WASHINGTON COUNTY REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE

West Bend, WI August 2, 2011
Courthouse-Government Center 9:00 a.m.

Present: Herbert Tennies, James Core, Rick Gundrum, Michael Miller, Dennis Myers, John Stern, and Daniel Stoffel.

Also present: County Attorney Kim Nass, GIS Manager Eric Damkot, County Clerk Brenda Jaszewski, Dawn Wiebelhaus (City of West Bend), Lori Opitz (Town of Hartford), Stephanie Justmann (Village of Kewaskum), Justin Drew (City of Hartford), and County Clerk Administrative Assistant Linda Doro.

Chairperson Tennies called the meeting to order and read the affidavit of posting.

MINUTES

Moved by Mr. Myers, seconded by Mr. Stoffel to approve the April 14, 2011, Redistricting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Core, seconded by Mr. Miller to approve the April 18, 2011, Redistricting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Stoffel to approve the April 19, 2011, Redistricting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Core, seconded by Mr. Gundrum to approve the May 3, 2011, Redistricting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

REVIEW AND REVISE TENTATIVE SUPERVISORY DISTRICT PLANS

Appearance: GIS Manager Eric Damkot

Mr. Damkot discussed the state-required change to the county's tentative plan. During the week of May 16, 2011, the local redistricting process began. Each municipality was notified of what the County approved, sent a county-wide map of districts and a detailed map of their respective municipality, along with an offer for technical assistance from the County, if needed. Mr. Damkot stated the cooperation from each municipality was tremendous and the overall process was very smooth.

Mr. Damkot reported each community passed a ward plan, consistent with the Board-approved plan, with one small exception. The City of Hartford, having annexed the Signicast property in June, requested to amend the County's plan by splitting a census block, moving the annexed area out of Supervisory District 12 into Supervisory District 20, while still maintaining the municipal boundary. While it made sense to amend the County's plan, the State of Wisconsin implemented legislation at the end of July prohibiting census block splits.

Ms. Nass commented that she would not expect a challenge on the local level, but in an effort to avoid a challenge from the State, she recommends the City of Hartford create a ward for this small area. Mr. Drew stated the area in question is industrial with no voters, so the City of Hartford is not particularly concerned with this matter.

Mr. Damkot advised the State's restriction on splitting census blocks will cause the County to undo two splits in the tentative plan approved. Consequently, the City of Hartford, City of West Bend, and Town of Trenton will have to update their ward plans.

Mr. Damkot addressed an additional issue where state lines will split a ward that was already adopted. Three municipalities will be affected:

- **Village of Richfield, Ward 3:** Mr. Damkot suggested the municipality modify the ward to avoid any impact on the county supervisory plan.

- **Town of Trenton:** Mr. Damkot indicated the state-required change does not provide the Town of Trenton with any possible way to create a ward that is contiguous and achieves the minimum ward size of 300 people. With no clear fix to this problem, Mr. Damkot suggested the Town Trenton may consider possibly creating three new substandard wards.

- **City of Hartford**: Mr. Damkot reported wards 1, 2, 5 and 6 have been affected by the state's plan to split wards. A possible solution, suggested by Mr. Damkot, is to create four new substandard wards, as combining wards would have implications on aldermanic and supervisory lines.

Ms. Nass provided her recommendations to instruct county and local staff to work together to come up with some viable solutions to the State required changes.

NEXT TENTATIVE MEETING DATES

The Redistricting Committee will tentatively meet on Tuesday, August 16, 2011, at 1:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Myers to adjourn the meeting at 10:03 a.m. Motion carried.

Brenda J. Jaszewski, County Clerk