

Richland County

Referendum Ad Hoc Committee

December 5th, 2022

The Richland County Referendum Ad Hoc Committee convened on Monday, December 5th, 2022, in person and by WebEx.

Committee members present included County Board Supervisors Steve Carrow, Shaun Murphy-Lopez, Bob Frank, Kerry Severson and Mayor Todd Coppernoll.

Also in attendance was Assistant to the Administrator Cheryl Dull taking minutes, Administrator Clinton Langreck and several department heads by WebEx, county employees, general public, County Board Members and WRCO.

Not present: Erin Unbehaun and Dave Turk

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Murphy-Lopez called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.
2. **Proof of Notification:** Chair Murphy-Lopez 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:** Chair Murphy-Lopez asked for approval of the agenda. Moved by Supervisor Carrow to approve the agenda as presented, second by Supervisor Severson. All voting aye, motion carried.
4. **Public Comments:** None
5. **Approval of Minutes:** Chair Murphy-Lopez asked for any additions or corrections to the minutes for the October 10th and November 21st meeting. Moved by Supervisor Frank to accept the minutes as presented, 2nd by Mayor Coppernoll. Motion carried
6. **Public education information report:** Chair Murphy-Lopez presented 06a. He made 2 changes to the public education information report. On page 15 there was some changes to the distributions of highway monies. Commissioner Elder explained the yearly expenditures and rotation of equipment replacement. The timeline that has to be met for having the referendum response ready was discussed. Moved by Supervisor Frank to adopt an updated public education information report to use in communicating with the public, committees, boards, agencies, and other bodies, 2nd by Supervisor Carrow. All voting aye, motion carried.
7. **Correspondence from committees:**
 - a. Public Works Standing Committee: The response was reviewed. Chair Murphy-Lopez has questions concerning the MIS's response that he needs to discuss with Administrator Langreck after the meeting.
 - b. Others:
 - Land & Zoning Standing Committee: The response was reviewed. Discussion followed on the increased sanitary filing fee and the GIS savings which can't be predicted at this time.
 - Public Safety Standing Committee: The response was reviewed. Discussion followed relating to the cutting of staff in Register in Probate would decrease the time needed to bring in revenue. Discussion on the cost of housing inmates vs. moving them out of the County.
 - Richland Economic Development Board: The response was reviewed; the City of Richland Center is willing to take it on if the position is not funded. Supervisor Severson shared his concerns that the position needs to be kept because the only way to increase taxes is net new construction.
8. **Videos:** Supervisor Turk has submitted 2 video scripts for the Committee to review. He is open to general input and ideas. The Committee suggested photos of departments and workers in those departments as background images. Mayor Coppernoll will reach out to Supervisor Turk to help with videos so they can get them ready.

Moved by Supervisor Frank to give script authority to Supervisor Turk to proceed in setting up videos, 2nd by Mayor Coppernoll. All voting aye, motion carried.
9. **Levy referendum materials from other communities:** Supervisor Carrow reviewed the referendums that had been voted on in other Counties in November. Most passed so it appears people are willing to pay for services in their community. Information is not easy to find once the referendum has been voted on, either they didn't do much to promote it or it was taken down right away.

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10. County Board survey: Item 10A. Chair Murphy-Lopez reviewed the questions he drew up which were laid out at the last meeting that will be handed out to the County Board at the December 13th meeting. They will need to be returned back to Administrative Assistant Dull by the end of the day Thursday, December 15th. Discussion followed on the questions and task requests.

How many rows are you comfortable with for ranking your priorities? Frank 35ish; Carrow 40; Murphy-Lopez 30; Coppernoll 35; Severson 35.

Top ranked will not go to referendum, low ranking will go to referendum. After discussion the recommended number of "X" should be 15.

Moved by Supervisor Frank to approve the attached survey as a framework for a final survey to be considered at the next meeting of the Referendum Ad Hoc Committee with simplifying #2, expand #3 choices, 2nd by Supervisor Carrow. All voting aye, motion carried.

11. Future agenda items: None

12. Adjournment: Next meeting will be Monday, December 12th @ 4:00 pm in the County Board Room. Moved by Mayor Coppernoll to adjourn at 7:53 p.m., seconded by Supervisor Frank. All voting aye, motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by

Cheryl Dull

Richland County Assistant to the Administrator