

CITY OF BURTON
ELECTION COMMISSION MINUTES
FEBRUARY 11, 2002, 4:00 P.M., COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Chairperson Gayle Webster called the Meeting to order at 4:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bertram, Gusie, Hoffmeyer, and Webster.

MEMBERS ABSENT: McFall.

OTHERS PRESENT: T. Harris, Clerk's Office.

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING: Discussion and Possible Action Concerning the Following Items:

1. Reorganization of Precincts
2. Designating Precinct 13 as the AV Counting Board

PRESENTATION:

Mrs. Webster welcomed the new board members and briefly reviewed the responsibilities of the Election Commission. She introduced Theresa Harris and indicated that she had worked many long hours on the precinct reorganization project.

Mrs. Webster explained that as a result of the 2000 Census and the redistribution of population, the State Legislature made changes in the following districts. These districts will be inclusive to all of Burton.

US Congressional District:	5
Michigan Senatorial District:	26
Michigan House District:	50
Genesee County Commissioner District:	3

Mrs. Webster said after these district changes were made by the State, we looked at the need to reorganize Burton's precincts. We considered several variables as changes were made to the precinct map. The first thing to consider was school boundary lines. Mr. Robert Coffman, County Elections Division informed me that in the near future the City would probably be responsible for all school elections. This would be covered under pending "School Consolidation Bills" 438, 439 and 440. He indicated that school boundaries should not overlap precinct lines to be able to accommodate independent school elections. There are seven school districts in the City of Burton. Mrs. Webster opposed the school consolidation bills due to the increased costs in office staffing, supplies, equipment and election workers. She has contacted our State Representative, the County's Election Department and the Genesee Intermediate School District with this viewpoint. The schools seemed to be opposed to this type of legislation as well. For the City to be in compliance and be prepared for this eventual take over, we have successfully accommodated each school boundary.

Next, we considered the number of registered voters in each proposed precinct. State law requires no more than 2,999 voters per precinct, so we tried to redistribute the number of voters within districts, keeping in mind the lowest number of precincts possible. Throughout this process, we attempted to maintain current precinct status, whenever possible. Currently, Burton has ten precincts. After making the needed changes, we will have twelve precincts and one counting board precinct when possible. The new precincts will be known as 8, 9 and 12.

The Clerk's Office will be sending out 20,717 new ID cards to inform voters of all the changes. In addition, Mrs. Webster plans to contact the press in regards to these changes.

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Mrs. Webster reviewed the proposed precinct map with the Election Commission members.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

None.

COMMISSION DISCUSSION:

Mr. Bertram asked if the name of the school districts could be listed under each polling site.

Mrs. Webster will try to add the school districts' names to the polling site ledger area. She said a separate school district map was also available in the Clerk's Office.

Mr. Bertram reviewed the number of registered voters in each precinct. He asked that each member receive a new precinct map and the number of voters in each precinct.

Mrs. Webster would be happy to provide each member with a copy of the requested information.

General discussion was held in reference to the proposed precinct map.

In reference to Item 2, Mrs. Webster briefly discussed the functions and benefits of adding an Absentee Counting Board precinct.

Mrs. Webster indicated that the Election Commission's recommendations would go to City Council for final approval.

COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS:

Hoffmeyer moved and Bertram seconded the following motion:

1. Approve and authorize the reorganization of Precincts 1 through 12 as presented.
- Motion carried 4-0.

Hoffmeyer moved and Bertram seconded the following motion:

2. Approve and authorize the AV Counting Board, Precinct 13, for all future elections that apply.
- Motion carried 4-0.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:15 P.M.

Gayle Webster
Burton City Clerk