LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY

Serving the Iowa Legislature

Tim McDermott, Director

December 14, 2023

TO: **WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

CC: **SECRETARY OF STATE**

FROM: **IOWA LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY**

RE: **WARREN COUNTY SUPERVISOR REDISTRICTING REPORT - PLAN I**

I. PLAN 3 COUNTY SUPERVISOR REDISTRICTING PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS

Pursuant to Iowa Code section 331.210A, the Legislative Services Agency (LSA) shall draw a representation plan for a county that elects supervisors under plan "three" as defined in Iowa Code section 331.206 if a new representation plan is required by law. Following submission to and approval by the state commissioner of elections of a precinct plan to be used to draw the new representation plan for the county, the state commissioner of elections shall notify the Legislative Council which shall direct the LSA to prepare a representation plan for the county.

After the LSA has drawn the plan, the LSA shall submit the plan to the governing body for the county and shall at the earliest feasible time make available to the public copies of the legal description of the plans, maps illustrating the plans, a summary of the standards prescribed by law for development of the plans, and a statement of the population of each district included in the plan, and the relative deviation of each district population from the ideal district population.

Upon receipt of the first plan, the governing body shall comply with the duties required by Iowa Code section 331.210A, subsection 2, paragraph "c", to the extent applicable. After the requirements of Iowa Code section 331.210A, subsection 2, paragraphs "a" through "c" have been met, the governing body shall review the plan and either approve or reject the plan. If the plan is rejected, the governing body shall give written reasons for the rejection and shall direct the LSA to prepare a second plan. The second plan may be amended by the governing body in accordance with the provisions of Iowa Code section 331.210A, subsection 2, paragraph "d". After receiving the second plan, the governing body shall approve the second plan, the first plan, or an amended plan.

II. WARREN COUNTY SUPERVISOR REDISTRICTING.

A. PLAN SELECTION CONSIDERATIONS.

PRECINCTS. The proposed precinct plan for Warren county as submitted and approved by the state commissioner of elections complies with legal standards applicable to precincts and allows for the drawing of a valid supervisor redistricting plan.

POPULATION EQUALITY. Pursuant to the 2020 federal decennial census, the total population of Warren county is 52,403 persons. As part of the general election held in 2022, Warren county increased the number of county supervisors from 3 to 5. As a result, the ideal population size for each county supervisor district is 10,481 persons. To avoid the requirement that a county board of supervisors has the burden of proof to justify any supervisor district that deviates from the ideal population by more than 1 percent or 105 persons, each county supervisor district in the plan has a population of between 10,376 and 10,586 persons.

CITIES. Iowa Code section 49.3, subsection 2, paragraph "e," provides that cities shall not be divided into two or more county supervisor districts unless the population of the city is greater than the ideal size of a district and cities shall be divided into the smallest number of county supervisor districts possible. Based on this requirement, cities that did not exceed the ideal size of a district were not divided into two or more county supervisor districts in the plan. The city of Indianola, with a population of 15,833, and the city of Norwalk, with a population of 12,799, exceed the ideal size of a district and both were divided into no more than two county supervisor districts.

B. WARREN COUNTY SUPERVISOR DISTRICTS PLAN I DESCRIPTIONS.

PLAN I. The first proposed county supervisor redistricting plan for Warren county is as follows:

District 1. Greenfield 2, Jackson, Jefferson, Linn, Cumming/WDM, Norwalk 1, Norwalk 2, Norwalk 7, and Virginia precincts.

District 2. Greenfield 3, Des Moines 73, Des Moines 74, Norwalk 3, Norwalk 4, Norwalk 5, and Norwalk 6 precincts.

District 3. Greenfield 1, Greenfield 4, Lincoln 1, Indianola 3, Indianola 4, Indianola 6, Squaw Creek, and White Oak precincts.

District 4. Lincoln 2, Indianola 1, Indianola 2, Indianola 5, Indianola 7, and Indianola 8 precincts.

District 5. Allen 2, Allen 3, Belmont, Liberty, Lincoln 3, Otter, Palmyra, Richland, Union, and White Breast precincts.

C. PLAN I PUBLIC NOTICE.

The requirements of making information about the plan available to the public shall be met by making this report and the attachments available through the Legal Topic Publications section on the Iowa General Assembly's website located at the following link: www.legis.iowa.gov/publications/legalPubs.

D. PLAN I APPROVAL OR REJECTION NOTIFICATION. If Plan I is approved by the board of supervisors, the plan shall be submitted to the state commissioner of elections for approval as required by Iowa Code section 321.210A, subsection 2, paragraph "e." If Plan I is rejected, the board of supervisors shall notify the state commissioner of elections of the rejection, including reasons for rejecting the plan, which the state commissioner of elections will provide to the LSA.

III. ATTACHMENTS.

Attached to this Report are the following:

1 — Standards for Plan 3 county supervisor redistricting.

2 — Map of proposed county supervisor districts - Plan I.

3 — Information including populations and population variance statistics for each county supervisor district in Plan I.

ATTACHMENT 1

STANDARDS FOR PLAN THREE COUNTY SUPERVISOR REDISTRICTING

Several Iowa Code sections prescribe standards for establishing county supervisor districts for counties that elect supervisors under plan "three."

Iowa Code section 49.3 establishes requirements for election precincts and all election districts, including city wards and county supervisor districts. Specifically, Iowa Code section 49.3, subsection 2, establishes the following five requirements that are applicable to plan "three" county supervisor election districts:

1. All boundaries shall follow precinct boundaries.
2. All districts shall be as nearly equal as practicable to the ideal population for the districts as determined by dividing the number of districts to be established into the population of the county.
3. All districts shall be composed of contiguous territory as compact as practicable.
4. Consideration shall not be given to the addresses of incumbent officeholders, political affiliations of registered voters, previous election results, or demographic information other than population head counts, except as required by the Constitution and the laws of the United States.
5. Cities shall not be divided into two or more county supervisor districts unless the population of the city is greater than the ideal size of a district. Cities shall be divided into the smallest number of county supervisor districts possible.

Iowa Code section 331.210 governs plan "three" supervisor districts. The Iowa Code section provides that supervisor districts shall be drawn as provided in Iowa Code section 331.209, except that the boundaries of supervisor districts shall follow voting precinct lines. Iowa Code section 331.209, governing plan "two" supervisor districts, provides that supervisor districts shall be drawn, to the extent applicable, in compliance with the redistricting standards provided for senatorial and representative districts in Iowa Code section 42.4, including the requirement of justifying any population variance of a district in excess of 1 percent. If a supervisor redistricting plan with a variance in excess of 1 percent is adopted, Iowa Code section 331.209 requires the county board of supervisors to publish the justification for the variance in one or more official newspapers.

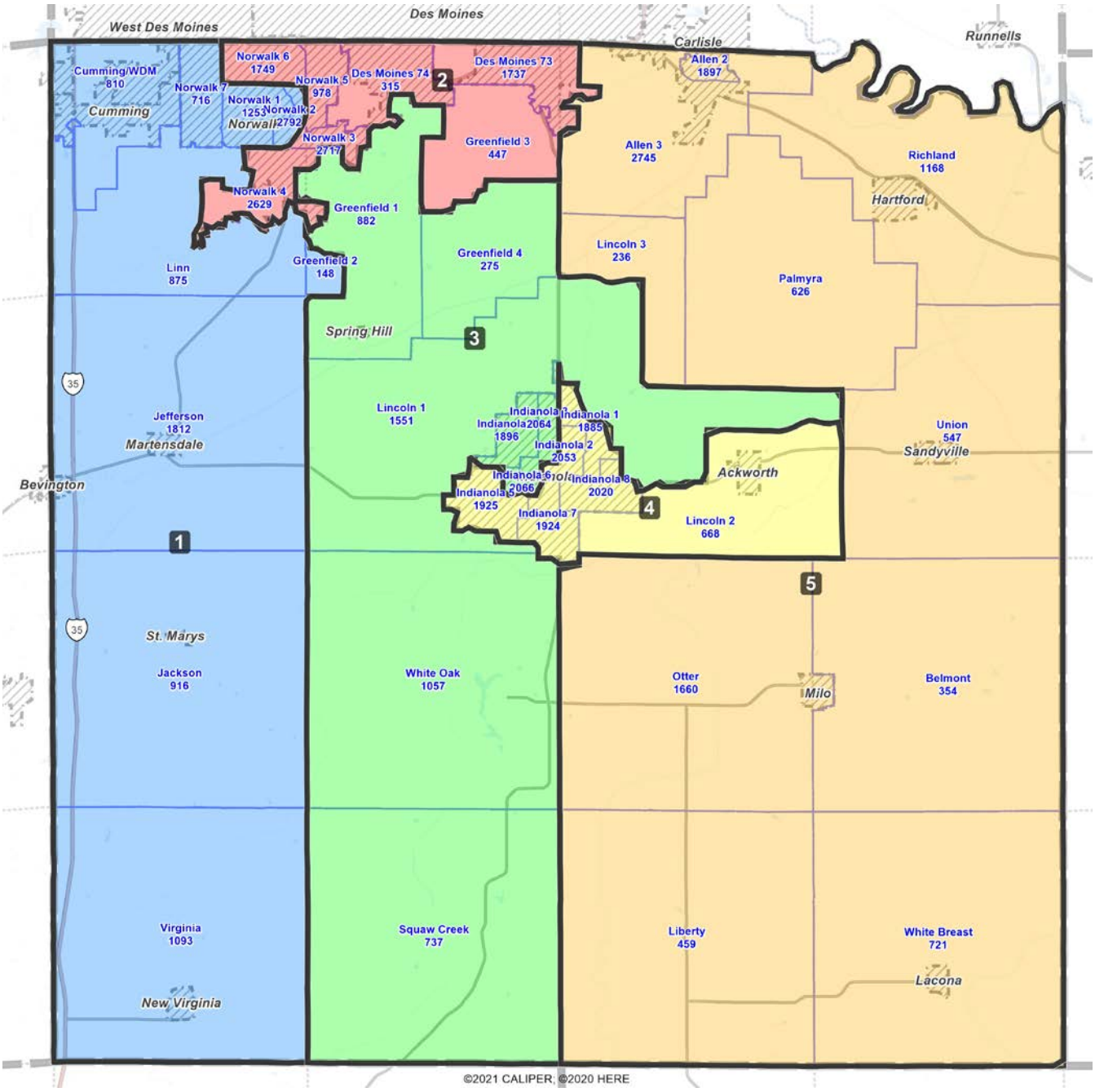
Iowa Code section 331.210A, subsection 2, paragraph "f," governing plan "three" county supervisor plans drawn by the Legislative Services Agency, also provides that plans shall be drawn in accordance with Iowa Code section 42.4, to the extent applicable.

Iowa Code section 42.4, governing congressional and state legislative redistricting and made applicable to plan "three" county supervisor redistricting, prescribes, in relevant part, several redistricting standards to be used in the preparation of congressional and legislative redistricting plans. The Iowa Code section provides that legislative and congressional districts shall be established on the basis of population; that, subject to population requirements and to the extent possible; the number of counties and cities divided among more than one district shall be as small as possible; that districts shall be composed of convenient contiguous territory; that districts shall be reasonably compact in form; and that no district shall be drawn for the purpose of favoring a political party, incumbent legislator or member of Congress, or other person or group, or for the purpose of augmenting or diluting the voting strength of a language or racial minority group. In providing that no district shall be drawn for the purpose of favoring a political party, incumbent legislator or member of Congress, or other person or

group, or for the purpose of augmenting or diluting the voting strength of a language or racial minority group, Iowa Code section 42.4 provides that no use shall be made of any data concerning the addresses of incumbent legislators or members of Congress, the political affiliations of registered voters, previous election results, and demographic information, other than population head counts, except as required by the Constitution and the laws of the United States.

ATTACHMENT 2

Proposed Warren County Supervisor Districts – Plan I



ATTACHMENT 3

PLAN I POPULATION SUMMARY

WARREN COUNTY

DISTRICT NUMBER	TOTAL POPULATION	% DEVIATION FROM IDEAL DISTRICT POP.	DEVIATION FROM IDEAL DISTRICT POP.
1	10,415	.63%	-66
2	10,572	.87%	91
3	10,528	.45%	47
4	10,475	.06%	-6
5	10,413	.65%	-68

Total County Population: 52,403

Ideal Supervisor District Population: 10,481

Maximum Allowable Population Deviation: 105 persons

Absolute Mean Deviation: 55.6 persons

Overall Range

	LARGEST DISTRICT POP.	SMALLEST DISTRICT POP.	OVERALL
ABSOLUTE	10,572	10,413	159
RATIO	1.0153		