

Board of Civil Authority  
Bennington, VT

Meeting Minutes of November 8, 2021

Members Present: Cassie Barbeau, Barbara Bluto, Kate Canning, Michele Hogan, Jackie Kelly, Albert Krawczyk, Jim Marsden, Anne Mook, David Shaffe & Kayla Thompson

Also Present: Martha Cornwell, Bill Fisk, Marlene Hall, Carl Korman, Lon McClintock, and Karen Mellinger

\*\*Meeting called to order by Board Chair, David Shaffe, at 5:02PM.

\*\*Lon McClintock noted that Shaftsbury is the only small Town in the area being split.

\*\*Karen Mellinger spoke regarding Shaftsbury's proposed vs. current map and wishes to advocate to remain the same as much as feasibly possible.

\*\*Karen suggested Woodford's proposed district (Ben-Wdm1) could take population from the districts to the east, as some of those districts are above ideal population.

\*\*Cassie asked Karen if Shaftsbury even have the people to give and remain a district. Karen said, if they are to remain in their current structure, no, they do not have the people to give to Bennington.

\*\*Several people pointed out that Woodford meets the LAB criteria as far as being contiguous, sharing social interaction and common interests.

\*\*Martha Cornwell suggested taking 54 residents from the Route 9 corridor in Woodford and then taking the remainder from Shaftsbury.

\*\*Cassie didn't feel it was a good idea to start cutting out little sections of more than one Town to make ends meet.

\*\*Much general discussion followed regarding the coming months and the negotiations that will take place in the Legislature. We are in a situation where we cannot cut clean lines today and make all of the puzzle pieces fit and it will be a long game to play in the coming months.

\*\*Shaftsbury members dismissed at 5:53 PM.

\*\*Bennington BCA members continued briefly to reiterate the following night's meeting would be more discussion of the options available and to at least decide 1) single member vs. two member districts and 2) whether to recommend staying intact, regardless of being only about 100 residents short, taking Woodford or part of Shaftsbury.

\*\*Motion made to adjourn by Cassie Barbeau, seconded by Barbara Bluto, meeting adjourned at 6:11PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cassandra Barbeau  
Town Clerk