

**RESOLUTION  
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Supervisor Richard Bostwick  
INITIATED BY



Supervisor Richard Bostwick  
DRAFTED BY

County Board Staff Committee  
SUBMITTED BY

December 12, 2019  
DATE DRAFTED

**PLACING ADVISORY REFERENDUM ON THE SPRING 2020 COUNTY  
BALLOT ON CREATION OF NONPARTISAN REDISTRICTING PROCEDURE**

1 **WHEREAS**, the Rock County Board of Supervisors on February 27, 2014 passed a resolution calling  
2 for nonpartisan legislative and congressional redistricting maps; and,

3  
4 **WHEREAS**, pursuant to Article IV, Section 3 of the Wisconsin Constitution, the Wisconsin  
5 Legislature is directed to redistrict state legislative districts "according to the number of inhabitants"  
6 at its next session following the decennial federal census. The legislature also reapportions  
7 congressional districts at the same interval pursuant to federal law; and,

8  
9 **WHEREAS**, the practice of redistricting by the majority party stifles political participation and  
10 competition, discourages collaboration and compromise, ensures continued control by the party in  
11 power, and lacks the fairness necessary to our democratic process, by undermining the principle of  
12 one-person-one vote; and,

13  
14 **WHEREAS**, the current procedure allows the legislature of the majority party to prepare redistricting  
15 plans and maps that may result in unfair partisan plans and maps, allowing the legislature to choose  
16 its voters rather than the voters choosing their representatives, which is called gerrymandering.

17  
18 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly  
19 assembled this 2nd day of January, 2020 does hereby direct the Rock County Clerk to place  
20 the following advisory referendum on the April 7, 2020 county wide ballot:

21  
22 **Question:** Should the Wisconsin legislature create a nonpartisan procedure for the preparation  
23 of legislative and congressional district plans and maps?

24 **YES** \_\_\_\_\_ **NO** \_\_\_\_\_

25  
26 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Corporation Counsel prepare a Notice of Referendum to be  
27 published by the Rock County Clerk in accordance with statutory requirements; and,

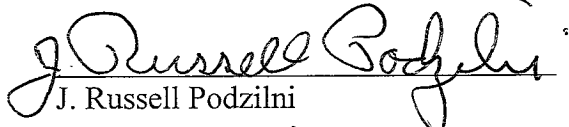
28  
29 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution and the referendum shall be filed with the Rock  
30 County Clerk no later than 70 days prior to the April 7, 2020 election at which the question will appear  
31 on the ballot.

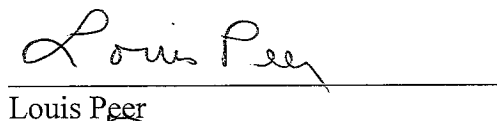
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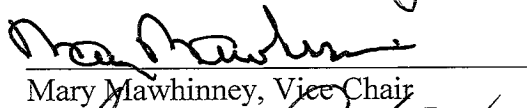
Placing Advisory Referendum on the Spring 2020 County Ballot on Creation of Nonpartisan Redistricting Procedure  
Page 2

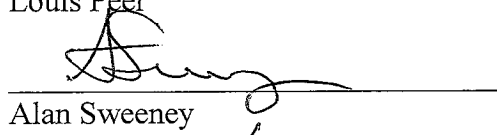
Respectfully submitted,

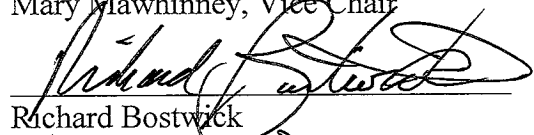
COUNTY BOARD STAFF COMMITTEE

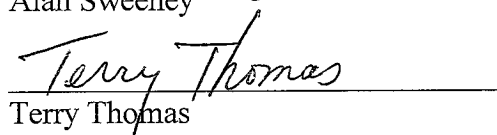
  
J. Russell Podzilni

  
Louis Peer

  
Mary Mawhinney, Vice Chair

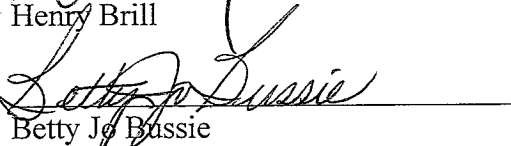
  
Alan Sweeney

  
Richard Bostwick

  
Terry Thomas

  
Henry Brill

  
Bob Yeomans

  
Betty Jo Bussie

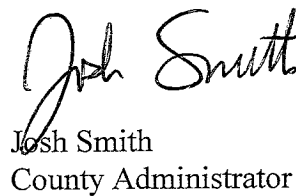
FISCAL NOTE:

There may be nominal cost to the County depending on the size of the ballot.

  
Sherry Oja  
Finance Director

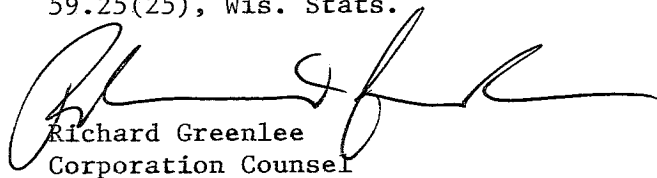
ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Matter of policy.

  
Josh Smith  
County Administrator

LEGAL NOTE:

The County Board is authorized to take this action pursuant to secs. 59.51 and 59.25(25), Wis. Stats.

  
Richard Greenlee  
Corporation Counsel