

SHIAWASSEE COUNTY

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Friday, September 10, 2021


PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

SHIAWASSEE COUNTY APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION MEETING 2021

DATE: Monday, September 13, 2021

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

PLACE: Shiawassee County Surbeck Building
Board of Commissioners Chambers
201 North Shiawassee Street
Corunna, MI 48817
(989) 743-2233

POSTED BY: Caroline Wilson, Shiawassee County Clerk
Member of Apportionment Commission 

NOTICE BY E-MAIL ON: **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2021** TO:

Scott Koerner, Shiawassee County Prosecuting Attorney
Julie Sorenson, Shiawassee County Treasurer
Mary Nordbeck, Chairperson, Shiawassee County Republican Party
Mark Zacharda, Chairperson, Shiawassee County Democratic Party

NOTICE BY E-MAIL ON: **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2021** TO:

Shiawassee County Website – posted by Morgan Mowinski
All Shiawassee County Local Clerks in City/Township/Village Municipalities

AGENDA

SHIAWASSEE COUNTY APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION
Surbeck Building, Board of Commissioners Chambers
201 N. Shiawassee St., Corunna, MI 48817

September 13, 2021 – 9:00 A.m.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson, County Clerk, Caroline Wilson

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Opportunity for the public to speak – 3 minutes limit

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- A. Approve the minutes of the August 3, 2021 Apportionment Committee Organizational meeting.
- B. Approve the Shiawassee County Apportionment Committee Rules of Procedure.
- C. Approve the number of Commissioners for Shiawassee County for the next ten (10) years.

Discussion:

- User Agreements
- MiLogin
- CCD Apportionment Tool
- Final deadline
- Set schedule for future meetings

Opportunity for the public to speak – 3 minutes limit

Adjournment

SHIAWASSEE COUNTY APPORTIONMENT COMMITTEE
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING 2021

Tuesday, August 3, 2021

Shiawassee County Surbeck Building

Board of Commissioners Chambers

201 N. Shiawassee Street

Corunna, MI 48817

(989)743-2233

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 AM by acting Chairperson, Caroline Wilson.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Caroline Wilson.

All members present:

Scott Koerner, Prosecuting Attorney

Caroline Wilson, County Clerk

Julie Sorenson, County Treasurer

Mary Nordbeck, Chair of Republican Party

Mark Zacharda, Chair of Democrat Party

Public present: Pat Skvarenina, Diane Krajcovic, Rick Ross, Ryan Painter, Dr. Brian Boggs, John Plowman, Greyson Steele and Karen Mead-Elford.

Materials were distributed by Caroline Wilson.

Julie Sorenson nominated Caroline Wilson as the Permanent Committee Chairperson. Mary Nordbeck seconded the nomination. Motion passed, all in favor.

Mary Nordbeck nominated Julie Sorenson for Secretary. Scott Koerner seconded. Motion passed, all in favor.

Chairperson, Caroline Wilson, moved to adopt the current version of Roberts Rule of Order. Mark Zacharda seconded. Motion passed, all in favor.

Guidelines for apportionments were discussed, per attached.

Discussion of Per Diem for meeting attendance. A rate of \$65.00 per meeting was discussed. Ryan Painter will look into legalities.

Future meeting dates were discussed. Census numbers should be available in September. Mary Nordbeck moved to live stream future meetings and save for one year. Julie Sorenson seconded the motion. Motion passed, all in favor.

Mark Zacharda moved to hold next meeting Monday, September 13, 2021 9:00 AM, in the Commissioners Chambers, at the Surbeck Building. Mary Nordbeck seconded the motion. Motion passed, all in favor.

Public Comment:

John Plowman shared the history of Commissioner Apportionment numbers, suggesting 7 is a good number, unless there is a big population change.

Mary Nordbeck moved to adjourn. Mark Zacharda seconded the motion. Motion passed, all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Julie L. Sorenson, Secretary

Argument for Adding
Shiawassee County Commissioner Districts
2021 Reapportionment

PROS:

- For each of the points below, the level of democracy, that is, the level of representation citizens have in their local government, is enhanced from the current state:
- Adding commissioners would make it easier for each commissioner to be more responsive to their constituency because each commissioner would represent fewer people.
- Easier for more people to run for the office due to having fewer residents to visit, convince, etc. in attempts to get elected.
- Each commissioner has fewer committees, so that the time requirements of the office become more attractive for citizens who work full time jobs and/or have dependent children, are on other boards, etc.
- Each commissioner represents fewer townships, cities, towns, and villages. Again, this results in fewer meetings to attend and making the office more attractive to a broader swath of the public.
- More commissioners equal more variance of opinion and richer debate, diversity is added to the board.
- Reduced chance to lose quorum (due to vacation, other commitments, illness, death, etc.) when there are more commissioners.
- Reduced chance for cliques to form on the board to avoid the corruption we've been experiencing. When commissioners act only in the best interest of their constituency and not the special or political interests of their "good ol' boys and girls" voting bloc, democracy is enhanced, and the citizens of Shiawassee are better served.

CONS

- More cost to county; paying more commissioners

Michigan Counties: Relationship between 2020 Population & Number of Commissioners

| County | Population | # of Commissioners | People Per Comsnr |
|---------------|-------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Huron | 31400 | 7 | 4486 |
| Cass | 51600 | 7 | 7371 |
| VanBuren* | 75600 | 7 | 10800 |
| Mecosta | 39700 | 7 | 5671 |
| Mason | 29000 | 7 | 4143 |
| Lake | 12100 | 7 | 1729 |
| Newago | 50000 | 7 | 7143 |
| Osceola | 22900 | 7 | 3271 |
| Benzie | 18000 | 7 | 2571 |
| Cheyboygan | 25600 | 7 | 3657 |
| Crawford | 13000 | 7 | 1857 |
| Emmet | 34100 | 7 | 4871 |
| Kalkaska | 17900 | 7 | 2557 |
| Leelanau | 22300 | 7 | 3186 |
| Montcalm | 66600 | 9 | 7400 |

| | | | |
|----------------|--|--|-------------|
| Average | | | 4714 |
|----------------|--|--|-------------|

| | | | |
|----------------------|-------|----|------|
| SHIAWASSEE Current | 68100 | 7 | 9729 |
| SHIAWASSEE 9 cmsnrs | 68100 | 9 | 7567 |
| SHIAWASSEE 11 cmsnrs | 68100 | 11 | 6191 |

*Potentially raising to 9 this year

2021
SHIAWASSEE 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. All meetings of the Apportionment Commission shall be held in compliance with the Open Meetings Act (Act #267 of Public Act 1976). Public notice of time, date and place of meeting shall be given as required by such act.
[MCL 46.403, sec. 3(2)]
3. Any writing prepared, owned, used in the possession of, or retained by the Commission in the performance of an official function shall be available to the public in compliance with Act #442 of Public Act 1976 (Freedom of Information Act). [MCL 46.403, sec. 3(2)]
4. In apportioning the county into commission districts, the Commission shall be governed by the guidelines in MCL 46.404, sec. 4 and pertinent to federal and state court rulings.
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. Each plan submitted shall contain the following information:
 - A. One (1) Shiawassee County map that clearly identifies each proposed Commissioner district and shall be made available in the Office of the County Clerk for inspection purposes.
 - B. Seven (7) copies of detailed census information that clearly indicates the population figures in each proposed district shall be made available. One (1) copy shall be used for verification purposes. One (1) copy shall be made available in the Office of the County Clerk for inspection purposes. The Chairperson shall have one (1) copy sent to each of the seven (7) commissioners within 24 hours after receipt for their consideration.
8. 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 certifies the Federal Census figures.

9. All plans should 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.
10. 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.
11. Errors found in the verification process of a plan shall be noted in writing. The Chairperson shall make six (6) copies of the noted errors and shall have one (1) copy made available in the Office of the County Clerk. One copy shall also be sent within 24 hours to each of the seven (7) Commissioners. If a plan is verified as being correct, the Chairperson 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.
12. 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.
13. Amendments to each plan shall contain the same information required in number 8A and 8B of these Rules of Procedure as well as author's name and the assigned plan number.
14. 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.
15. Meetings of the Commission shall be set as follows:
 - A. Upon call of the Chairperson
 - B. Upon a signed, written request to the Chairperson by three (3) members
 - C. By majority vote of the members present at the meeting
16. Per diem payment for the members of the Apportionment Commission will be \$65 per meeting. Reimbursement for travel shall be the current allowable rate granted by IRS.

APPROVED BY THE APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION ON

9/13/2021

Caroline D. Wilson, Chair

Shiawassee County Apportionment Commission

SHIAWASSEE COUNTY APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION

Monday, September 13, 2021

Shiawassee County Surbeck Building

Board of Commissioners Chambers

201 N. Shiawassee St

Corunna, MI 48817

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Caroline Wilson at 9:01 AM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call found all members present: Mary Nordbeck, Mark Zacharda, Scott Koerner, Caroline Wilson and Julie Sorenson.

Public present: Dr. Brian Boggs, Dan Miller, Tom Emery and Karen Elford-Mead

It was moved by Mary Nordbeck, seconded by Mark Zacharda, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Opportunity for Public to speak: No comments at this first opportunity.

- A. It was moved by Mary Nordbeck to approve the minutes of the September 3rd, Apportionment Organizational Meeting, seconded Mark Zacharda. Motion carried.
- B. The Shiawassee County Apportionment Committee Rules of Procedure were reviewed and discussed. Mary Nordbeck moved and Julie Sorenson seconded. Motion carried with the qualification that our attorney would verify #16 concerning the \$65 per diem.
- C. Mark Zacharda made the motion to approve the number of Commissioners for Shiawassee County for the next 10 years. Julie seconded. After review of pros vs cons for increasing the number and discussion, Mary Nordbeck moved to keep the number of Commissioners at 7, Sorenson seconded. Roll call vote was taken; Mark Zacharda-No, Mary Nordbeck-yes, Scott Koerner-yes, Caroline Wilson-No, and Julie Sorenson-yes. Motion carried.

Discussion concerning MILogin and user agreements for the CCD Apportionment tool took place. Mary has access to a different tool. It was determined that we would each submit a map: Wilson being Map A, Sorenson Map B, Nordbeck Map C, Koerner Map D, and Zacharda Map E.

Final deadline was discussed. We set October 12, 2021 as our tentative deadline.

Future meeting dates:

Tuesday, September 21, 2021, 9 AM @ the Surbeck Bldg.

Tuesday, September, 28, 2021, 9 AM @ the Surbeck Bldg.

Wednesday, October 6, 2021, 9 AM @ the Surbeck Bldg.

An evening meeting to be scheduled at a later date.

Opportunity for the public to speak:

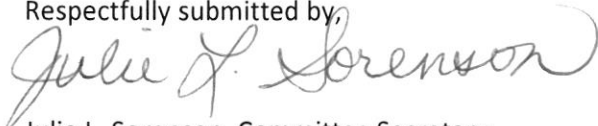
Tom Emery, 9627 S. M-52, Perry, thanked the committee and asked that we look at Shiawassee County as a "community of interest".

Dan Miller, 2450 Wellington Dr., Owosso, shared his concern about the number of commissioners, thinking it should be increased.

Nordbeck moved to adjourn, Sorenson seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:58.

Respectfully submitted by,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Julie L. Sorenson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Julie L. Sorenson, Committee Secretary