

A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF NEW KENT WAS HELD IN THE BOARD ROOM OF THE COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING ON THE EIGHTEENTH DAY OF MARCH IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED NINETY-ONE. ALL MEMBERS WERE PRESENT. THE CHAIRMAN CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AND OPENED WITH A PRAYER.

IN RE: REDISTRICTING

Mr. R. J. Emerson, Jr., Director of Planning, presented an explanation of redistricting. Mr. Robinson asked for Mr. Emerson to tell how the maps were generated. They were generated by computer at the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission. New Kent participated with Charles City and Goochland Counties in the computer programming which uses the census data to help with drawing boundary lines for the new election districts. Federal law requires that a county examine one man--one vote, and that deviation from ideal district be no more than 5.0%, positive or negative. Data used in the generating of maps was taken from the 1990 Census Tracts. Entire population is considered. Several plans were generated for consideration. A plan must be selected and adopted by the end of April and forwarded to the Justice Department for approval.

Mr. Emerson explained Plans A, B, C, D, E, F and G and provided information as to ideal district, deviation from ideal, community of interest, etc.

April 8th was a suggested date for the public hearing.

The plans that had been mentioned by the Reverend Hathaway at the Board Meeting of March 11th were not available for review.

When the Chairman opened the meeting for public comment, the first speaker was Edward Pollard, president of the New Kent Chapter of NAACP, who said that they were looking for minority representation on the Board of Supervisors.

James Gardner, representing the Civic League, asked that the Board consider the 200 or so new homes to be constructed in Greenwood Estates, which would dilute the minority vote.

According to Mr. Pollard, every effort would be made to have available a plan including a minority district by the time of the Board meeting on March 25th.

Mr. Ringley voiced his opposition to a 7-district plan but that he had no problem with a 5-district plan. Mr. Ellyson went on record in favor of a 4-district or 5-district plan.

The Board asked Mr. Emerson to provide information as to total number of subdivision lots for potential development in electoral districts.

Mr. Boroughs did not make comment on a preference of a proposed plan.

Mr. Robinson said that he did not favor Plan F or G. He asked if transparencies could be prepared to be projected on screen at the next meeting. He said that he does not want to be pressured by time limits into decisions concerning redistricting. He feels that it is too important a decision to be pressured.

Mr. Boroughs moved to adjourn the meeting.

H. Garrett Hart, III
County Administrator

Robert A. Boroughs
Chairman