Sedgwick County BOCC Redistricting Town Hall Meeting

November 15, 2021
General Considerations

• Redistricting is the process by which the BOCC divides itself into 5 districts, each pertaining to a commissioner, in a manner such that the districts contain an equal amount of people, are as compact as possible, and comport with Kansas and Federal law.

• Sedgwick County typically redistricts every 10 years following the release of U.S. Census data.
General Considerations

• How do we redistrict, literally?
  • K.S.A. 19-204 instructs that the BOCC redistricts itself “by resolution.” Open-ended.

• BOCC sets the process
  • Staff prepares a number of acceptable options, with the commissioners’ ability to submit their own suggested maps.
  • BOCC then selects its preferred map and adopts it in an open meeting though a majority vote.
Compactness

• Compactness relates to the geographic boundaries of the 5 BOCC districts.
• The Kansas Supreme Court has interpreted this requirement to mean territory that is “closely united.”
• Compactness is important, but it can be subordinate to population equivalency.
Population Equality

• Population equality is important because people that reside in an over-populated BOCC district do not have equal representation in county government.

• A variance of 5% population between BOCC districts appears to be acceptable under state law.
## 2020 Census Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>2010 Census</th>
<th>2020 Census</th>
<th>Change</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sedgwick</td>
<td>498,365</td>
<td>523,824</td>
<td>+25,459</td>
<td>5.11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 (Meitzner)</td>
<td>99,606</td>
<td>105,567</td>
<td>+5,961</td>
<td>5.98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 (Lopez)</td>
<td>98,467</td>
<td>99,804</td>
<td>+1,337</td>
<td>1.36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 (Dennis)</td>
<td>99,721</td>
<td>104,204</td>
<td>+4,483</td>
<td>4.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 (Cruse)</td>
<td>101,021</td>
<td>109,341</td>
<td>+8,320</td>
<td>8.24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 (Howell)</td>
<td>99,550</td>
<td>104,908</td>
<td>+5,358</td>
<td>5.38%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Factors Considered by Staff when Configuring Districts

1. Population equivalency
2. Compactness
3. Compliance with Kansas and Federal law
4. Generally representative of the county
5. Recognition of areas of common interest
6. Recognition of existing boundaries
Factors Considered by Staff when Configuring Districts

7. Provision of continuity with previous district plans
8. Retention of existing commissioners in their respective districts
9. Existing voting precincts
10. City boundaries
11. Number of disenfranchised voters (those who are scheduled to vote but are moved into a district not up for election)
Current Districts
Plan 1

[Map with districts labeled DIST 1, DIST 2, DIST 3, DIST 4, DIST 5]
Plan 2
Plan 5
Plan 6
Plan 7