

**Summary of Final Benton County Commissioner
2012 Redistricting Plan**

District	Commissioner	Population Before Redistricting	"Goal" Population after Redistricting	Percent Over or Under Goal Pop.	Redistricted Population	New Percent Over or Under Goal Pop.	Cumulative Change after Redistricting
1	Peschl	7,280	7,690	-5.33%	7,280	-5.33%	0
2	Wollak	7,874	7,690	2.39%	7,508	-2.37%	366
3	McMahon	8,492	7,690	10.43%	7,839	1.93%	653
4	Buerkle	5,900	7,690	-23.28%	7,770	1.04%	4,638
5	Bukowski	8,905	7,690	15.80%	8,054	4.73%	3,619
Total		38,451	38,451*		38,451		

*adds to 38,450 due to rounding

Summary Narrative of Final Redistricting Plan

Overview

Commissioner district population totals after the 2010 Census required changes in boundaries for Commissioner districts 3, 4 and 5. Pre-redistricting populations for these Commissioner districts were outside the margin permitted in state statute. Final redistricted populations by Commissioner district must fall within 10% of the "goal" average for each district after the 2010 census. For Benton County, that goal average is 7,690 people, meaning that final redistricted populations by district must fall between 6,921 and 8,459 people.

Another factor considered during redistricting is the cumulative change occurring after district boundaries are changed. State statute requires elections in all Commissioner districts, unless this cumulative change is less than 5% of the goal average for each district. For Benton County, the "5% rule" equates to a cumulative change of 385 people.

Final 2012 Redistricting Plan

The County Board's final 2012 redistricting plan consists of the following assignments of precincts to each Commissioner district:

District 1 St. George Township
 Glendorado Township
 Gilmanton Township
 Maywood Township
 Granite Ledge Township
 City of Foley
 City of Gilman

District 2 Mayhew Lake Township
 Watab Township
 Langola Township
 Graham Township
 Alberta Township
 City of Rice
 City of Royalton

- District 3
 - City of Sartell
 - City of Sauk Rapids, Precinct 3
 - City of Sauk Rapids, Precinct 4

- District 4
 - Sauk Rapids Township Precinct 1
 - Sauk Rapids Township Precinct 3
 - Minden Township, Precinct 2
 - City of Sauk Rapids, Precinct 1
 - City of Sauk Rapids, Precinct 2
 - City of Sauk Rapids, Precinct 5

- District 5
 - Minden Township, Precinct 1
 - City of Sauk Rapids, Precinct 6
 - City of St. Cloud, Ward 2 Precinct 1
 - City of St. Cloud, Ward 2 Precinct 3
 - City of St. Cloud, Ward 2 Precinct 4

Summary of Boundary Changes from Current District Boundaries

For District 1, the final plan reflects no changes from the current district boundaries. District 2 loses Sauk Rapids Township Precinct 3 to District 4, for a change of 366 people. This change is below the 5% threshold, so District 2 is not required to run for election in 2012. District 3 loses Sauk Rapids Township (both precincts) and Sauk Rapids City Precinct 7 (old precinct #7; the City has consolidated its Precincts 5, 6 and 7 into new Precinct 5). The cumulative change for District 3 is 653 people, so District 3 must run for election in 2012.

District 4 sees the most change in boundaries. It adds all of Sauk Rapids Township and the new Sauk Rapids City Precinct 5 (old Precincts 5, 6 and 7). District 4 loses old St. Cloud City Ward 2 Precinct 3 (which is now merged with old St. Cloud City W2 P1 to create new W2 P3). Total change for District 4 is 4,638 people. While this change exceeds 5%, District 4 is up for election normally in 2012.

District 5 loses most all Sauk Rapids City precincts, retaining only Sauk Rapids City Precinct 6. This precinct represents unpopulated City “islands” in Minden Township. A separate precinct was maintained for these areas since a new state legislative boundary separates them from the rest of Sauk Rapids City. District 5 adds the new St. Cloud City Ward 2 Precinct 3 (merger of old W2 P1 and W2 P3). Total changes for District 5 is 3,619 people. District 5 is normally scheduled to run for election in 2012.

Implications for 2012 Elections

In 2012, Districts 1, 4 and 5 are normally up for election. Due to redistricting, District 3 must also run for election. Since the County will have four districts up for election in 2012, one district will run for a two-year term to maintain the proper staggering of terms. The final redistricting plan reflects the consensus of the County Board that District 3 will run for a two-year term. Districts 1, 4 and 5 will run for the normal 4-year terms.