

MINUTES OF THE SHARON VT BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY MEETING
WITH TOWNS OF STRAFFORD, THETFORD AND NORWICH BCA'S
NOVEMBER 8TH 2021

Sharon Members Present: JP: Mary Ayer, John Lanza

Sharon Selectboard: Kevin Gish, Mary Gavin

Sharon Town Clerk: Catherine Sartor

State Representative: James Masland

Strafford: Andrew Lane, Lisa Bragg, Sarah North

Thetford: Martie,(Assistant Town Clerk) David Goodrich

Norwich: Bonnie Munday, Claudette Brochu, Robert Gere, Linda Gray

Linda Gray, a member of Norwich BCA opened the meeting by asking towns to share what our positions were with regards to the tentative maps proposed by the Legislative Apportionment Board (LAB).

She went on to say that Norwich was prioritizing to maintain the current district to keep all of Norwich intact as a town, noting all 4 towns have an affinity for one another.

Mary Gavin, a Sharon Selectboard and BCA member said that Sharon had a good discussion regarding what this change would look like for us. Sharon did not discuss the Norwich break off portion of the town, however generally felt the four-town district could continue to work for them.

Andrew Lane, a member of Strafford BCA mentioned the fear they have being a smaller town, that they could become an afterthought. He said they were afraid that the smaller towns voices would get lost and that candidates for representation would lean towards the larger town in the district to acquire votes.

David Goodrich, a BCA member from Thetford spoke to confirm that his town came to a formal resolution to maintain the current 4-town district, having the same concerns as the rest of the towns.

Andrew Lane from Strafford noted that we as towns need to be compelling in feedback/rebuttal to the LAB.

Jim Masland stated that there is no guarantee that there will be 2 democrats from Thetford, this could all change.

Linda Gray mentioned the votes for single member districts by the LAB were only 4/3 and to be mindful of this while submitting feedback.

This meeting ended at 7:25PM

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Sartor, Sharon BCA Clerk/Town Clerk