

RESOLUTION NO. 11-12
SUPPORTING THE STATEWIDE COUNTY REDISTRICTING PLAN

WHEREAS the Wyoming Legislature is required by the Wyoming Constitution Art. 3, § 48 State census to reapportion its membership based upon the federal census;

WHEREAS the Wyoming Constitution Art. 3, § 3. Legislative apportionment stated:
“Each county shall constitute a senatorial and representative district; the senate and House of Representatives shall be composed of members elected by the legal voters of the counties respectively, every two (2) years. They shall be apportioned among the said counties as nearly as may be according to the number of their inhabitants. Each county shall have at least one senator and one representative; but at no time shall the number of members of the House of Representatives be less than twice nor greater than three times the number of members of the senate. The senate and house of representatives first elected in pursuance of this constitution shall consist of sixteen and thirty-three members respectively.”

WHEREAS Gorin v. Karpan, 775 F.Supp. 1430, 1445 (D.Wyo., 1991) was the federal court case that stated, “Wyoming Const. art. III, § 3, which constitutes each county an election district and requires that each county be represented by at least one representative, is inconsistent with the application of the “one person, one vote” principle under circumstances as they presently exist in Wyoming. Consequently, the Wyoming State Legislature may disregard this provision when reapportioning either the Senate or the House of Representatives;”

WHEREAS the Wyoming Constitution Art. 3, § 3. Legislative apportionment still requires that the Wyoming Legislature be apportioned among the counties “as nearly as may be according to the number of their inhabitants”;

WHEREAS legislative district boundaries to greatest extent possible should therefore be drawn to follow county boundaries for the following reasons:

1. Avoid voter confusion as to what district they live and who represents them.
2. Lower election costs to local governments.
3. Better connection between local governments and the legislature.
4. Continuity of the fabric of the community.
5. Avoid gerrymandering to preserve specific legislator’s seats.
6. Preserving to the extent possible government closer to the people that they serve.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners in and for Weston County, Wyoming that:

They support the Hans Hunt statewide proposal that complies with the Wyoming Constitution and provides as many intact county boundaries for legislative districts as possible while allowing compliance with the "one man, one vote" principle of our nation.


APPROVED, PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 2ND day of August, 2011.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WESTON COUNTY, WYOMING:


Tom W. Bruce, Chairman

ATTEST:


Mamie C. Krank, Weston County Clerk

