

W. S. E. 2

AGENDA COVER MEMORANDUM

Agenda Date: April 27, 2011

TO: Board of Commissioners

DEPARTMENT: Department of Management Services

PRESENTED BY: Cheryl Betschart, Chief Deputy County Clerk, Management Services
Stephen Vorhes, Acting County Counsel

SUBJECT: IN THE MATTER OF APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE RE-DISTRICTING TASK FORCE

I. ORDER: IN THE MATTER OF APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE REDISTRICTING TASK FORCE

II. ISSUE/PROBLEM:

To appoint five (5) members to the redistricting task force, and those appointees shall recommend two (2) additional persons to fill two (2) at-large member positions of the Task Force to assist the Board with the review of commissioner district boundaries required every 10 years.

III. DISCUSSION:

Background:

Lane County Home Rule Charter, Chapter III (3) (d) "In accordance with Federal, State, or County census figures, the boundaries of the five districts shall be drawn by the board of commissioners so as not to deny any person equal protection of the law. The board of commissioners shall, not less than every 10 years, initiate review of the population densities of each district and modify boundaries when necessary. No boundary change shall disqualify a commissioner from completing the term of office to which that commissioner was elected or appointed." (e) "The board of commissioners shall adopt by ordinance the district boundaries as required by subsection (d) above. District boundaries shall be finally adopted at least six months prior to any election for which they are to be effective."

Analysis:

- The citizen task force will consist of seven persons: one representative designated by each commissioner and two at-large representatives charged with the task of reviewing the five Commissioner districts of Lane County and making recommendation(s) to the Board regarding reapportionment and redistricting.
- The task force will begin its work late July 2011, and report to the Board by October 19, 2011.
- The task force is to consider, as possible, final legislative boundary changes in its

recommendation.

- The task force is to consider, as possible, final City of Eugene Ward boundary changes in its recommendation.
- If approved by the Board in a separate discussion, Lane County will utilize Lane Council of Governments to provide both the data and the analysis necessary to produce a variety of scenarios for boundary adjustments of commissioner districts.
- Lane Council of Governments will submit a proposal for data analysis to be reviewed by staff, and recommendations will be submitted to the task force.
- The task force is to complete its work with sufficient time allotted to present their recommendation to the Board and for the Board to adopt the final district boundaries no later than the date required by Lane County Charter.

Recommendation:

To appoint the following 5 individuals to represent individual commissioners:

Dan Egan	(Leiken)
David Crowell	(Bozievich)
Bill Dwyer	(Handy)
Scott Bartlett	(Sorenson)
Bill Van Vactor	(Stewart)

The Task Force shall recommend two (2) additional persons to fill two (2) at-large positions, to be appointed by the Lane County Board of Commissioners.

III. IMPLEMENTATION/FOLLOW-UP:

Staff to:

- Notify members of appointment along with appropriate packet information.
- Complete intergovernmental agreement with Lane Council of Governments for the redistricting work program following discussion with Board.

IV. ATTACHMENT

Board Order

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF LANE COUNTY, OREGON

ORDER NO. 11-4-27-6

IN THE MATTER OF APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE
RE-DISTRICTING TASK FORCE

WHEREAS, the Lane County Charter, Chapter III, Section 11(3)(d) and (e), addresses the issue of adjusting commissioner district boundaries and in accordance with Federal, State, or County census figures, the boundaries of the five districts shall be drawn by the Board of Commissioners so as not to deny any person equal protection of the law; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners shall, not less than every 10 years, initiate review of the population densities of each district and modify boundaries, when necessary, and no boundary creation, position designation or boundary change shall disqualify a commissioner from completing the term of office to which that commissioner was elected or appointed; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners shall adopt by ordinance the district boundaries as required by the Lane Charter and district boundaries shall be finally adopted at least six months prior to any election for which they are to be effective; and

WHEREAS, each of the Lane County Board of Commissioners wish to have appointed a Commissioner designated member to the Redistricting Task Force and those appointees shall recommend additional persons to fill two (2) at large positions to be appointed by the Board of Commissioners to the Redistricting Task Force to develop and present recommendation(s) to the Board for reapportionment of the five (5) Commissioner districts; and

WHEREAS, this matter having been fully considered by the Lane County Board of Commissioners at a public meeting and the Board is ready to take action.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HERBY ORDERED that the following five (5) named individuals be appointed and recognized as members of the Redistricting Task Force charged with the task of reviewing the five Commissioner districts of Lane County and making recommendation(s) to the Board regarding reapportionment or redistricting and reporting recommended options to the Board by October 19, 2011:

Individual Commissioner designations:	Dan Egan	(Leiken)
	David Crowell	(Bozievich)
	Bill Dwyer	(Handy)
	Scott Bartlett	(Sorenson)
	Bill Van Vactor	(Stewart)

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that the Task Force appointees shall recommend two (2) additional persons to fill two (2) at-large positions, to be appointed by the Board.

APPROVED this 27th day of April, 2011

Faye Stewart, Chair
Lane County Board of Commissioners

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Date 4-20-2011 Lane County


OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL

REAPPORTIONMENT CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS

A number of criteria may be considered when reapportioning commissioner districts such as:

Equal population: Total 2010 census population within a 2% variation.

Geographic boundaries: Such as rivers, mountain crests, roads, etc.

Political boundaries: Such as state representative, cities, school, etc. Consider how city political boundaries that change as the result of annexations in the next 10 years will impact commissioner district boundaries. Such districts may conflict with population equality and compactness.

Existing district boundaries: Review existing commissioner districts' population densities and modify boundaries when necessary.

Incumbents: Determine that no designation shall disqualify a commissioner from completing the term of office to which a commissioner was elected.

Contiguity: Contiguous district boundaries.

Community of interest: To incorporate a community of interest into a district, it may be necessary to compromise other standards. School boundaries may be one method to incorporate community interest.

Transportation links: Roads, railroad tracks, etc. *Roads are not recommended when a small community is situated directly upon that transportation link. A hypothetical example would be Interstate 5 utilized as a boundary dividing the City of Cottage Grove and the South Lane School District.*

Language and ethnic minorities: Districts can be drawn to incorporate language, racial and ethnic minority groups, but such districts may run counter to compactness, population standards, or other communities of interest.

No favoritism to any person: Boundaries are to be drawn so as not to deny any person equal protection of the law.

Additional considerations: Historically, commissioner districts have been drawn to be inclusive of city boundaries to minimize "split" precincts (for example, where a city precinct includes more than 1 commissioner district). An additional consideration would be the *urban growth area* to minimize the requirement of establishing "split" commissioner precincts when subsequent annexations occur within major cities such as the City of Eugene and the City of Springfield pending the next 10 year reapportionment.