

MARLBORO COUNTY COUNCIL

“SPECIAL” MEETING

SANDY OCEAN RESTAURANT * 1951 15-401 BYPASS, BENNETTSVILLE, SC

THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 2011

5 PM

CHAIRMAN	RON MUNNERLYN
VICE-CHAIR	DR. CAROLYN PRINCE
ADMINISTRATOR	CECIL KIMREY
COUNTY ATTORNEY	HARRY EASTERLING, JR.

COUNCIL:

JASON STEEN, RON MUNNERLYN, DR. CAROLYN PRINCE, STEVE BLACKMON, AND	WILLIE GLADDEN, CORRIE H. PLATO, KEN ALLEN, ANTHONY WOODS
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*Chesterfield County Council, Dillon County Council, Marion County Council, and Administrators were invited to Attend the meeting for the presentation by the S.C. Budget & Control Board regarding redistricting. Present were Chesterfield County Council and Dillon County Council.

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, Council Chairman welcomed everyone and advised it would be an informal meeting. He introduced Mr. Bobby Bowers with the S.C. Budget & Control Board.

PRESENTATIONS

BOBBY BOWERS, SC BUDGET & CONTROL BOARD – DISCUSSION OF REDISTRICTING

Mr. Bobby Bowers addresses the councils regarding redistricting which is required by law. He advised a “Plan” by Ordinance must be submitted to the Justice Department for approval. He advised the Criteria for the Plan included:

1. One person – one vote. 1 1/2% to 2% vs. 10% - lowest deviation wins.

2. Adhere to the 1965 Voting Rights Act. The counties must have a plan which will not do any damage to minorities. Retrogression – two types, Natural (population shift) and Policy.

Mr. Bowers advised everything the S.C. Budget and Control Board does which affects voting must go before the Justice Department. He advised the County Council Districts and School Districts are the same. He showed a Benchmark Plan which he advised would be upheld by the Courts.

3. The districts must be touching, however, the incumbents must be separated.
4. Must respect the constituents consistency. Plan should be consistent – each council person has the right to expect some consistency of citizens they represents and each citizen has the right to expect some consistency of the members that represent them.

Mr. Bowers advised the minority at present is any minority which is denied process by any race. At present he advised the Hispanic population is at 33% in one city.

5. Need Public Input. Must have a Public Hearing on the plans. Must Advertise hearing and publish a map in the courthouse and newspaper. At hearing must keep record of everything “verbatim” said by citizens and council.

Mr. Bowers advised council needed to adopt the criteria and plan – need to complete this fall so everything can be approved by the Justice Department before the next election.

Mr. Bowers advised Marlboro County’s population based on the last census is 28,933. Based on the report the council districts need to shift some areas from some districts without losing the minority population. The following is the actual number of voters in each district and the number of high/low. Attached to the minutes is the Benchmark Statistics as provided by the SC Budget & Control Board.

District	Too High	Too Low
1		350
2	1500	
3		179
4		628
5		712
6		185
7	453	
8	98	

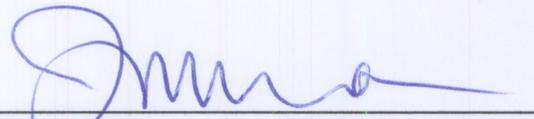
Page Three – March 31, 2011 Council Meeting

Mr. Bowers advised that if council members physical addresses were sent to him, he would try to help draw the districts and send council members recommendations. Physical addresses were already sent to Mr. Bowers on March 28th.

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn Chairman requested whether a map would be provided. Mr. Bowers advised it would

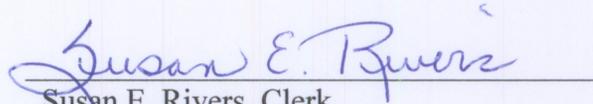
After going over information which involved Dillon County, the meeting was adjourned.

(SEAL)



J. Ronald Munnerlyn, Chairman
Marlboro County Council

ATTEST:



Susan E. Rivers, Clerk
Marlboro County Council

Date Adopted: May 23, 2011