

**BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY
APPORTIONMENT MEETING
November 8, 2021**

A meeting of the Board of Civil Authority was convened by BCA Chair Bob Oeser at 5:30 PM, on November 8, in the Selectboard Meeting Room of the Municipal Center, and through Zoom. BCA members present included Justices: Jane Buckingham, Franklin Chrisco, Diane Cooke, Richard Cooke, Scott Griswold, Martha Healey-Nelson, Lee Madden, Beverly Miller, Kate O'Connor, Robert Oeser, Gail Speno and Veronica Wheelock; Selectboard members: Elizabeth McLoughlin; and Town Clerk Hilary Francis. Members of the public present were Deb Burns.

Bob Oeser reviewed the apportionment process thus far, and outlined the different proposals reviewed, including the Legislative Apportionment Board's (LAB) proposal, an alternate LAB proposal, and a final proposal put forth by the BCA Apportionment Working Group, known as Proposal C.

Elizabeth McLoughlin moved to adopt Proposal C as the Board of Civil Authority's (BCA) counter proposal to the Lab. The motion was seconded. Following a brief discussion in favor of Proposal C, the motion passed unanimously.

Bob Oeser read draft language that he prepared to add to the feedback form, which can be found here:

"The Board considered and researched both the LAB proposal and the alternative LAB proposal. In both of these proposals, either 709 or 484 people were relocated into different districts.

Brattleboro is unique in that it has a Representative Town Meeting [24 App. V.S.A. ch. 107, § 2.04]. Town Meeting Members (TMM's) are non-partisan and elected by District. In both the LAB proposal and the Alternative proposal, between 6 and 9 TMM's are relocated.

A third proposal was developed which has 4,054 residents in WDM 4-1, 4,079 in WDM 4-2 and 4,051 in WDM 4-3, resulting in deviations from the ideal of -5.4%, -4.8% and -5.5%, respectively. In this third proposal, 348 people and 3 TMM's move districts.

In order to obtain that result, the proposal follows census tracts, defined in metes and bounds language by property lines in order to complete the map.

In summary, we find that the Town's proposal is least disruptive and forms "representative districts with minimum percentages of deviation from the apportionment standard" and which are "compact and contiguous" "insofar as practicable".

Bob Oeser moved that Hilary Francis would submit the rationale portion of the feedback form to the LAB on or before November 15, 2021, in accordance with the BCA's discussion. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

There being no other business to come before the Apportionment Working Group, the meeting adjourned at 5:59pm.

Attest:

Hilary Francis
Town Clerk and Clerk
Board of Civil Authority

Attached to these minutes are the proposed map, metes and bounds, and tax map referenced in the proposed metes and bounds.