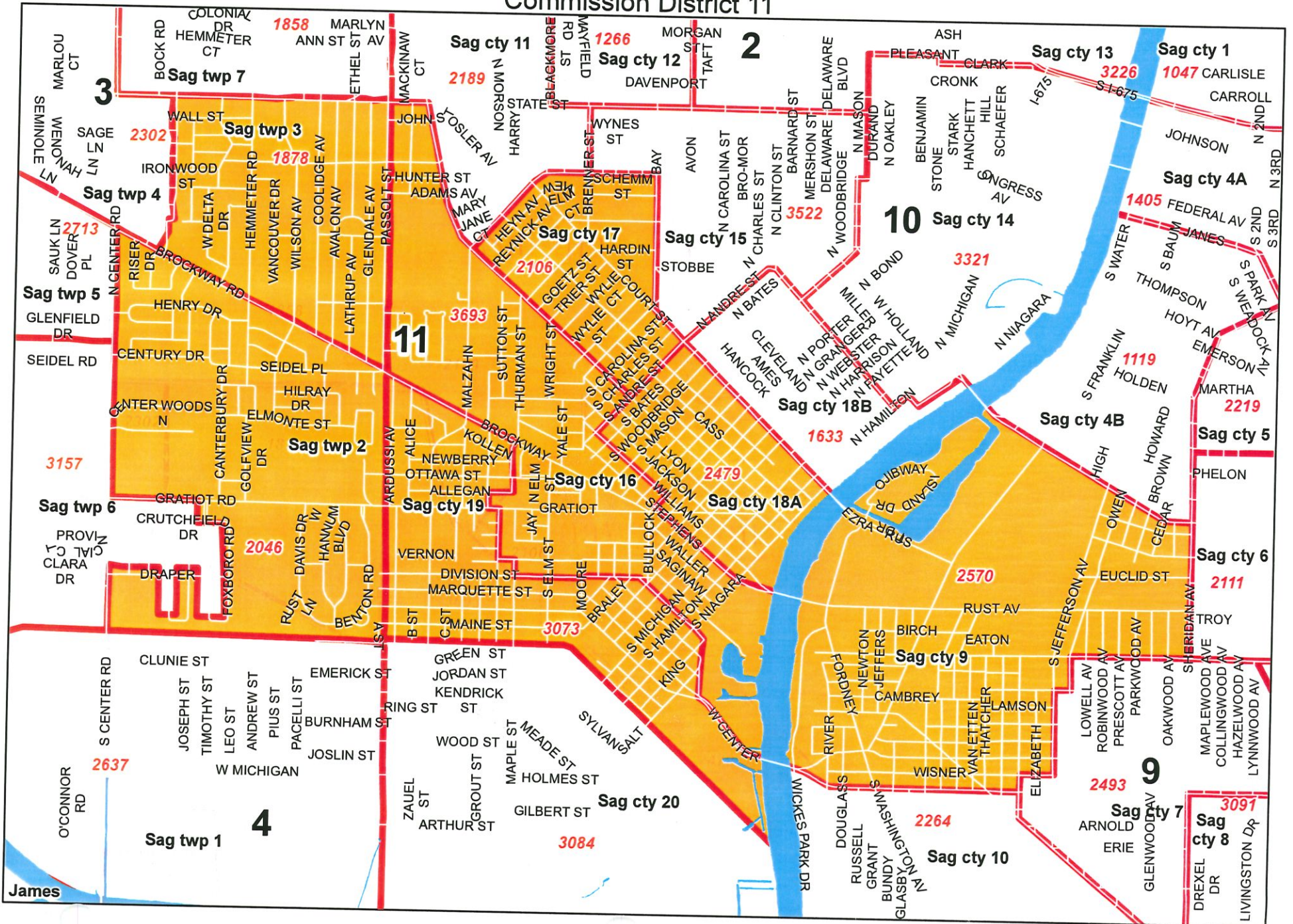




# Saginaw County

Plan Adopted 5/20/11

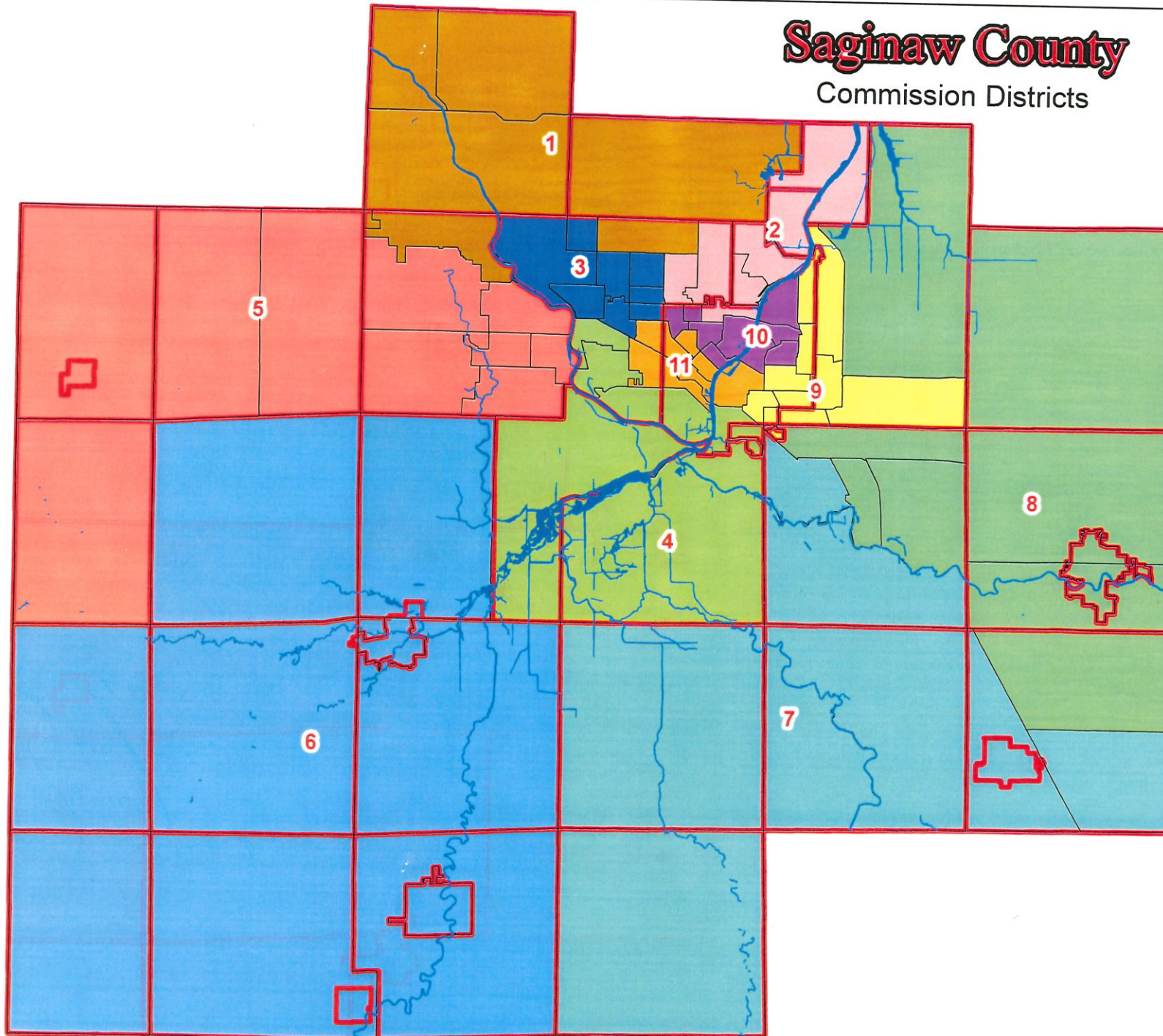
## Commission District 11





# Saginaw County

## Commission Districts



### Legend

#### District

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10
- 11



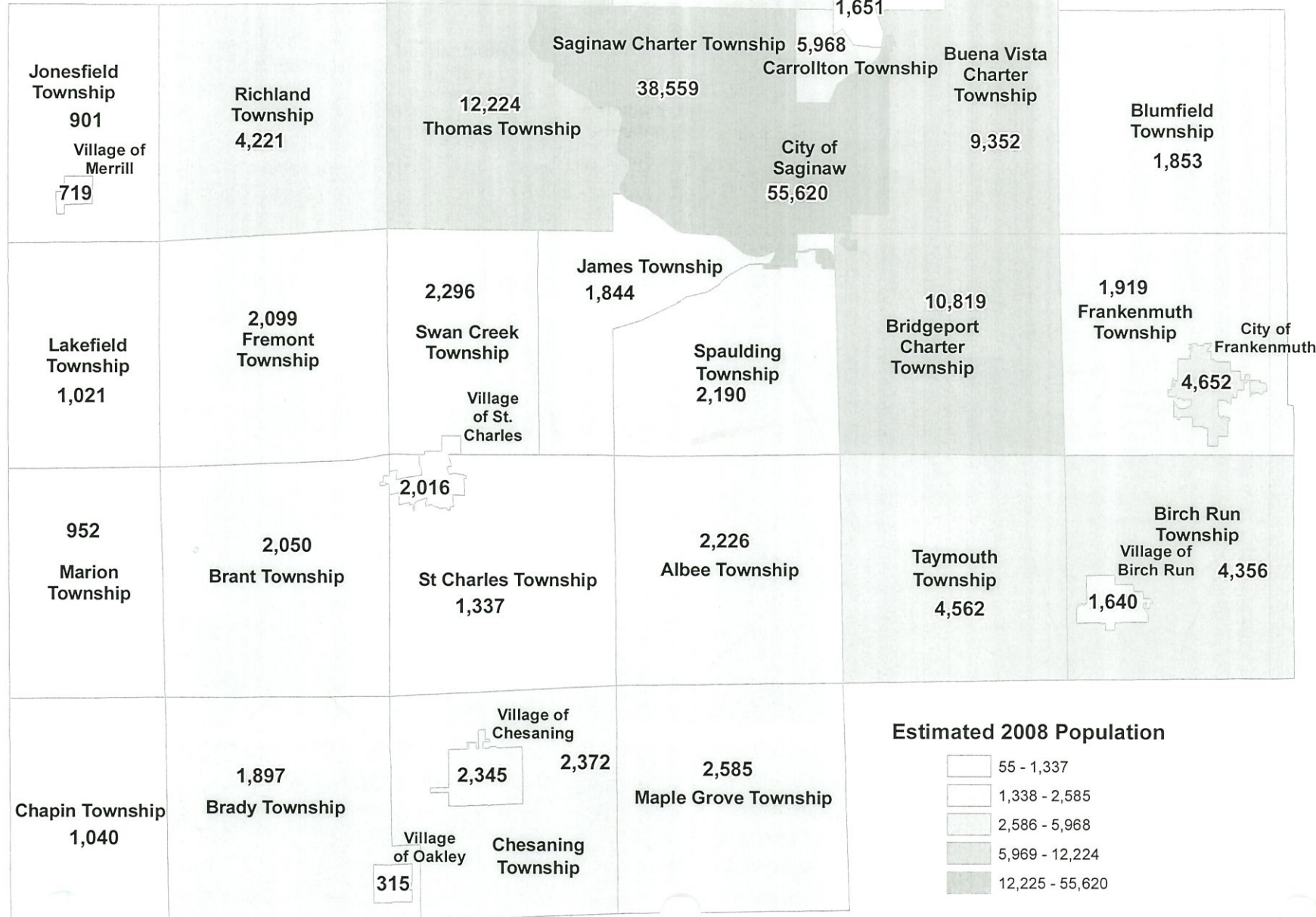
Plan Adopted 5/20/11

# Saginaw County

2000 Saginaw County Population: 210,039  
 2008 Saginaw County Estimated Population: 200,745

Estimated population data from Library of Michigan

## Estimated 2008 Population



### Estimated 2008 Population





## **Coming this Fall: Free County Commissioner Redistricting Tool**

In order to assist counties in drawing their county commission districts more quickly and efficiently, BOE is working with the Michigan Center for Shared Solutions (CSS), the state agency that maintains geographic information systems (GIS) for the state of Michigan, to create a web-based reapportionment application for County Commissioner Districts (CCD). Counties will be able to utilize this tool free of charge in their reapportionment process. This may assist counties that might otherwise need to purchase additional software or programs for county commissioner district reapportionment. BOE's goal is to have this tool available for county use on September 1, 2021. For more information on the redistricting process, see the following article.

The web-based CCD tool will contain the following:

- 2020 Census Blocks and demographic data.
- Ability to create multiple plans for evaluation purposes with population and other evaluation criteria.
- Ability to finalize plan and create descriptions and maps needed for final reporting.
- Ability to export final shapefile for use in other applications and maps.

## **Census Data, Redistricting, and 2022 Statewide Elections**

Under Proposal 2018-2, Michigan's U.S. House of Representatives, State Senate, and State House districts will be drawn by an Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission (ICRC). Because the United States Census Bureau has announced that redistricting data, which normally would have been available in March 2021, will not be available until September 2021, the ICRC and the Secretary of State have filed a lawsuit in the Michigan Supreme Court requesting that the deadlines for finalizing districts be extended from the current Fall 2021 deadline to January 2022.

January districts will accelerate the timeline under which new districts must be incorporated into the Qualified Voter File (QVF) so that all voters are properly reassigned and given the proper ballots for the August and November 2022 elections. After new districts for State House, State Senate, and U.S. House of Representatives are established, the Bureau of Elections (BOE) must update the voter registration records for any registered voters who have moved into a different district. Although only the three categories of districts listed above are drawn by the ICRC, the process for drawing other districts is also affected by the Census delay.

Counties can begin drawing commissioner districts as soon as they receive the Census redistricting data in September 2021. However, until after state legislative and

congressional districts are finalized counties will not be able to ensure they draw county commission districts that are wholly contained within a single state legislative or congressional district.

Additionally, precincts can be established before state legislative and congressional districts are drawn (they must be established by April 4, 2022, MCL 168.661), but doing so before other districts are drawn does not allow municipalities to avoid “precinct splits” – to the extent possible, voters in the precinct should receive the same ballot style with the same races, as opposed to a “split” precinct where voters may get different ballot styles.

Municipalities may have requirements in their city or township charter that requires municipal districts to be drawn subject to earlier deadlines that may be affected, directly or indirectly, by the delay of the Census redistricting data from March to September. Local clerks should consult with their local counsel on how to address these deadlines given Census delays. The ICRC’s lawsuit may be a helpful point of reference in this discussion.

The BOE completes the process of reassigning voters to new districts using the QVF and the QVF Street Index, which includes registration records for all registered voters and the list of addresses with registered voters. After BOE receives the new district lines, it must move any voter whose district has changed into the new district in the voter’s QVF record. Many moves can be completed using a “global” or “batch” software command process, in which a set of addresses in a given area can all be moved at once. However, a significant number of registrations need to be adjusted or reviewed manually. This is particularly likely to be the case when district lines cut through municipalities or street segments. Some registrations need to be moved manually, one address or street segment at a time.

Although the 2022 State Primary election does not occur until August 2, 2022, voters must be assigned to new state legislative and Congressional districts no later than April 19, 2022, which is the statutory filing deadline for candidates running for this office. This is because, in order to sign a candidate petition, a petition signer must live in the district, and the QVF is used to determine whether voters live in the district when reviewing petition signatures.

After districts are drawn, the Bureau of Elections plans to start with the largest districts – Congressional, State Senate, then State House – in reassigning address through the QVF. As these districts are added and voters are reassigned, BOE will work with local election clerks to verify that the district information is correct. To do this, BOE will provide the changes to the Street Index that have been made for each clerk’s jurisdiction and ask the clerk to review the changes. If clerks identify any errors, either in the district lines that have been added to the street index or the specific assignments of any voter registration records to the new districts, BOE will review these changes and make any needed corrections.

In adding county and municipal boundaries to the Street Index and reassigning voters, BOE will work with county and local clerks to review the boundaries and voter reassignments. County clerks will review county commission district reassignments, and city or township clerks will review precinct boundary changes and other municipal districts if applicable.

Precinct boundary reassignment and review takes multiple months. To avoid disrupting clerks with May 2022 elections, BOE will start with jurisdictions that do not have a May 2022 election and complete precinct reassignments for jurisdictions with May elections after the May election is complete. Precinct boundaries do not need to be completed before candidate filing deadlines, which do not depend on knowing a petition-signer's precinct, but they do need to be completed before ballots are printed and mailed in June 2022.

Historically, the process of reassigning districts in QVF takes approximately six months. The greatest amount of time is attributable to the manual adjustments of addresses into new districts and manual review; even if this is a minority of addresses, it could still number in the hundreds of thousands needing manual review. The manual process is critical to ensure that every voter gets the correct ballot.

BOE will make a free county commissioner district redistricting tool to streamline that aspect of the process (for more information, see above). BOE is also currently evaluating ways to speed up the timeline during which it incorporates district boundaries and reassigns districts to voters. At this time, BOE does not yet know the extent to which these changes will be possible and the extent to which they may speed up the timeline.

# County Apportionment & County Redistricting

Act 261 of 1966

Vanessa Guerra  
County Clerk

1

The **county apportionment commission** shall consist of the county clerk, the county treasurer, the prosecuting attorney, and the statutory county chairperson of each of the 2 political parties receiving the greatest number of votes cast for the office of secretary of state in the last preceding general election.

2

The law defines eight guidelines for apportionment and lists them in order of importance. The guidelines are:

1. Single member districts of "...as nearly of equal population as practicable."
2. Contiguous
3. Compact and "...as nearly square shape as is practicable."
4. Can't combine parts of a township and parts of a city unless "...needed to meet the population standard."
5. Can't divide townships, cities, or villages unless "...necessary to meet the population standard."
6. Voting precincts can only be divided if "...necessary to meet the population standard."
7. Residents of state institutions who can't register to vote are not to be included in the count.
8. "Districts shall not be drawn to effect partisan political advantage."

John Amrhein, Michigan State University Extension, "How Are County Commissioner Districts Created?" MSU Extension, 20 Jan. 2021, www.care.msu.edu/news/how\_are\_county\_commissioner\_districts\_created.

3

County Population	Number of Commissioners
Under 5,001	Not more than 7
5,001 to 10,000	Not more than 10
10,001 to 50,000	Not more than 15
Over 50,000	Not more than 21

4

**Alternate Redistricting Plan:** If the County Apportionment Commission fails to submit a plan within 60 days, any registered voter of the county may submit a plan to the Commission for approval. The Commission must choose among plans submitted and file a plan that meets the requirements of state law

5

Any registered voter of the county within 30 days after the filing of the plan for his county may petition the court of appeals to review such plan to determine if the plan meets the requirements of the laws of this state. Any findings of the court of appeals may be appealed to the supreme court of the state as provided by law.

6

# How are county commissioner districts created?

John Amrhein & Eric Walcott, Michigan State University Extension - June 2, 2021

*Updated from an original article written by John Amrhein, Michigan State University Extension.*

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The county apportionment process takes place every 10 years following the census, to draw county commission districts.

County commissioners serve districts where they live, geographic boundaries meant to ensure that the residents of each county have equal representation on their county board. There are currently 622 county commissioners serving Michigan's 83 counties. The process of drawing county commissioner districts, called apportionment, takes place every 10 years following the census. Since 2020 was a census year, the apportionment process will take place this year in all 83 Michigan counties.

In all but one of Michigan's 83 counties, the districts are designed, or apportioned, by the apportionment commission. In counties that have adopted the optional unified form of county government and has an elected county executive, the apportionment commission is the county board of commissioners. Oakland County is the only county currently fitting that description.

Michigan law, MCL 46.403, defines the apportionment process. The apportionment commission is made up of the county clerk, the county treasurer, the county prosecuting attorney, and the county chairpersons of the two political parties receiving the greatest number of votes cast for secretary of state in the last preceding general election. Since this law was written in 1966, following the U.S. Supreme Court's "one person, one vote" ruling, that has always been the Republican and Democratic parties.

Michigan law charges the apportionment commission with determining the number of districts within ranges prescribed in the law. The number of commissioners in each county ranges from 5-21, with the maximum number set for counties based on their total population, in MCL 46.402. The law also charges the commission to do their work within 60 days of the publication of the latest United States decennial census.

MCL 46.404 defines eight guidelines for apportionment and lists them in order of importance. The guidelines are:

1. Single member districts of "...as nearly of equal population as practicable."
2. Contiguous - a district must be entirely connected
3. Compact and "...as nearly square shape as is practicable."
4. Can't combine parts of a township and parts of a city unless "...needed to meet the population standard."
5. Can't divide townships, cities, or villages unless "...necessary to meet the population standard."
6. Voting precincts can only be divided if "...necessary to meet the population standard."
7. Residents of state institutions who can't register to vote are not to be included in the count.
8. "Districts shall not be drawn to effect partisan political advantage."

Once the apportionment commission adopts a map, it is filed with the county clerk, forwarded to the Secretary of State, and made available to voters at no cost. The law gives registered voters the right to petition the court of appeals to review the plan to determine if it meets the requirements, and the findings of the appeals court may also be appealed first to the Court of Appeals, and if necessary, to the Michigan Supreme Court.

As a public body, meetings of the Apportionment Commission are subject to the Open Meetings Act, and residents have a right to attend meetings and provide public comment.

Residents interested in following the progress of their county apportionment process should visit their county website for more information.

The newly drawn districts will be used for commissioner elections in 2022 through 2030 when the results of the 2030 census will be used to create new districts.



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## Chapter 2: THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The board of county commissioners is the governing body and the major policy approval center for county government. It is the legislative body with authority over most aspects of the county. Its responsibilities, however, are not all encompassing. We find several instances where the power of the county board is limited. Counties also have other agencies and boards that, while part of the county, are rather independent from the board of commissioners. It is for this reason that we sometimes think about county government not as a government but as a "collection of governments."

Still, the boards of commissioners are the central policy-making bodies that give coherence to these collections of governments. In this chapter we discuss the board of commissioners. We will look at its membership, the process for selecting commissioners, meeting rules, and the provisions of the open meetings act. The next chapter will also cover the board of commissioners, examining the county board's legislative role.

### THE COMMISSIONER SYSTEM

Voters elect county commissioners from single-member districts in each county.<sup>1</sup> A county apportionment commission establishes the commissioner districts every 10 years following the U.S. government's official census of the population.

### MEMBERSHIP

How many members may county boards have? A county may have not fewer than 5 or more than 35. Within this range, there are further limits, depending on the population of a county. A committee called the apportionment commission decides how many commissioners a county will have for the next 10-year period according to the schedule in the box.<sup>2</sup> The

LIMITS ON THE NUMBER OF COMMISSIONERS	
POPULATION	COMMISSIONERS*
Under 5,001	Not more than 7
5,001-10,000	Not more than 10
10,001-50,000	Not more than 15
50,001-600,000	Not more than 21
600,000 to 1,000,000	17 to 35
Over 1,000,000	25 to 35

\*The minimum for any county is 5.

only exceptions to this are counties organized under a county charter. In that instance, the charter specifies the number of single-member districts which must

be realigned each decade to provide equal population in each district.

### QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICE

Persons are elected to the office of county commissioner from their districts in each even-numbered year on a partisan basis. To qualify, candidates must be registered voters. Candidates, thus, must be U.S. citizens, at least 18 years of age, and residents of the district they propose to represent.<sup>3</sup>

To gain a place on the primary election ballot, a person must file a nominating application with the county clerk by 4:00 p.m. on the twelfth Tuesday prior to the date of the primary election.<sup>4</sup> In addition to the application, the person must file petitions containing a specified number of

signatures based on the number of registered electors in the district. (See table) Alternatively, a person may pay a filing fee of \$100 instead of the signatures. Those who place first and second in their party's primary balloting get their money back. The remaining applicants forfeit the fee.<sup>5</sup>

**Qualified Voter Signatures Required for County Commissioner Nominating Petition**

District Population	Min. – Max.	
0-9,999	3	10
10,000-24,999	20	50
25,000-49,999	50	100
50,000-74,999	100	200
75,000-99,999	200	400
100,000-199,999	300	500 <sup>1</sup>

### COUNTY APPORTIONMENT

Effective in 1967, the state legislature made a major change in the way counties select their commissioners. It made the office an elected office, one that voters fill directly. Previously, township supervisors, along with elected or appointed supervisors from cities, constituted the county board. The change came about as a result of the 1964 U.S. Supreme Court case of *Reynolds v. Sims*,<sup>6</sup> which required legislative districts to be reapportioned on a one-person, one-vote basis and *Avery v. Midland County (Texas)*<sup>7</sup> which applied the principle to counties. These and other federal cases and the state legislature's 1966 response led to the present method of electing county commissioners. Each county must now reapportion the districts in time for the second election of each new decade.

### The Apportionment Commission

The group charged with the task of reapportioning county commissioner districts and determining the number of districts is the county apportionment commission. It consists of the county clerk, treasurer, prosecuting attorney, and the chairpersons of the two major political parties. (If a political party is not organized in a county and has no official chairperson, the chair of that party's state central committee may appoint a person to represent the party.<sup>8</sup>) On occasion, one of the three elected officers is also the chairperson of the county political party committee. Does the person sit on the apportionment commission in both capacities? The attorney general said no and ruled that elected county officers must serve on the apportionment commission in their capacity of county officer. In such instances,

the political party committee must appoint another person as apportionment commission member.<sup>9</sup>

The county clerk convenes the apportionment body and serves as chairperson until the group elects one of its members in accordance with its adopted rules of procedure. The commission must adopt rules of procedure and conduct its meetings under the provisions of the Open Meetings law. All of its documents and other material, too, are open to the public under the state's Freedom of Information Act. Three members constitute a quorum. Decisions are made by majority vote of the commission.

A county apportionment commission ordinarily has 60 days to complete its task of redrawing the county commissioner districts. The period begins when the body officially receives the census data from the secretary of state. If the task is not finished on time, the apportionment commission may apply to the state appeals court for additional time. If the issues are not settled by the original or extended deadline, any voter in the county may submit a reapportionment plan to the commission. It is then obligated to select, within 30 days, one of those plans that meet the legal requirements.<sup>10</sup>

### **Standards for Apportionment**

When the U.S. Supreme Court first ordered state legislatures, and later all other units of local government, to operate on the principle of one-person, one-vote, it emphasized that each district should have equal numbers of residents. In later cases, the court relaxed these standards somewhat to accommodate other factors it considered important. But this relaxation of standards came after the Michigan legislature passed its 1966 law setting the standards for county reapportionment. The legislature, following the original 1964 court standards, said that county commissioner districts should be "as nearly of equal population as is practicable." The Michigan Court of Appeals, in a series of cases, held that this meant "mathematical exactness" and that such exactness took precedence over the other statutory standards. These other standards are:

- Each district must consist of contiguous land area.
- Districts must be as compact and as nearly square in shape as is practicable, depending on the geography of the county area involved.
- No township or part of a township may be combined with any city or part of a city for a single district, unless such combination is needed to meet the population standard.
- Townships, villages, and cities are to be divided only to meet the population standard.
- Precincts are to be divided only to meet the population standard.
- Residents of state institutions who cannot by law register in the county as electors are to be excluded from any consideration of representation.
- Districts are not to be drawn to effect partisan political advantage.<sup>11</sup>

During the reapportionment cycles for the 1972 and 1982 elections, the courts dealt with numerous questions regarding what the law would permit or prohibit. Efforts were made to justify districting plans of some counties on the basis of urban versus rural divisions, use of registered voters as a surrogate for population, to balance the political parties, and on a variety of other bases. Many plans tested the limits of the law and its requirements. At the outset, equality of population between districts was the most important criterion. But with each succeeding court case other standards took on new meaning within the context of population equality.

In 1982 the Michigan Supreme Court dramatically reversed an appeals court decision and held that commissioner district lines must be drawn to follow township, city, village, and precinct boundaries to the extent that this can be done without violating federal standards that then allowed a maximum population difference of 11.9 percent between districts and "at the least cost to the federal principle of equal population between election districts consistent with the maximum preservation of such lines." Where two or more alternate plans meet that standard, the court held that "compactness and squareness in shape to the extent practicable shall govern."<sup>12</sup>

### **Politics of Reapportionment**

The last of the reapportionment standards—districts are not to be drawn to effect partisan political advantage—must bring at least a little snicker to even a casual observer of reapportionment politics. For any one of the apportionment commissioners to join the group with the idea that he or she will put aside partisan considerations is not very credible even in a county where one party dominates. The very makeup of the apportionment commission is political—all are members of political parties.

The guidelines help a little to curb the partisan appetites involved in reapportionment but do not eliminate them. How the apportionment commission sets the county board districts affects not only the number of commissioners but also the partisan make-up of the county board for the succeeding 10 years. Placing a boundary one way instead of another could separate an incumbent from his or her area of political strength or pit two incumbents against each other. And the way the lines are drawn may concentrate a commissioner's strength so that he or she is virtually unbeatable.

Perhaps the most fortunate counties are those in which the political leaders and followers realize that the great majority of questions that come before their county boards are decided without significant dissent and that relatively few of the controversies arising there pertain to partisan differences.

### **Board Size**

The apportionment commission also determines, within the legal limits, the number of seats a county board will have. This is a decision with political implications as well. Any reduction in the number of seats, of course, means that reapportionment can contribute to the loss of some current members of the commission. Apportionment commission members have a variety of reasons for reducing or enlarging the size of the board—some to dilute the influence of a

county commissioner or two, others to make the board more "efficient." As county boards shifted from boards of supervisors to boards of commissioners they also became much smaller.

The 1982 reapportionment actions, collectively, reduced the total number of county commissioners in the state by more than 25 percent. Many boards were reduced to five or seven members even though the law permitted more. The county boards that increased in size were the exceptions. In the 1990s, apportionment commissions were less predictable. Some reduced the county commissions even more; others increased the board sizes. (See table below for the changes from 1968 to 2002.)

SIZE OF COUNTY BOARDS BY REGION											
1968, 1972, 1982, 1992, 2002											
<b>Southwest</b>	1968	1972	1982	1992	2002	<b>North</b>	1968	1972	1982	1992	2002
Berrien	48	21	13	13	13	Crawford	7	7	7	6	7
Branch	21	8	9	8	8	Emmet	22	11	5	7	7
Calhoun	41	19	7	7	7	Grand Traverse	18	15	9	9	9
Cass	18	21	11	7	15	Iosco	19	9	7	5	5
Baton	31	21	15	15	15	Kalkaska	12	7	7	7	7
Hillsdale	22	9	9	5	7	Leelanau	11	7	7	7	7
Ingham	42	21	20	17	16	Missaukee	17	9	9	9	7
Jackson	27	21	15	15	12	Montmorency	18	7	5	5	5
Kalamazoo	37	17	13	9	17	Ogemaw	18	10	7	7	7
St. Joseph	24	12	7	7	7	Oscoda	16	6	5	5	5
Van Buren	26	15	5	7	7	Presque Isle	22	13	8	8	5
						Roscommon	12	7	5	5	5
						Wexford	23	9	7	8	9
<b>East Central</b>						<b>West Central</b>					
Arenac	17	9	7	5	5	Allegan	40	21	13	9	11
Bay	45	21	9	9	9	Barry	20	10	7	8	8
Clare	23	5	7	7	7	Ionia	24	9	9	9	7
Clinton	22	11	7	7	7	Kent	77	21	21	19	19
Gladwin	22	11	7	7	7	Lake	15	9	7	7	9
Gratiot	26	9	11	7	7	Manistee	14	11	9	7	7
Huron	30	7	6	7	7	Mason	22	15	15	9	10
Isabella	21	15	7	7	7	Mecosta	21	5	6	7	7
Midland	21	19	7	7	7	Montcalm	28	9	5	13	9
Saginaw	55	21	15	15	15	Muskegon	45	15	11	9	11
Sanilac	29	5	5	7	7	Newaygo	32	7	5	7	7
Shiawassee	31	17	9	7	7	Oceana	18	5	7	7	7
Tuscola	25	7	7	7	5	Osceola	21	15	9	9	7
						Ottawa	35	21	11	13	11
<b>Southeast</b>						<b>Upper Peninsula</b>					
Genesee	62	17	9	9	9	Alger	12	9	5	5	5
Lapeer	22	7	7	5	7	Baraga	6	5	6	5	5
Lenawee	11	21	9	9	9	Chippewa	25	13	7	7	7
Livingston	21	15	5	9	9	Delta	27	5	5	5	5
Macomb	71	21	25	25	26	Dickinson	19	15	5	5	5
Monroe	22	9	9	9	9	Gogebic	21	15	9	9	9
Oakland	87	27	27	27	25	Houghton	18	15	5	5	5
St. Clair	59	15	8	8	7	Iron	21	15	6	5	5
Washtenaw	39	13	9	15	11	Keweenaw	5	5	5	5	5
Wayne	135	26	15	15	15	Luce	5	5	5	5	5
<b>North</b>						Mackinac	15	10	5	5	5
Alcona	14	5	5	5	5	Marquette	44	21	5	10	9
Alpena	16	10	8	8	8	Menominee	7	15	7	7	5
Antrim	15	9	11	9	9	Ontonagon	11	5	5	5	5
Benzie	14	10	7	5	7	Schoolcraft	13	7	5	5	5
Charlevoix	25	15	6	6	6						
Cheboygan	25	15	11	9	7						

### **Citizen Challenges**

Can county commissioners or other citizens take any actions to limit the partisan or political influences of apportionment decisions? The possibilities are limited, but the law permits a few. One such opportunity exists because meetings of the apportionment commission must be open to the public in accordance with the open meetings law. This opens the process to public scrutiny. It makes it possible for us to know at least something about what information members had available, and how each voted. That information could be of some help in filing a court challenge against the decision. Those wishing to challenge an apportionment plan can do so by petitioning the state court of appeals directly. Any registered voter in the respective county may challenge, but only during the 30-day period following final adoption of a plan. After each reapportionment period, some approved plans are challenged. But a review of judicial decisions shows that the courts seldom gave much weight to arguments that said a particular apportionment commission did not follow the secondary guidelines properly. If one could establish that the commission did not select the plan with the smallest population variance ratio (PVR), however, the courts were strongly inclined to order an apportionment commission to revise the approved plan. And the courts were rather consistent in upholding those plans with the lowest PVR even when other criteria were ignored. As noted earlier, an apportionment plan that has equally populated districts is preferred over one that does not but a commission may not and need not run roughshod over the other criteria to achieve a plan that is "population perfect." Since the 1982 decision, as noted above, the secondary guidelines have risen in importance.

### **EVALUATION OF COMMISSIONER PLAN**

How has the commissioner plan worked out? Is it better than the former supervisor system? It depends on one's perspective.

### **Representative Base**

From the standpoint of providing fair and equal representation, the commissioner system is an improvement. We no longer have some "county representatives" in a county representing thousands of residents while others on the same board vote the interests of only a few hundred. That, we believe, adds considerable credibility to the county board of commissioners.

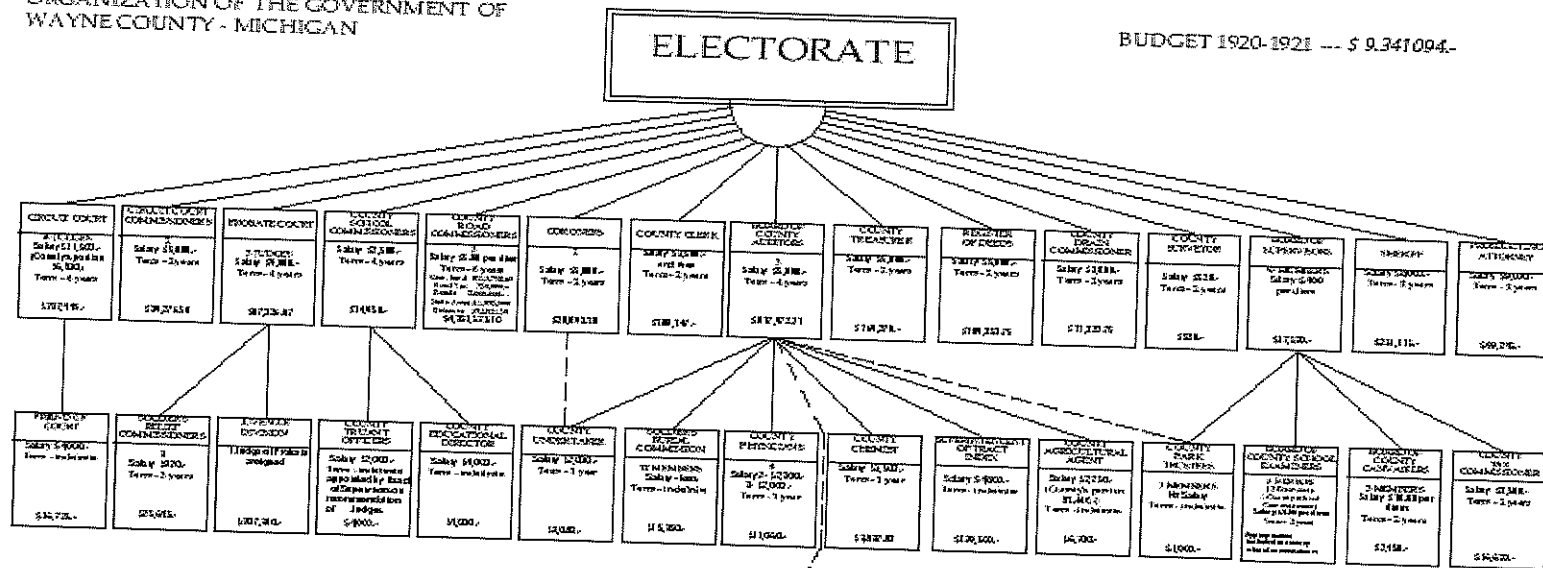
County board membership is also more diverse than it has been traditionally. In 2006, 136 women were elected as county commissioners; the average age of board members was 56.2 years.

### **Smaller Boards**

County boards are now smaller than they were in the early 1960s. All but four county boards now have between five and 15 members. Under the supervisor system, Wayne County had 135 members; five had more than 50 members. Some may argue that current county boards are now too small, but few would defend the very large boards of three decades ago.

ORGANIZATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF WAYNE COUNTY - MICHIGAN

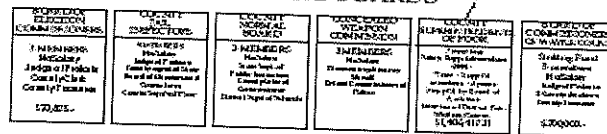
BUDGET 1920-1921 --- \$ 9,341,094.



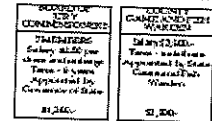
THIS CHART SHOWS THE ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS, SALARY, AND TERM OF OFFICE, SALARY, AND TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30-1921

Prepared by Detroit Bureau of Governmental Research, Inc.

EX-OFFICIO BOARDS



ADMINISTERED BY STATE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS



Note: Board of Supervisors general and City of Detroit. In addition to the appropriations as the officers shown, the County of Wayne appropriates funds to pay part of the cost of conducting the following City and Township offices: Justices of Peace, District ..... \$102,425. Justices of Peace, General Townships ..... \$1,490. Recorder's Court ..... \$9,175. Probationary Office ..... \$7,843.25

This rendition of the organizational chart of Wayne County Government as it was structured in 1920-21. This chart was prepared by the Detroit Bureau of Governmental Research, Inc. We would like to give our thanks to the Citizens Research Council of Michigan for forwarding it to us.



### **Service to Local Governments**

The change to the commissioner system also brought about a change in the job or role of county board members. Commissioners represent people while the supervisors primarily represented units of government. The fact that voters vote directly for commissioners, we believe, causes commissioners to keep an ear attuned to the wants and needs of individuals and groups. This is not to say that commissioners now freely ignore the township and city officials in their districts—many commissioners meet regularly with these groups as well. Still, we occasionally hear that the commissioner system does not serve as well the needs of local government officials. Perhaps that is the case in some counties.

### **Partisanship**

Political partisanship got a renewed emphasis with the change to the commissioner system. Under the supervisor system, township supervisors were elected on a partisan basis, but most of the city representatives chosen by their city councils were nonpartisan. In counties where one party dominates, partisan designations may not make a great deal of difference. But in "swing" counties, the majority party usually controls the board chair and often the committees. In addition, partisan loyalties probably also play a part in determining which citizens the board appoints to the various boards and committees that are part of county government. Perhaps more important is the likelihood that party alignments tend to bridge the rural-urban divisions that were so evident under the supervisor system.

## **MEETINGS OF THE COUNTY COMMISSION**

Most, if not all, county commissions now meet regularly on a twice-a-month schedule. One of these meetings may be a formal "action" meeting; the other as discussion or committee-of-the-whole kind of meeting where actions are discussed and prepared for final passage. In addition, county commissions have occasional "special" meetings. Standing committees also typically meet once each month.

The boards maintain this schedule by their own choice, although the statutes mention several meetings that constitute at least a minimum schedule. In this section we review the statutory meeting schedule and the rules regarding the conduct of public meetings.

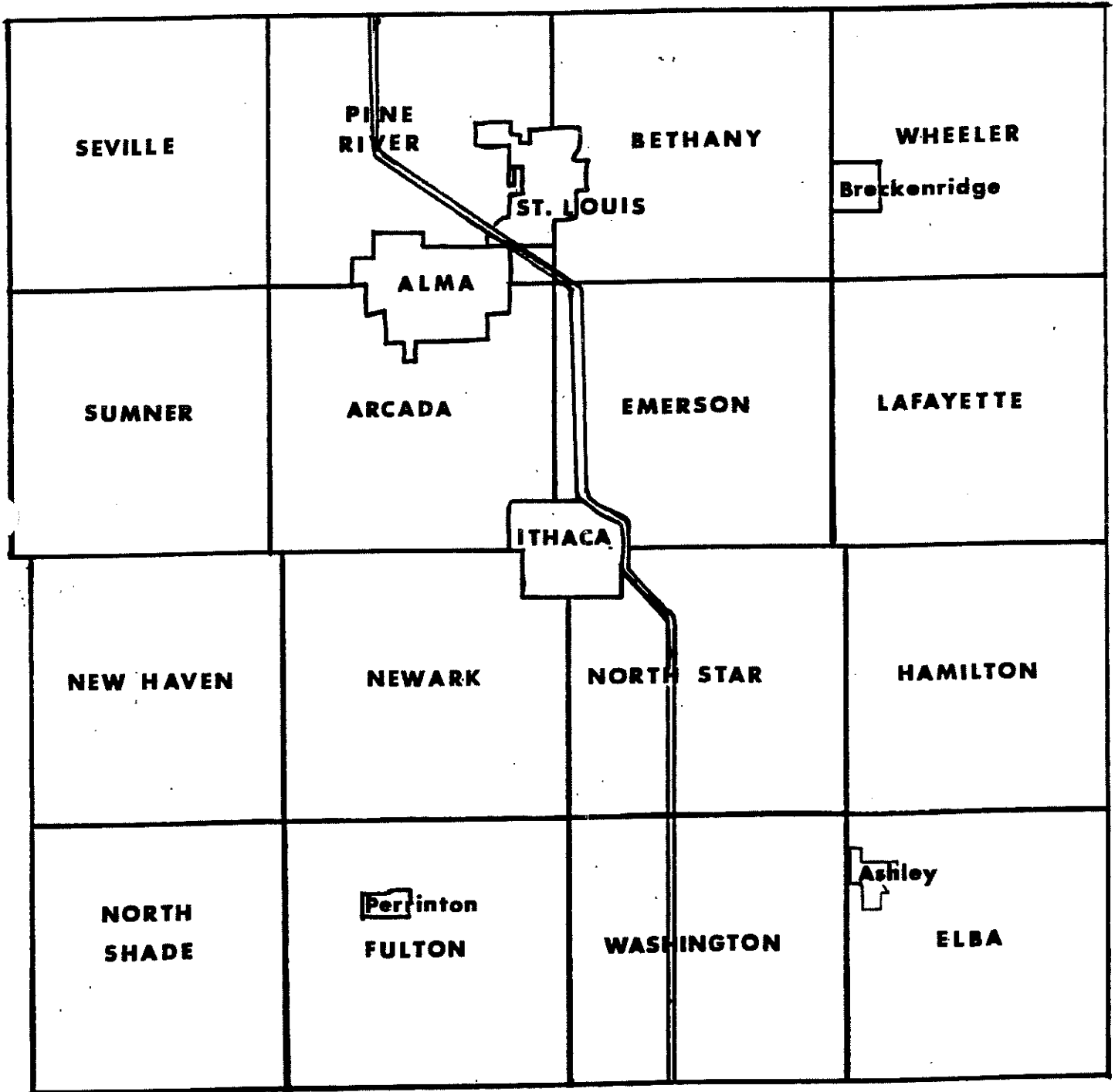
### **STATUTORY MEETINGS**

In times past, the legislature felt compelled to require county commissions to meet at specific times during the year. The commissioners could conduct business of interest to the county at these meetings, but the state wanted to make sure that the county boards concluded action on business of particular interest to the state by a given time of the year. As a result, the state established four statutory meetings.

#### **January Meeting**

One law mentions the "first meeting in each calendar year." We have referred to

# GRATIOT COUNTY



**MUSKEGON COUNTY  
2021 APPORTIONMENT  
COMMISSION**

**Nancy A. Waters, Muskegon County Clerk**

990 Terrace St, 1st Floor  
Muskegon, MI 49442  
231-724-6316  
clerk@co.muskegon.mi.us

**Tony Moulatsiotis, Muskegon County Treasurer**

173 E Apple Ave  
Muskegon, MI 49442  
231-724-6217  
moulatsiotisto@co.muskegon.mi.us

**DJ Hilson, Muskegon County Prosecutor**

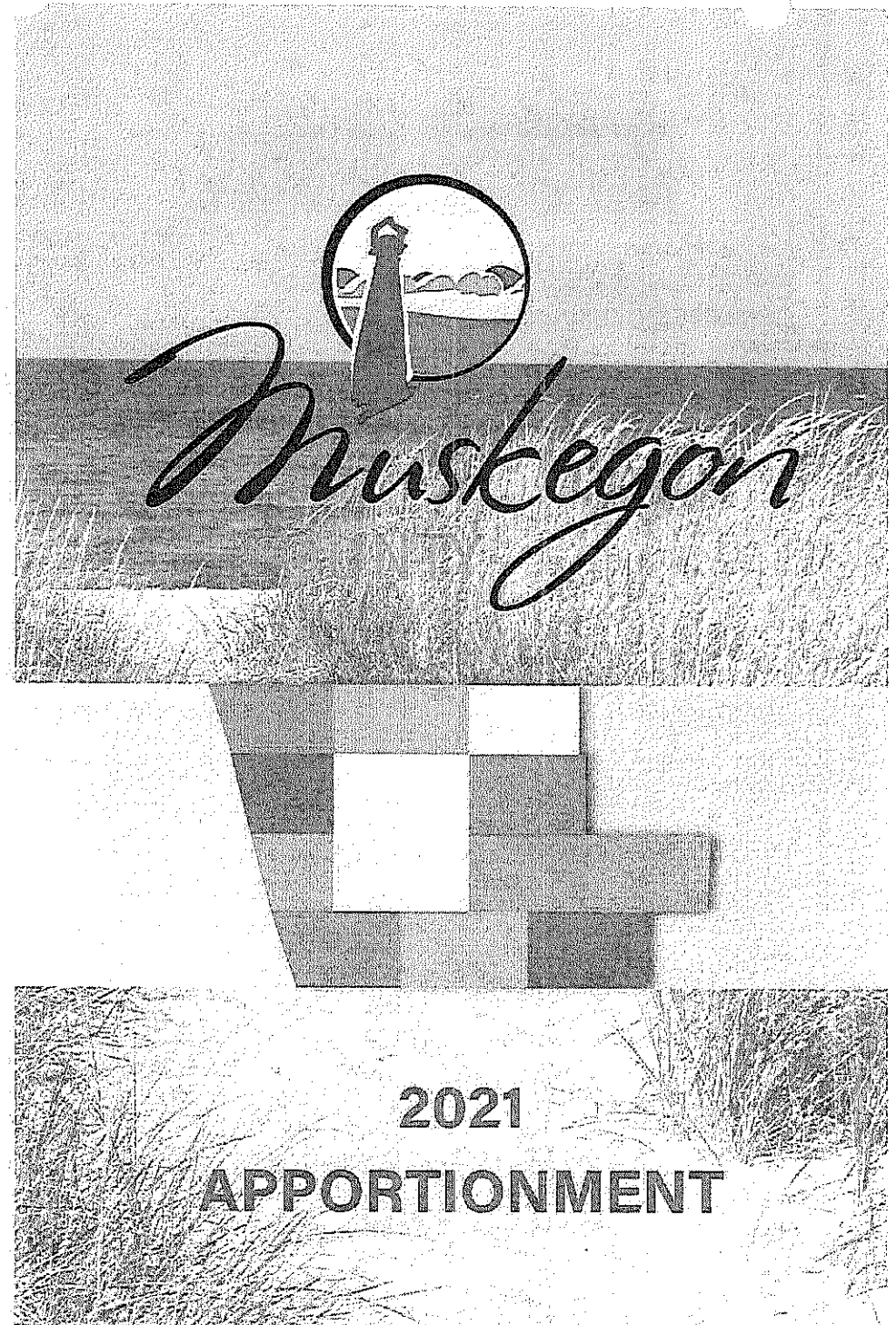
990 Terrace St, 5th Floor  
Muskegon, MI 49442  
231-724-6435  
hilsonda@co.muskegon.mi.us

**Ryan Bennett, Muskegon County  
Democratic Party Chair**

1538 White Pine Ct  
Twin Lake, MI 49457  
231-903-1416  
muskegondems@gmail.com

**Chris Kaijala, Muskegon County  
Republican Apportionment Member**

3242 Hall Rd  
Muskegon, MI 49442  
231-343-9432  
apportionment@muskegongop.com



# MUSKEGON COUNTY 2021 APPORTIONMENT

APPORTIONMENT OF COUNTY BOARDS OF  
COMMISSIONERS Act 261 of 1966

An act to provide for the apportionment of county boards of commissioners; to prescribe the size of the board; to provide for appeals; to prescribe the manner of election of the members of the county board of commissioners; to provide for compensation of members; to prescribe penalties and provide remedies; and to repeal acts and parts of acts.

## PUBLIC HEARINGS ARE SCHEDULED FOR THE FOLLOWING DATES AND LOCATIONS

**Wednesday, June 23rd at 6 p.m.**

Fruitport Charter Township Hall  
5865 Airline Road  
Fruitport, MI 49415

**Wednesday, July 14th at 10 a.m.**

Egelston Township  
5428 E Apple Ave  
Muskegon, MI 49442

**Wednesday, July 21st at 6 p.m.**

Laketon Township Hall  
2735 W Giles Rd  
Muskegon, MI 49445

The apportionment is required to be completed **within 60 days** after the publication of the latest United States Official decennial census figures, MCL 46.401. Which is expected in late August or early September.

Muskegon County is allowed by law, based on population, to have **as many as 21** county commission districts with a **minimum of five**. MCL 46.402

With apportionment in 2010, Muskegon County went from **eleven county commission districts down to nine** commission districts.

The filing deadline for candidates filing a petition for nomination to the office of County Commissioner will be in 2022. The Commissioners **elected in 2022** will represent the new districts and be sworn into office in January 2023 for a 2-year term.

Meetings of the Apportionment Commission are public meetings and the open meetings notices will be posted pursuant to statute. MCL 46.403, sec 3(2)

The public may submit an apportionment plan to the County Clerk. They may also appeal finalized Commission Apportionment plans to the court.

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**For more information please visit:**  
[www.co.muskegon.mi.us/1014/Appportionment-Commission](http://www.co.muskegon.mi.us/1014/Appportionment-Commission)

## **MUSKEGON COUNTY TIME FRAMES**

<b>Key</b>	<b>Publication of Census Figures</b>
15 days	Secretary of State furnishes numbers to County Clerk.
60 days	Days for County Apportionment Board to act.
60 (not more than)	Days to file with County Clerk.
30 (after plan is filed)	Days registered voter may petition the Court of Appeals to determine legalities
90 + days	Days to appeal to the Supreme Court.
30 - 60 days	Days for Court of Appeals to grant more time.
30 - 60 days	Days if Apportionment Commission fails to submit, registered voter may submit a plan to be chosen and filed with the County Clerk.
30 days	Days after time for appeals is exhausted. Final apportionment until 2020.

# **MUSKEGON COUNTY GUIDELINES FOR APPORTIONMENTS**

1. Contiguous.
2. Compact and square.
3. Townships generally not combined with cities.
4. Townships, Cities, and villages shall generally not be divided.
5. Precincts shall be divided only to meet population standard.
6. No partisan political advantage.