

Reapportionment Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday - July 14, 2014
6:00p.m.

1. Introductions and Context:

Superintendent, Jay Robinson, called the meeting to order at 6:00. He had all members of the committee introduce themselves. Jay then explained the purpose of the meeting. He shared that last fall, when looking at the most recent census and the makeup of the MSAD #72 School Board he questioned if the apportionment of the Board was accurate. He sent a letter to the State Department of Education and recently heard back from them stating that in fact the current Board “is not apportioned in accordance with the principles of one-man, one-vote” (see attached letter). He sent out a letter to the selectmen in the seven towns in our school district letting them know that we needed to create a reapportionment committee comprised of one municipal officer, one Board member appointed by the municipal officers and one citizen at large and then hold a meeting no later than 20 days after notification from the State (letter is attached). The State has given us two options to consider, but the committee is not obligated to adopt either of these plans and may submit as many alternative plans as it wishes for consideration. The committee must adopt a reapportionment plan within 90 days of this meeting.

Committee members present

<u>Name</u>	<u>Town</u>	<u>Representative Capacity</u>
Susan Tarbell Smith	Stow	Selectman
Steve Dupuis	Stow	School Board
Jack Jones	Lovell	Citizen
Bob Steller	Lovell	School Board
John Ramsden	Lovell	Selectman
Curtis Smith	Fryeburg	Citizen
Paul Naughton	Fryeburg	Selectman
Marie Struven	Fryeburg	School Board
Anna Mosca	Brownfield	School Board
Pat White	Brownfield	Citizen
Carol Brooks	Brownfield	Selectman
Ed Spooner	Stoneham	School Board
Rod Rovzar	Stoneham	Selectman
Sharon LeBlanc	Denmark	Board Member
Beverly Caparco	Denmark	Selectman
Luke Allocco	Denmark	Citizen

2. Election of Chairman

A motion was made and seconded to nominate Jack Jones to serve as chairman of this committee. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Election of Secretary

A motion was made and seconded to nominate Heather Sheehan to serve as secretary of this committee. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Consideration of Recommended Plans:

Jay explained the two options presented to the committee by the State. The first option is changing the weighted votes for each Board member and the second option is to add one Director representing Brownfield, which would affect the weight of Brownfield's votes per Board member. Jay explained that a weighted vote is used when there is a close vote by the board.

a. Change in Weights of Existing Board Members' Votes

Option B-1

Brownfield: 80 to 96 per Board member
Denmark: 66 to 69 per Board member
Fryeburg: 76 to 68 per Board member
Lovell: 69 to 68 per Board member
Stoneham: 35 to 28 per Board member
Stow: 44 to 48 per Board member
Sweden: 34 to 47 per Board member

b. Addition of 1 Director in Brownfield (and Subsequent change in weights)

Option B-2

Brownfield: 80 to 64 per Board member
Denmark: 66 to 69 per Board member
Fryeburg: 76 to 68 per Board member
Lovell: 69 to 68 per Board member
Stoneham: 35 to 28 per Board member
Stow: 44 to 48 per Board member
Sweden: 34 to 47 per Board member

c. Discussion of best option:

There was discussion regarding the pros and cons of adding another director from Brownfield vs. changing the weighted vote so that Brownfield would be accurately represented on the School Board. The point was made that the current Board is one of the largest in the state and adding another director might not be beneficial to the "running" of the board. It was also noted that it is difficult finding people who are willing to serve and commit to representing their town.

5. Vote on recommended Option:

A motion was made to adopt option B-1; changing the weighted votes for Board members as the reapportionment plan.

Motion: Steve Dupuis

Second: Ed Spooner

Motion Passed

15 in favor

1 opposed

6. Adjournment:

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:35.

The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heather Sheehan

Secretary