

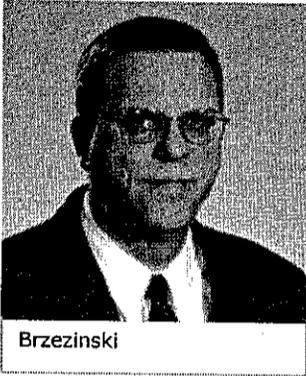
## Bay County board looks to redistrict, possibly reduce, County Commission seats

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By **Shannon Murphy | The Bay City Times**

**BAY COUNTY** — Bay County could lose up to two Bay County Board of Commissioner seats under plans being proposed by some members of the county's Apportionment Commission.



Brzezinski

The Commission, which is tasked with redistricting Bay County's Board of Commission districts following the 2010 Census results, met Tuesday for the second time.

The Apportionment Commission is made up of county Clerk Cynthia Luczak, who is chairwoman of the board; county Prosecutor Kurt Asbury, county Treasurer Rick Brzezinski; Bay County Republican Party Chairman Aaron Baylis; and Democratic Party Chairman Tony Pawlewski.



Courtesy Photo

Luczak

Luczak, Baylis and Brzezinski are each working on redistricting plans that they plan to submit to the Apportionment Commission by May 13. The group next meets at 9 a.m. May 16 to discuss the plans further.

Baylis said his plans include reducing the Bay County Board of Commissioners by two seats, from the current nine commissioners to seven.

Baylis said with the county's 2.3 percent population loss in the 2010 census, a reduction in commission seats makes sense.

Check out the latest population numbers for each municipality here:

**[Bay County Redistricting Good.pdf](#)**

"It would save the county some money on having to pay for two more commissioners," he said.

Baylis, whose plan is not complete, said rough drafts include increasing the area of the 1st District, which now includes the City of Pinconning, and Gibson, Mt. Forest, Garfield, Fraser and Pinconning townships. He also would combine the 8th and 9th districts. The 8th district currently includes Portsmouth Township and parts of Bay City. The 9th District includes Merritt and Hampton townships, Essexville and parts of Bay City.

Others on the board though don't want to see the districts reduced. Brzezinski is working on a plan to keep the districts at nine — although some boundaries would have to shift because of population changes.

"I know some commissioners are talking about reducing, but I think it's at a good number now," Brzezinski said. "If we start reducing, we'll have even larger geographic areas for each district."

According to state law, the Apportionment Commission meets every 10 years following a U.S. Census. Districts must be made into nearly equal populations, should be contiguous and as nearly a square shape as possible.