

**JOINT BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES
TOWNS OF BRAINTREE, BROOKFIELD, RANDOLPH AND ROXBURY
TUESDAY, JULY 26, 2011
RANDOLPH TOWN HALL
7 SUMMER STREET, RANDOLPH
CONFERENCE ROOM B**

Present: Town of Braintree: Richard Bowen and Walter Palmer
Town of Brookfield: Jane Woodruff, Robert (Jake) Stewart, Bonnie Fallon,
Larry Brassard, Martina Rutkovsky, Michael Fiorillo,
John Benson and Michael McPhetres
Town of Randolph: Larry Townsend, Joyce Mazzucco, Barbara Angell,
Bill Brigham, Pam Stafford, Richard Burstein, Jon Kaplan,
Tom Harty, Ruth Lutz, Stephen Webster, Pat Meyer,
Jack Cowdrey, Pat French, Dennis Brown, John Jackson,
and Larry Richburg
Town of Roxbury: Gloria Gerdes, Tammy Legacy, Charles Slocum, David
McShane, Gary Morse, and Ronald Jerry
Others Present: Robert Roper, Stowe, representative from the Legislative
Apportionment Board and Anne Donahue, Northfield

Richard Burstein, chair of the Randolph Board of Civil Authority, called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. The first order of business was to elect someone to record the minutes of this meeting. Stephen Webster nominated Joyce Mazzucco to record the minutes of the meeting. The nomination was seconded by Pam Stafford. There were no further nominations. A voice vote was taken and Joyce Mazzucco was elected by majority vote to record the minutes of this meeting. Mr. Burstein introduced Robert Roper, a representative from the Legislative Apportionment Board, to the audience and then turned the meeting over to Mr. Roper to moderate.

Mr. Roper gave some background information about the role of the Legislative Apportionment Board (LAB) and described how the board was formed. Data from the 2010 U.S. Census is used to determine where changes in population have occurred. The 2010 U.S. Census shows Vermont's population is now 625,741, a modest growth of 2% from the last census, and shows a shift in where the population has grown. Much of the growth occurred in Chittenden and Franklin counties. In an attempt to create relatively equal sized House districts, the LAB used the following formula, $625,741 \div 150 = 4,172$, to come up with the ideal population size for each district. Mr. Roper said that legislative representative districts have been 1 or 2 member districts in the past, but based on a court case decision, a single member district is the preferred format. He told the audience that the LAB was not unanimous in the decision to create single member districts, the vote being 4-3.

Mr. Roper talked about the reasons why single member districts are preferred. Single member districts are easy. There is an inherent unfairness when some districts are one member districts and others are 2 member districts. There is a level of clarity. Financially it is cheaper to

run a campaign for a single member district. Campaigning is more intimate—easier to go door to door. And recruiting people to be candidates is easier.

Mr. Roper opened the floor to discussion. A number of people participated in the discussion, including the following individuals: Richard Burstein, Robert Roper, Joyce Mazzucco, Stephen Webster, Barbara Angell, Tom Harty, Pat Meyer, John Jackson, Bonnie Fallon, Jane Woodruff, Michael Fiorillo, Jon Kaplan, Pat French, Tammy Legacy, and Anne Donahue.

Part of the discussion centered on where the proposed district lines are drawn for the Orange 5 district. Many felt that dividing the former village of Randolph so that part would be in the Orange-Washington 1 district and the rest in the Orange 5 district did not make sense. There were comments about how splitting the Town of Randolph into two different districts will be confusing to voters. There was a discussion of moving the line to follow the area north and east of Interstate 89 and Vermont Route 66 which is contiguous with the Town of Brookfield. There was also a discussion about two member districts—if the concept of 2 member districts is dead. There was a question about the Vermont Technical College (VTC) students, whether the students were included in Randolph's population count, and how including the VTC students may skew the actual population size of the town. There was also a question of how the changes in district might affect payments from the state. Mr. Roper told the audience that towns can challenge the census numbers.

Several people voiced support of the single member district proposal. There was also a discussion about the changes to senatorial districts. A question was asked as to what the Town of Roxbury thought about the proposed district changes. The Roxbury BCA was not opposed to the proposed district. Roxbury would prefer to remain in a district affiliated with Northfield and Moretown, but feels the proposed district is workable. Anne Donahue told the audience that Northfield met on Monday night and would prefer to remain a two (2) member representative district with Roxbury and Moretown.

There was no further discussion. A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Attest: 
Joyce L. Mazzucco, Randolph Town Clerk

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Tuesday, July 26, 2011
Randolph Municipal Building
Conference Room B**

ATTENDEE LIST

<u>PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME</u>	<u>TOWN</u>
Stephen Webster	Randolph
Pat Meyer	Randolph
Bonnie Fallon	Brookfield
Jamie Bignard	Brookfield
Joan Cawdrey	Randolph
Pat French	Randolph
DEONIS BROWN	RANDOLPH
JOHN JACKSON	RANDOLPH
Martina El Rutkowsky	Brookfield
Marta Witek	Brookfield
Julie	Brookfield
Anne Donahue	Northfield
Michelle Finelli (Michelle Finelli)	Brookfield
Ronald Jerry	ROXBURY
Larry Richburg	Randolph

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<u>PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME</u>	<u>TOWN</u>
LARRY TOWNSEND	RANDOLPH
Jane B Woodruff	Brookfield
Barbara Angelle	Randolph
West (Abe) Stewart	Brookfield
Bill Byham	Randolph
Robert Pope	Stowe
Gloria B. Gerdes.	Roxbury -
Jammy Lepacy	Roxbury
Charles H. Locum	Roxbury
Pam Stafford.	Randolph
RICHARD FURSTEN	Randolph
Richard A Down	Braintree
Jon Kaplan	Randolph
Tom HARTY	RANDOLPH
David McShane	Roxbury
Ruth Lutz	Randolph
Walter Palmer	BRAINTREE
Gary Mear	Roxbury