



Spalding County
online

Board of Commissioners

PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing was held by the Spalding County Board of Commissioners in their office in the Courthouse Annex, Monday, November 19, 2001 beginning at 5:00 o'clock p.m. with Commissioners Martha McDaniel, Merrill Massengale and Dick Morrow present. Commissioners Johnie McDaniel and Michael Kendall were absent. Also present were Assistant County Manager Michael Sabine, County Attorney Jim Fortune and County Clerk Phyllis Doane. Also absent was County Manager William Wilson.

Chairman Massengale called the Public Hearing to order and welcomed the guest present.

The purpose of the hearing was to receive comment on the proposed reapportionment maps that were displayed in the meeting room. It was explained that there were three (3) maps drawn by the Board of Commissioners and an alternate map drawn up by Commissioner Martha McDaniel.

Ms. Jewel Walker Harps, Chairman of the Local Chapter of the NAACP was the only citizen present and made comments. She said that she was still in the process of studying the maps and she understands that there is no recommendation from the Board as of yet. She said she had made an important observation from the maps and that is she doesn't see a plan that she considers to be one that would produce two minority seats. She said that the numbers are pretty good but it seems if you look at voting history you would still feel that you would have only one minority elected.

It was pointed out to Ms. Harps that from three of the maps District III would be a minority district as Carriage Hills has been taken out of District IV, which would give black influence in District III. Commissioner Martha McDaniel commented that for the future in the next ten years the opportunities within District III would perhaps be enhanced for minority representative.

Ms. Harps stated that she feels the black community has been inadequately served and they need representation to meet their needs.

Chairman Massengale stated to Ms. Harps that there would be one more public hearing and that would be on Monday, December 3, 2001 at 5:00 p.m.

Upon motion by Commissioner Martha McDaniel, seconded by Commissioner Massengale the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 5:16 P.M.

County Clerk

Chairman

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