

2014 OA-_____

AMENDING CHAPTER 15 OF THE DANE COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES,
CREATING AN INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE

The County Board of Supervisors of the County of Dane does ordain as follows:

ARTICLE 1. Unless otherwise expressly stated herein, all references to section and chapter numbers are to those of the Dane County Code of Ordinances.

ARTICLE 2. Section 15.46 is created to read as follows:

15.46 REDISTRICTING COMMISSION. (1) The Redistricting Commission shall consist of seven (7) members who shall elect one of the members as chairperson. The members of the commission shall consist of:

(a) The Chief Judge of the Dane County Circuit Court, or his or her designee.

(b) A sitting or retired judge who resides in Dane County appointed by the Chief Judge of the Dane County Circuit Court.

(c) The five (5) members of the Election Commission who are serving on the Election Commission in the year the commission is appointed.

(2) Commencing in 2020, the commission shall be constituted no later than January 31st of the year of each decennial census, and serve until the approval of the maps is completed pursuant to sub (4).

(3) If a vacancy occurs during the term of the commission, a replacement shall be appointed by the Chief Judge of the Dane County Circuit Court. The members shall be residents of Dane County, and while serving on the committee shall not hold non-judicial elected office, actively participate in any political campaign as defined in s. 15.19(1)(a), campaign for or against any referendum question, or be a lobbyist as defined by s. 8.02(3).

(4) The county clerk and the Planning & Development Department shall provide the commission with such staff assistance as may be required to carry out its functions.

(5) The commission shall use the following procedure to develop a proposed redistricting plan for consideration by the county board. The county board shall comply with the procedures set forth in Wis. Stat. s. 59.10(3)(b).

(a) Within 45 days after the population count by census block becomes available in printed form from the federal government or is published by a state agency, but no later than June 1 following the year of each decennial census, the commission shall propose a tentative county supervisory district plan. Within 14 days of the receipt of the plan, the county board shall call a public hearing on the proposed plan, as required by state law. Said public hearing must be held jointly with the commission

(b) In preparing the tentative plan and in making any adjustments to the tentative plan, the commission shall be guided by the criteria set forth in Wis Stat. s. 59.10(3)(b) and sub (5) of this ordinance..

(c) Within 30 days after every municipality in the county adjusts its wards under Wis. Stat. s. 5.15, the commission shall present to the county board an

47 updated plan incorporating any changes, including those based on feedback
48 from public hearings, from municipalities or census data corrections. Within 14
49 days of receiving the updated plan, the county board shall hold a public hearing,
50 as required by state law. Said public hearing shall be held jointly with the
51 commission.

52 (d) Following the public hearing, the commission shall consider any
53 amendments to the plan, approve a final plan, and submit the plan to the county
54 board. The commission shall also submit a statement signed by at least four
55 members of the commission certifying that the criteria set forth in sub (5) have
56 been applied in the order in which they are listed and that such criteria have
57 been implemented, in such order, to the maximum extent practicable.

58 (e) Within 60 days after every municipality in the county adjusts its wards
59 under Wis. Stat. s. 5.15, the county board shall adopt a final supervisory plan in
60 accordance with Wis. Stat. s. 59.10(3)(b)2.

61 (f) If the plan proposed by the commission is rejected by the county board or
62 if the board fails to take action to adopt the map, the commission may submit an
63 amended plan to the county board, and the county board may consider the
64 revised plan. If no plan is approved in the time required by Sec. 59.10(3)(b), a
65 court may determine the final map, as required by state and federal law.

66 (g) Upon adoption of a plan, the chairperson of the board and county staff
67 shall take all steps necessary to effectuate the redistricting, including filing a
68 certified copy with the secretary of state.

69 (6) The commission shall develop a map that divides the county into the number
70 of districts determined by the county board. In the preparation of its plan
71 for dividing the county into districts for the election of county board
72 supervisors, the commission shall apply applicable state and federal law, which
73 shall control in the event of any conflict with this ordinance. The commission
74 shall also apply the criteria set forth in the following paragraphs to the maximum
75 extent practicable. The following paragraphs shall be applied and given priority in
76 the order in which they are listed.

77 (a) Each district should represent the same population size, in accordance
78 with the U.S. Constitution and state statutory requirements that districts be
79 substantially equal in population. If difference in population are necessary to
80 complete the maps, any such differences in population must be justified by the
81 other criteria set forth in this section.

82 (b) Such districting plan shall be established in a manner that ensures the fair
83 and effective representation of the diverse ethnic and racial populations in Dane
84 County which are protected by the Federal Voting Rights Act.

85 (c) District lines shall keep intact neighborhoods and communities
86 with established ties of common interest and association, whether historical,
87 racial, economic, ethnic, religious or other.

88 (d) Each district shall be contiguous and compact and shall be no more than
89 twice as long as it is wide.

90 (e) The map shall minimize the number of municipal boundaries crossed in
91 each of the county districts.

92 | (f) Districts shall not be drawn for the purpose of separating geographic
93 | concentrations of voters enrolled in the same political party into two or more
94 | districts in order to diminish the effective representation of such voters.

95 | (g) The districting plan shall be established in a manner that minimizes the
96 | sum of the length of the boundaries of all of the districts included in the plan.

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99 | *[EXPLANATION This amendment creates the Dane County Redistricting*
100 | *Committee.]*

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