

Richland County

Referendum Ad Hoc Committee

July 28th, 2022

The Richland County Referendum Ad Hoc Committee convened on Thursday, July 28th 2022, in the County Board Room at the Richland County Courthouse, 181 W Seminary Street, in person and by WebEx.

Committee members present included County Board Supervisors Shaun Murphy-Lopez, David Turk, Kerry Severson, Bob Frank, Mayor Todd Coppernoll and School Board representative Erin Unbehaun.

Also present was Administrator Clinton Langreck, County Board Members Don Seep, Assistant to the Administrator Cheryl Dull taking minutes, several department heads, county employees and general public. John Couey was present from MIS running the teleconferencing.

Not present: Steve Carrow

1. **Call to Order:** County Administrator Clinton Langreck called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.
2. **Proof of Notification:** Assistant to the Administrator Dull verified that the meeting had been properly noticed. Copies of the agenda were sent by email to all Committee members, County Board members, WRCO, County department heads, Richland Observer, Valley Sentinel and a copy was posted on the Courthouse Bulletin Board.
3. **Agenda Approval:** Administrator Langreck asked for approval of the agenda. Moved by Supervisor Frank to approve the agenda, second by Supervisor Murphy-Lopez. All voting aye, motion carried.
4. **Appoint Committee Chairman** – Moved by Supervisor Frank to appoint Supervisor Murphy-Lopez as Committee Chairman. Supervisor Murphy-Lopez accepts the nominations. After 3 more calls, unanimous ballot was cast for Supervisor Murphy-Lopez. All voting aye, motion carried.
5. **Appoint Committee Vice-Chairman:** Moved by Supervisor Frank to appoint Mayor Coppernoll as Committee Vice-Chairman, he accepted nomination upon arrival. After 3 more calls it was moved to close nomination and cast unanimous ballots for Chair and Vice-chair by Supervisor Murphy-Lopez, 2nd by Supervisor Frank. All voting aye, motion carried.
6. **Review Committee Directives:** Administrator Langreck reviewed committee directives. Chair Murphy-Lopez reviewed the County Board Resolution concerning the referendum. Extensive discussion followed on why we are here and what brought us here.
7. **Discussion and Time Line establishment:** We are heading to either February or April. Discussion followed on contacting school districts. Also which Counties have had successful referendums and contacting them to get more information on the presentation of information to the public and what they felt worked.
8. **Discussion and possible action on services to take to referendum:** Extensive discussion followed on if services should be designated or if it should be for general operations and how this would affect a successful referendum.
9. **Duration of referendum:** Extensive discussion followed on the duration and what they felt the pros and cons are to different time limits. They will continue to have more discussion.
10. **Number of questions to be on referendum:** Discussion followed on how many questions and if less was better to present as too many tends to make people be drawn towards a lower dollar amount.
11. **Discussion and possible action on public education:** Extensive discussion followed on several ways to educate the public, what they should be educated on and how soon should it start. No action taken.
12. **Discussion and possible action on correspondences with other committees:** Administrator Langreck asked if there was any information you want from Finance & Personnel Committee right away that should go on their agenda for 8/2? Chair Murphy-Lopez requested that the financial worksheet be kept up to date and that this committee be kept abreast of any changes as they need to know what the gap is. Supervisor Turk requests all subcommittees start working on what could be cut should the referendum fail. Chair Murphy-Lopez requests that all subcommittees start the discussion on what would you cut if the referendum fails and what do you hope the voters would support. No action taken.

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13. Future agenda items and meeting schedule: Severson – The purpose of what brought us here today and why we are where we're at. How to start educating the public on what we have done that is good and what we have done to improve what is going on. Frank – How to best get the word out & educating the public. Coppernoll – How are we going to reach people and who is going to do it. Unbehaun – How to keep clear and concise education and how to best start getting the word out and a timeline for that. Turk – How to best get out information to educate.

14. Adjournment: Next meeting will be Monday, August 8th @ 6:00 pm in the County Board Room. Moved by Supervisor Frank to adjourn at 7:34 p.m., seconded by Supervisor Turk. All voting aye, motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by
Cheryl Dull
Richland County Assistant to the Administrator