

Calvert County Redistricting Committee
Meeting Minutes of January 28, 2022
3:00 p.m. – Harriet Elizabeth Brown Community Center
901 Dares Beach Rd, Room 113, Prince Frederick, MD 20678

MEMBERS:

Present: Kara Dudley, Democratic Central Committee Appointee *virtually*
Judy MacWilliams, Republican Central Committee Appointee *in-person*
Michael Hawkins, NAACP Calvert Branch Appointee *in-person*
Wilson Parran, Commissioner Appointee *in-person*
Stephen Zimmerman, Commissioner Appointee *in-person*
Edward Bailor, Commissioner Appointee *in-person*
Luke Macaulay, Commissioner Appointee *in-person*
Dawn Collins, League of Women Voters Appointee *virtually*
Ronald Clark, Commissioner Appointee *virtually*

Staff: Pamela Lucas, Associate County Attorney *in-person*
Mark Willis, County Administrator *in-person*
Ashley Staples-Reid, Special Projects Program Manager, County Administrator *in-person*
Lionel Sewell, GIS Supervisor, Technology Services *in-person*
Joseph Strozier, GIS Analyst, Technology Services *in-person*
Kristen Scott, Executive Administrative Aide, Calvert County Election Board *in-person*
Gail Hatfield, Elections Administrator, Calvert County Election Board *in-person*

I. General Business & Administrative Matters

- (1) Call to order – determine quorum
Chairperson Parran determined a quorum and called the meeting to order at 3:00pm.
 - (2) Approval of January 28, 2022 open agenda
Motion: Michael Hawkins motioned to add an additional proposal map to the open agenda
Seconded: Ronald Clark seconded
Action: Motion carries 5-4
 - (3) Approval of January 21, 2022 open meeting minutes
Motion: Judy MacWilliams motioned to approve the open minutes
Seconded: Edward Bailor seconded
Action: Motion carries 9-0
- i. *Prior to New Business, Chairperson Parran reiterated for the public that the agendas and minutes related to the Redistricting Committee meetings are available online and that their meetings are recorded and uploaded to YouTube for review post-meeting as well. Chairperson Parran also reiterated that the Board of County Commissioners cannot change the number of districts in the county and that such change would require state legislation, however, any individual or organization can introduce a bill for a change. For the record, Chairperson Parran also addressed a recent article in the County Times that stated “Unfortunately, the Redistricting Committee has shut us down at every turn. They have ignored similar calls by nonpartisan groups like the League of Women Voters and the NAACP. Enough is enough.” and stated that he believes that this article is not a fair reflection of the committee, noting that he has conducted meetings in a fair way, using Robert’s Rules of Order, and if there is a motion and it is second, then the motion will be discussed and voted on. Michael Hawkins, NAACP representative, stated that the information in the article discussed was not from the NAACP. Dawn Collins, League of Women Voters, also states that the information in the article did not originate from the League of Women Voters.*

II. New Business – to be noted that NBiv was discussed prior to NBiii

1. Review and discussion of current 4 proposals

- i. Current District Lines
- ii. Proposed District Lines #1
- iii. Proposed District Lines #3
 - i. **Discussion:** Luke Macaulay stated that upon speaking with his local community members for their input, he is inclined to shifting his vote from proposal 1 to proposal 3. Michael Hawkins also indicated that after speaking with NAACP members, he is also inclined to changing his vote in favor of proposal 3. Edward Bailor reiterated that in proposal 1, 1400 people would be impacted by and in proposal 3, 5600 people would be impacted (ie. change precinct/district/etc). Ronald Clark indicated that he is considering change his original vote of proposal 1 to now proposal 3 as well. Kara Dudley reiterated that based on the definition of packing and cracking, the NAACP proposal (proposal 4) did not gerrymander. Dawn Collins concurred with Kara Dudley and is concerned that there was not enough for the citizens to engage fully so she is abstaining.
 - ii. **Motion:** Michael Hawkins motioned to recommend proposal #3
 - iii. **Seconded:** Luke Macaulay seconded
 - iv. **Action:** Motion passes 7-2
 - v. **Discussion:** Chairperson Parran proposed that a memo be drafted by staff for review and consensus by committee members at the Feb. 4th meeting.
- iv. Proposed District Lines #4 (NAACP Proposal)
 - i. **Discussion:** Michael Hawkins introduced the proposal as an additional option to consider while keeping the population distribution within the required 10% distribution. Gail Hatfield confirmed that this proposal did not split any census blocks. Luke Macaulay confirmed that census designated places are split in the current district lines. Chairperson Parran noted the party affiliation stats as they relate to the proposal and Edward Bailor noted that over 4,000 individuals will be affected by this change and that there is little to no change in the minority vote among the proposed districts. Additionally, he inquired as if proposal would bring the issue of gerrymandering into question. Kara Dudley indicated that she believed this proposal gives the minority population the fairest representation. Stephen Zimmerman indicated that this proposal does not normalize the districts lines and should not be considered. Luke Macaulay agrees
 - ii. Chairperson Parran requested a consensus on whether the committee would like to consider this proposal for recommendation. **Action:** 4-5 vote; proposal will not move forward for consideration.

III. Public Comment:

Chairperson Parran asked if there was anyone from the public, either in-person or virtually, who wished to speak. Two individuals spoke in-person and two individuals virtually.

IV. Adjournment:

- Motion:** Judy MacWilliams motioned to adjourn at 4:11pm
Seconded: Luke Macaulay seconded
Action: Motions carries 9-0