

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF MEETING

MAY 20, 1986

The Board of County Commissioners met this date in special session regarding single member districts with the following members present to: wit: Chairman Charles Richards, Commissioners Emmanuel Hires, Ronald Wood Roy Bailey and Drew Peacock.

Clerk Willie D. Wise, Deputy Clerk Gail O'Bryan and Attorney David House were present and acting.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Richards.

Commissioner Bailey stated he wanted five (5) districts with equal population. He further stated the way it was working out was strickly discrimination against him.

Attorney House discussed the board's options.

After much discussion, Supervisor of Elections, Martin Sewell stated the other districts could not be drawn out until the district in question was settled.

Commissioner Hires stated the proposals were based on registered voters and if you took the percentage of non-registered voters you would have a higher percentage have a higher percentage of blacks than white, and in the future the percentage of black registered voters would be higher.

Commissioner Wood asked what steps would follow, if both sides agreed, in order to implement it.

Attorney House explained both sides and steps to be taken if in agreement, and also if no agreement could be reached.

Attorney House stated, in his opinion, the Board should:

1. agree to a consent judgment
2. if unable to agree on the lines to let the judge decide the lines on this one district.

Commissioner Hires stated he felt the Board needed to work together and settle the district lines without involving anyone else.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bailey, seconded by Commissioner Wood, and duly carried to enter into a consent judgement for single member district.

Attorney House and the Board discussed the John Chapman Lawsuit.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bailey, seconded, and duly carried to have the county attorney defend all defendants in the case of John Chapman -vs- Fernwood Bailey, Jack Bowman, Monroe Cox, Donnell Whitfield, Roy Bailey, Drew Peacock, Individually and in their official capacity.

As there was no further business to come before this body, a motion was made by Commissioner Bailey to adjourn. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Peacock, and duly carried.

Meeting adjourned.

ATTEST:



WILLIE D. WISE, Clerk



CHARLES RICHARDS, Chairman