

**HOUGHTON COUNTY APPORTIONMENT COMMITTEE 2021  
SPECIAL MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 9, 2021**

The Houghton County Apportionment Committee held a Special Apportionment Committee meeting on Thursday, September 9, 2021, in the 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference room of the Courthouse, City of Houghton.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Lisa Mattila, at 4:00 p.m.

Roll call:

The following Committee members responded to roll call done by Jennifer Kelly, County Clerk:

Brittany Bulleit-Prosecuting Attorney, Jennifer Kelly-County Clerk, Lisa Mattila-County Treasurer, William Keith-Chair of Democratic Party, and Dan Holcomb-Chair of the Republican Party.

Approval of Agenda:

A Motion was made by Jennifer Kelly, and seconded by Brittany Bulleit to approve the Agenda as presented.

The Motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Approval of Minutes:

A Motion was made by Brittany Bulleit, and seconded by William Keith to approve the August 31, 2021 minutes as presented.

The Motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Public Comments:

Horst Schmidt commented on the increased population in the City of Houghton according to the Census, and felt the City of Houghton was too large now to be a single district. He felt one (1) additional Commissioner should be added, and stated the cost would be approximately \$14,000-\$20,000 from his research. He felt this would be good if it benefits the tax payers by adding an additional Commissioner.

Old Business:

State's CCD Reapportionment Tool Computer Login Demo:

Chairman Mattila stated Jennifer Kelly was the Administrator for the CCD Tool and everyone can create a plan. The Committee must consider outside submissions. Brittany Bulleit discussed setting a date for accepting submissions.

Dan Holcomb discussed another tool to set up plans.

Brittany Bulleit discussed the 15 days the Secretary of State has to get the figures to the Committee, and the legal opinions regarding the plans being done within 60 days and what date the clock starts for the plans being due.

The Committee discussed looking at sample plans and how the Committee cannot lose the opportunity to submit a plan.

Dan Holcomb stated he had a webinar on September 10, 2021 on the other new software program.

Jennifer Kelly asked the Committee if they received a copy of a Quick Start guide for the CCD Tool from the state after watching the video. No one received it but Jennifer Kelly. Jennifer Kelly will email a copy to all Committee members.

The Committee discussed 60 days from the August legacy release which is October 11<sup>th</sup> to submit a plan. This allows time for the Committee to give ideas on their plans.

Dan Holcomb stated since 1982 it has been the same for five (5) Commissioners, and discussed splitting 4,000 for each half of Houghton. The Committee discussed voting issues if there are not an even number of Commissioners. Brittany Bulleit stated that six (6) Commissioners work in Marquette County and it may not be an option mathematically to be able to split into five (5) districts.

Chairman Mattila stated the smallest district is Calumet and Hancock Townships.

Erik Kiilunen asked if the MTU students were considered in the Census. William Keith responded yes.

The Committee agreed to have time to come up with plans and to meet on September 23, 2021. Dan Holcomb and William Keith will for sure create at least one (1) plan.

Dan Holcomb stated the other software for anyone to use is called <https://davesredistricting.org>.

Jennifer Kelly stated that the YouTube video and information from the Bureau of Elections stated that there is no guarantee other software will convert the Census numbers correctly.

Jennifer Kelly stated how the Quick Reference Guide assists in the breakdown of the Districts. William Keith was then able to figure out the program for the Houghton District. Jennifer Kelly reminded everyone to not edit anyone's plans, and to be very careful and stated the Bureau of Elections is trying to come up with an option to "flag" the plan you are working on so no one can accidentally change or delete it.

New Business:

A. Correspondence

Chairman Mattila read an email from Sharon Foix recommending the Commissioners stay at five (5).

Mary Sears stated local Township Supervisors were the Commissioners in the past, and two (2) from each of the cities which totaled 16.

Public Comment:

Erik Kiilunen asked what the Commissioners are paid. William Keith responded \$14,000-\$20,00 per Horst Schmidt's report.

Horst Schmidt asked if the Commission makes decisions on our districts. The answer was yes.

Next Meeting:

The next Apportionment meeting will be on September 23, 2021 at 4:00 pm on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of the courthouse. Jennifer Kelly will get everything posted.

Adjournment:

A Motion was made by Jennifer Kelly and seconded by Dan Holcomb to adjourn the meeting.

The Motion carried by a voice vote. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

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Lisa Mattila, Chairman

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Jennifer Kelly, County Clerk