

AGENDA	Thursday, September 29, 2011	
Districting Commission Meeting	10:30 AM at Carnegie Town Hall	
	235 West Tenth Street	

- Note: There will be no audio or video recording of this meeting.

1. Call To Order
2. Approve Minutes Dated August 5, 2011
3. Public Input
4. Review Public Hearing Comment Cards
5. Review Report to the City Council
6. Open Discussion
7. Adjournment

Date: 2011-09-29
SIRE Meeting ID: 1574
Meeting Type: Committee Meeting
Subtype: Districting Commission
YouTube:<https://youtu.be/JNstsZy0Bro>
Agenda Item: Not Assigned
Item ID: 60046

The following document(s) are public records obtained from the
City of Sioux Falls.

These minutes are considered 'draft' minutes until approved or amended at the next scheduled meeting.

MINUTES

Friday, August 5, 2011



Districting Commission Meeting

9:00 AM at Carnegie Town Hall
235 West Tenth Street

- **Note:** *There will be no audio or video recording of this meeting.*

Members Present: Lynne Keller Forbes, Mary Glenski, Rick Knobe, Ann Randall, and Andy Traub

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Debra A. Owen, City Clerk/Chief of Council Operations; Tamara Jorgensen, CMC, Assistant City Clerk; and Jeff Schmitt, Chief Planning and Zoning Official

Guests: Sue Roust

1. Call To Order

Forbes called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. Approve Minutes Dated August 3, 2011

A motion was made by Mary Glenski and seconded by Rick Knobe to approve the minutes.

A motion was made by Mary Glenski and seconded by Ann Randall to amend the minutes with the following changes:

- Change any references to Lynne Forbes to Lynn *Keller* Forbes;
- Change any spellings of Lynn to Lynne;
- Modify the minutes on the last page to read Saturday, April 4, 2009.

Forbes asked for a voice vote on the amendment and all members voted yes. **Motion Passed.**

Forbes asked for a voice vote on the main motion, as amended, and all members voted yes. **Motion Passed.**

3. Analyze Information and Maps

Schmitt distributed two maps: Options B and C. The deviations have been added to these maps. Forbes asked the commission members if they have had a chance to review information distributed from previous meetings and if any feedback had been received from constituents. Glenski stated that, because of districting changes, some of her

constituents were unhappy that they had been moved and were not able to vote for their district representatives.

Traub asked why the Central District boundaries were changed each time. Population increases in the outside districts will always impact the Central District during redistricting changes. Discussion followed.

The differences between Maps B and C were reviewed and discussed. Map B leaves 1-2 in the Southwest District and Map C moves it to the Central District. Discussion was held regarding whether or not to move precincts 1-2 from the Southwest District to the Central District or leave it where it is. It was determined that leaving precincts 1-2 in the Southwest District will not impact the final numbers as much but moving it will impact more people.

A motion was made by Rick Knobe and seconded by Ann Randall to choose Map Option B as the selected map. Forbes called for a voice vote and all members voted yes.

Motion Passed.

Map Option C will be retained as a secondary map.

4. **Open Discussion**

Owen distributed a revised calendar. The following information was reviewed.

- Publishing the selected Districting Commission Map on Wednesday, August 10, 2011.
- In compliance with the timeline dictated by the Charter, the week of September 12th should be the week of the public hearings. Discussion was held regarding the past public hearings. One was held during the week in the evening and one was held on a Saturday.
- The following two dates were selected for the 2011 Public Hearings:
 - Thursday, September 15, 2011 from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
 - Saturday, September 17, 2011, from 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
- After the public hearings, Owen and Schmitt will draft the report to the City Council and distribute it to the Commission for review and comments. The report will be presented to the City Council at the City Council Meeting on Monday, October 17, 2011. An additional Districting Commission meeting will need to occur prior to the presentation to the City Council to review or update any information in the report.

The Council has 21 days to reject the map. If this occurs, the Commission will reconvene to continue the process. If the report is accepted, an ordinance is drafted reflecting the changes and is presented to the City Council:

1st Reading: Monday, November 14, 2011
2nd Reading: Monday, November 21, 2011
Published: Friday, December 2, 2011
Effective Date: Thursday, December 22, 2011

Between the publication date on August 10th and the public hearing dates, postcards will be mailed to the precincts impacted by the districting changes to let them know about the Public Hearings (precincts: 1-1, 4-13, 5-5 and 5-16). The cards are mailed to registered voters in the precincts that are impacted in the selected map only. The cards will contain the following information: Date/Time and Location for the Public Hearings; references to the city's website (which will contain illustrations of the maps); and possibly adding the precinct or district change: example: moving from the Central District to the Northeast District, etc.

Comment cards will be available at the public hearings. Citizen input recorded on the cards will be distributed to the Commission members and also retained in the permanent records.

5. Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 24, 2011, at 9:00 a.m.

This meeting has been cancelled.

6. Public Input

Sue Roust asked for clarification on the commission accepting Map Option B vs. Map Option C. Discussion was held regarding how population movement in the city appears to be moving to the south. Roust stated "this really shows the people what a good job the last districting commission did because there aren't many changes needed and that's impressive."

Discussion was held regarding the possibility of splitting precincts. Roust stated that so many changes were made in 2010 that those changes should last for a couple of years. Forbes asked for clarification on what numbers are needed to split a precinct. Roust stated that when a precinct has more than 1,600 voters show up for a general election, then the County Auditors should look at splitting the precincts. It is not based on population, it is based on voter turnout at a general election.

Knobe asked about future local elections. If they are handled like the recent school board election (using voter centers), will it be necessary to look at precincts in the future? Roust stated that it will not matter regarding the precincts, but it will matter regarding districts. Roust stated that if you are going to have more than a 25% turnout for an election, the voting centers may not work as well.

Owen stated that she spoke with County Auditors Bob Litz (Minnehaha County) and Paula Feucht (Lincoln County) and both auditors stated that they will not be splitting any precincts prior to December, 2011.

Adjournment

Forbes adjourned the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Tamara Jorgensen, CMC
Assistant City Clerk

Date: 2011-09-29
SIRE Meeting ID: 1574
Meeting Type: Committee Meeting
Subtype: Districting Commission
YouTube:<https://youtu.be/JNstsZy0Bro>
Agenda Item: Not Assigned
Item ID: 60049

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DRAFT REPORT

Report of the Districting Commission

To: City Council of the City of Sioux Falls

Section 6.02 (b) of the City of Sioux Falls' Charter sets forth the following criteria for adjusting the city's voting districts.

Section 6.02. Council districts: adjustment of districts.

(b) Districting commission; composition; appointment; terms; vacancies; compensation.

- (1) There shall be a districting commission consisting of five (5) members. No more than three (3) commission members may belong to the same political party. The city council shall appoint five (5) members, one member from each of the city's five (5) districts. These five (5) members shall, with the affirmative vote of at least three (3) members, choose one of their members who shall serve as chairperson.
- (2) No member of the commission shall be employed by the city or hold any other elected or appointed position in the city.
- (3) The city council shall appoint the commission no later than one (1) year and five (5) months before the first general election of the city council after each federal decennial census. The commission's term shall end upon adoption of a districting plan, as set forth in section 6.02 (c).

Pursuant to Section 6.02 (b), in July of 2011, the City Council appointed the following five members to serve on the Districting Commission:

Name	Party Affiliation	District
Andy Traub	Republican	Central
Ann Reeve Randall	Democrat	Southeast
Rick W. Knobe	Republican	Northwest
Mary Helen Glenski	Democrat	Northeast
Lynne Keller Forbes	Republican	Southwest

The first meeting of the Districting Commission was held on July 27, 2011. City staff assigned to assist with the redistricting was introduced, and the responsibilities of the Districting Commission set forth in Section 6.02 (c) were explained.

Section 6.02. Council districts: adjustment of districts.

- (c) Powers and duties of the districting commission; hearings; submissions, and approval of plan.
 - (1) Following each decennial census or upon reliable evidence that the city's population has increased more than 15% since the last redistricting, the commission shall consult the city council and shall prepare a plan for dividing the city into districts for the election of council members. In preparing the plan, the commission shall be guided by the criteria set forth in section 6.02 (d). The report on the plan shall include a map and description of districts recommended.
 - (2) The commission shall hold one (1) or more public hearings not less than 30 days before it submits the plan to the city council. The commission shall make its plan available to the public for inspection and comment not less than 30 days before its public hearing.
 - (3) The commission shall submit its plan to the city council not less than nine (9) months before the first general election of the city council after each decennial census.
 - (4) The plan shall be deemed adopted by the city council unless disapproved within 21 days by the vote of the majority of all members of the city council. If the city council fails to adopt the plan, it shall return the plan to the commission with its objections, and with the objections of individual members of the council.

Per Section 6.02 (b), at its meeting on August 3, 2011, the Districting Commission members selected a Chairperson.

A motion was made by Mary Glenski and seconded by Rick Knobe to nominate Lynne Keller Forbes as the Districting Commission Chairperson. Owen asked for a voice vote and all members present voted yes. Motion passed.

The City Charter requires the Districting Commission to apply the following criteria when dividing the city into districts:

Section 6.02. Council districts: adjustment of districts.

- (d) Districting plan; criteria. In preparation of its plan for dividing the city into districts for the election of council members, the commission shall apply the following criteria which, to the extent practicable, shall be applied and given priority in the order in which they are herein set forth.
 - (1) Districts shall be equal in population except where deviations from equality result from the application of the provisions hereinafter set forth, but no such deviation may exceed five (5) percent of the average population for all city

council districts according to the figures available from the most recent census.

- (2) Districts shall consist of contiguous territory.
- (3) No voting precinct (as set by the counties) shall be divided in the formation of districts.
- (4) The number of districts which include territory in more than one (1) county shall be as few as possible.
- (5) Consistent with the foregoing provisions, the aggregate length of all district boundaries shall be as short as possible.

The Districting Commission began the process by reviewing the current City Council Districts and determining where changes were necessary to bring the districts into compliance with the City Charter. Meetings were held July 27, August 3 and August 5, 2011. According to the 2010 U.S. Census, the population for the City of Sioux Falls is 153,888. Dividing this figure by five equates to 30,778 which is considered the ideal district population size. Total deviation from equal district population is the sum of the highest positive deviation from the largest district and the highest negative deviation from the smallest district.

According to the U.S. Census figures, the total deviation using the existing district boundaries was 11.27% which was well in excess of the 5% required by the Charter.

Central	29,404	-1374	4.46%
Northeast	30,000		
Northwest	31,546		
Southeast	30,068		
Southwest	32,873	2095	6.81%
Total Deviation			11.27%

Maps included the population figure for each precinct in the city of Sioux Falls, as well as the deviation. Planning data showed the city had expanded in all directions, but population growth was the greatest in the southwest. Moreover, it was readily apparent that the central district and the northeast district needed to increase in population which required adding existing precincts from other districts.

Multiple versions of district markups were reviewed, but did not meet the charter criteria. Four different options were considered by the Districting Commission. After considering the pros and cons of each proposed option, the Districting Commission narrowed its choices down to the following two options:

Option B:			
Ideal Population per District:		30,778	
Central	30,575		
NE	30,100		
NW	31,546		
SE	30,068	-710	2.31%
SW	31,602	824	2.68%
Total Deviation:		4.98%	
Central: Add 1-1 (1,271), 4-13 (3,304)			
Northeast: Add 5-16 (1,359) and 5-5 (2,045)			
	4	Number of precincts impacted	
	7,979	Total population impacted	

Option C:			
Ideal Population per District:		30,778	
Central	31,455		
NE	30,100		
NW	31,546	768	2.50%
SE	30,068	-710	2.31%
SW	30,722		
Total Deviation:		4.80%	
Central: Add 1-1 (1,271), 4-13 (3,304), 1-2 (880)			
Northeast: Add 5-16 (1,359) and 5-5 (2,045)			
	5	Number of precincts impacted	
	8,859	Total population impacted	

The Districting Commission unanimously voted Option B as its preferred alternative. The districts that would move to a new district under this plan are bolded. The plan is as follows:

- 1) Southwest Council district would contain precincts 1-2; 1-3; 1-4; 1-5; 1-6; 1-8; 1-9; 1-10; 1-11; 1-12; 1-13; 1-14; 1-16; 1-17
The total population would be 31,602. As the largest district, the positive deviation would be 2.68%.
- 2) Southeast Council district would contain precincts 2-1; 2-2; 2-3; 2-4; 2-6; 2-7; 2-8; 2-9; 2-10; 2-11; 2-12; 2-13; 2-14; 2-15
The total population would be 30,068. As the smallest district, the negative deviation would be -2.31%.
- 3) Northwest Council District would contain precincts 3-5; 3-6; 3-7; 3-8; 3-9; 3-10; 3-11; 3-12; 3-14; 3-15; 3-16; 3-17
The total population would be 31,546.
- 4) Northeast Council district would contain precincts **5-5; 5-16**; 4-1; 4-4; 4-5; 4-6; 4-7; 4-8; 4-9; 4-10; 4-11; 4-12
The total population would be 30,100.
- 5) Central Council district would contain precincts **4-13; 1-1**; 5-1; 5-2; 5-3; 5-4; 5-6; 5-7; 5-8; 5-9; 5-10; 5-11; 5-12; 5-13; 5-14; 5-15
The total population would be 30,575.

The City Charter requires only one public hearing to be held.

- (2) The commission shall hold one (1) or more public hearings not less than 30 days before it submits the plan to the city council. The commission shall make its plan available to the public for inspection and comment not less than 30 days before its public hearing.

However, the Districting Commission had a desire to allow as much input from the public as possible by hosting two public hearings at Carnegie Town Hall on September 17 and September 19, 2011. Public notices of the two options and copies of Options B and C were made available to the public. In addition, each individual that lived in a district that was proposed to be moved in recommended Option B was mailed a postcard informing them of the public hearings.

The attendance at the public hearings was limited and a minimal amount of comments were received. After considering the public comments, the Districting Commission is still recommending Option B as its preferred alternative. A proposed ordinance and map reflecting the redistricting changes have been attached to this report for your review and consideration.

The commission would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank city staff assigned to assist in its deliberations and the public for its assistance, comments and suggestions. Their help was invaluable, and without it, this commission could not have formulated the plan and recommendations made in this report.

We thank the council for the privilege of participating in city government and the opportunity to impact our knowledge and experience on this process. The Districting Commission members respectfully submit this report this 17th day of October, 2011.

Lynne Keller Forbes, Commission Chairperson (Southwest)

Mary Helen Glenski, Commission Member (Northeast)

Rick Knobe, Commission Member (Northwest)

Ann Reeve Randall, Commission Member (Southeast)

Andy Traub, Commission Member (Central)