

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISOR'S
REPORT REGARDING LEGISLATIVE SERVICE AGENCY PRELIMINARY PROPOSED SUPERVISOR
REPRESENTATION PLAN-1
FEBRUARY 28, 2022

On Monday, February 28, 2022 at 9:30 a.m. the Polk County Board of Supervisors held a public hearing. SUPERVISORS PRESENT: Vice Chair, Robert Brownell; Steve Van Oort; Tom Hockensmith; Matt McCoy; Chair, Angela Connolly participated electronically, pursuant to section 21.8 of the Code of Iowa. STAFF PRESENT: County Administrator, John R. Norris; and Assistant County Attorney, Ralph Marasco, Jr.

Vice Chair, Robert Brownell called the meeting to order.

The Office of the Polk County Auditor confirmed Public Notice of the hearing was on file.

The meeting was open for public hearing. The purpose of the public hearing was to allow members of the public to provide information and testimony to the Board of Supervisors regarding the Legislative Services Agency's proposed supervisor representation plan-1; and to allow the public to present alternative supervisor representation plans.

Members of the public appeared to listen and others to provide information or testimony encouraging the Board to reject the Legislative Services Agency proposed supervisor representation Plan-1 and direct the Legislative Services Agency to prepare a second plan.

Polk County citizen, Chris Coleman personally appeared and encouraged the Board of Supervisors to direct the LSA to prepare a second plan. In addition to being a Polk County citizen, Mr. Coleman also stated he served on the Polk County Temporary Redistricting Commission. Mr. Coleman summarized his reasons for requesting a second plan. Mr. Coleman stated the law allows the Board to request a second plan, and still have the option to approve the first plan, approve the second or amend the second plan. Mr. Coleman does not believe plan-1 districts are reflective of the existing jurisdictions of the communities within Polk County, or state representative and senator districts. Mr. Coleman does not believe plan-1 meets or provide equal and fair representation of all of its neighborhood communities within the City of Des Moines as the existing and current representation provides. Mr. Coleman pointed out that five of six public high school districts in the City of Des Moines are contained within only one supervisor district. Mr. Coleman believes the citizens of Polk County would be better served over the next ten (10) years with more fair and equal representation.

Polk County citizen, Greg Lewis personally appeared and encouraged the Board of Supervisors to direct the LSA to prepare a second plan. Mr. Lewis summarized his reasons for requesting a second plan. Mr. Lewis also stated he served on the Polk County Temporary Redistricting Commission. Mr. Lewis agreed with each of Mr. Coleman's reasons. Mr. Lewis believes plan-1 does not provide equal representation for the city of Des Moines, and also does not provide fair

representation to the rest of Polk County. Mr. Lewis believes the current representation plan is not broken and does not need to be "fixed."

Supervisor McCoy commented by accurately reciting section 321.210A(f)(3) of the Code of Iowa, by pointing out the Board of Supervisors is required to give written reasons for the rejection of the proposed supervisor representation plan submitted by the Legislative Services Agency.

Legal counsel for the Board of Supervisors informed the Board, if the Board were to reject the plan-1 as submitted by the LSA, then the Board would be required to review the plan and determine what written reasons would be provided to the LSA upon the Board's request for a second plan.

The Board of Supervisors agreed to reconvene at a previously schedule public meeting on Tuesday, March 1, 2022 at 9:30 a.m. to approve or rejected the Legislative Service Agency's proposed supervisor representation Plan-1.

No action was taken.

The Board of Supervisors adjourned.