



Town of Bolton  
3045 Theodore Roosevelt Highway  
Bolton VT 05676  
Board of Civil Authority  
Hybrid Meeting of all  
Five MMUUSD Member Towns Minutes  
September 29, 2021

Note: attendance names were taken from those who spoke and from names on screens, other people may have been in the room or at the meeting via MMCTV live broadcast.

**Bolton Board of Civil Authority Members present:**

Amy Grover, Town Clerk

BCA Members: Brenda McKeown, Chair, Paula Gervia, Vice Chair, Andrew Pond, Lynda DesLauriers, and Rich Reid

**Huntington:**

Heidi Racht, Town Clerk

BCA Members: Patty Baumann, Dori Barton, Bonnie Gordon, Landel Cochran and Shelly McSweeney

Huntington Public: Barbara Elliot, Margaret Keir, Anne Martell, Alison Forrest, Barrett Grimm, Becca Golden, Matt Poynter

**Jericho:**

Jessica Alexander, Town Clerk

BCA Members: Michael Weinberg, Chair, Mary Coburn, Carol Gross, Carol Smith, Catherine Paris, Michele Tulis, Ed Dubois, Tom Joslin, Ben Joslin, Peter Booth, Wayne Howe, Mary Jane Dickerson, Erik Johnson, Mike Sweeney, Kathleen Cramer, and Catherine McMains

Jericho Public: Sonja Schuyler, Edye Graning, Tom Cheney, Angelike Contois, Susan Bresee, Sarah Joslin, and David Schuler

**Richmond:**

Linda Parent, Town Clerk

BCA Members: Marshall Paulson, BCA Chair, Mary Houle, Jay Furr, Sue Pochop, June Heston, David Sander and Bryan Moreau

Richmond public: Chip Noonan

**Underhill”**

Sherri Morin, Town Clerk

BCA Members: Dan Steinbauer, Bob Stone, Pat Sabalis, Jackie Stoner, Nancy Geise

Underhill Public: Brad Holden

**State Representatives:** Jana Brown, Trevor Squirrel, George Till and Theresa Wood

**State Senators:** Thomas Chittenden

**Legislative Apportionment Board:** Tom Little, Special Master, Jeanne Albert

The meeting began at 6:05 p.m.

**Introductions:** Mike Weinburg provided introductions.

**Discussion:**

Tom Little, Chair of the Legislative Apportionment Board (LAB) noted:

- The tripartisan board is comprised of 7 members, he was appointed as Chair by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, and that he chaired the LAB 10 years ago in the last redistricting process.
- Reviewed the history of the LAB, the charge, and reviewed the redistricting process currently underway with directives coming from the VT Constitution and statute.
- The process was delayed this year, which is population driven, due to the delay of 2020 census data. Generally, the process is completed by August.
- Reviewed the process “blueprint”, factors, and deviations.
- The process involves mapping districts with population numbers in each, percent deviation in each district, striving to reach a low deviation percent number. The maps indicate the deviation number in each existing district (maps are available on the LAB website).
- The LAB is striving to come to tighter deviation numbers than currently exist on the Senate and House maps.
- Attempting to “fix” deviations in one district usually contributes to a ripple effect into other districts, some towns will be divided.
- Districts will shift to a maximum of 3 senators with a combination of 1, 2 & 3 member districts.
- The LAB will be sending the tentative map out statewide the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of October, with a 3-week period for BCAs to meet and send back any counter proposals, comments, requests, or criticisms. The LAB will then take comments and requests into consideration, some could be contrary, and will send the final proposal to the House and Senate by the end of November.
- The LAB is aware of the requests from the MMUUSD and 5 member towns to have all 5 towns in one Senate district. The LAB is acutely aware of concerns.

**Group discussion noted:**

- The BCAs from the towns of Bolton, Richmond and Huntington all noted their support for the 5 MMUUSD towns being on one Senate District, and noted they had all submitted formal letters to the LAB to that effect. The BCAs from the towns of Jericho and Underhill stated that they were still undecided.

**Group discussion included:**

- Current districts, law directives, 1 or 2 member house districts, review of Tom Joslin’s spreadsheet, review of population numbers, numbers which subdivide towns even more, population in Addison county and issues which put Huntington in Addison County, the ripple effect, particularly around Addison county, impacts to Rutland, combining the MMUUSD

and CVU towns into one district, adding Charlotte to Addison County and removing Huntington, not meeting deviation means, utilizing a comprehensive approach vs. an incremental approach, access to maps on the LAB website, towns should contact senators and send comments, with thanks to Tom Little.

The meeting ended at 7:15 p.m.

Attest: Amy Grover, Town Clerk

*Minutes are unofficial until approved. These minutes were read and approved on:*

DRAFT