

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 14, 2021

At a Worksession of the Orange County Board of Supervisors held on Tuesday, September 14, 2021, beginning at 3:30 p.m., in the Meeting Room of the Gordon Building, 112 West Main Street, Orange, Virginia. Present: James P. Crozier, Chairman; R. Mark Johnson, Vice Chairman; James K. White; Keith F. Marshall; and Lee H. Frame. Also present: Theodore L. Voorhees, County Administrator; Thomas E. Lacheney, County Attorney; and Alyson A. Simpson, Chief Deputy Clerk.

RE: REMOTE PARTICIPATION

Pursuant to the Board of Supervisors' Bylaws, Chairman Crozier joined via Zoom video conference so that he could participate in the meeting remotely as he was out of town. As such, the minutes are required to reflect that Chairman Crozier participated from his second residence, located at 33 Pier Pointe, New Bern, North Carolina, for the duration of the meeting.

RE: REDISTRICTING

Theodore L. Voorhees, County Administrator, explained that the adjusted data from the 2020 Census had recently been obtained and, as such, it was appropriate to begin the discussion on the County's redistricting efforts. He stated that Jim Whipp, GIS Analyst, was in attendance to provide a demonstration of the GIS mapping tool that could be used to reconfigure the district boundaries. Mr. Voorhees added that Donna Harpold, Director of Elections and General Registrar, and the Chair of the Electoral Board were also present to share any issues that may require the Board's attention.

Mr. Voorhees noted that, following the demonstration and discussions, staff would be seeking guidance from the Board on a path forward, as there were two options for finalizing redistricting. Based on the guidance, staff could then develop a timeline for adoption.

Discussion ensued among the Board regarding: the requirement to follow observable boundaries; whether the census block shapes met the definition of observable boundary; the State's redistricting efforts; the need to avoid split districts; the types of adjustments the State made to the Census data; the location of polling places in proximity to the district population; memorandums of understanding with the polling place locations and accommodations that may be necessary; the ideal deviation percentage between districts; the deadline for finalizing redistricting; the need to avoid voter confusion during the upcoming November election; the effective date of redistricting; and the submission process for the Attorney General.

The Board thanked staff for the presentation.

RE: ADJOURN

There being no further business to discuss, the Board concluded its Worksession and continued to its Regular Meeting at 4:51 p.m.

James P. Crozier, Chairman

Theodore L. Voorhees, County Administrator