

Richland County

Rules & Resolutions Committee and Ethics Board

FEBRUARY 3rd, 2022

The Rules and Resolutions Committee and Ethics Board met on Thursday, February 3rd, 2022, in person and virtually at 10:00 a.m. in the County Board Room at the Richland County Courthouse.

Committee members present included: Kerry Severson, Chad Cosgrove, Shaun Murphy-Lopez, with Melissa Luck logged on remotely.

Also present was: Clint Langreck, County Administrator, Attorney Mike Windle, Cheryl Dull, Assistant to the County Administrator in attendance, with WRCO, Clerk Kalish, Treasurer Even, Supervisor Gentes and Supervisor Brewer logged on remotely. John Couey from MIS was present running the teleconferencing

1. Call to Order - Committee Chair Murphy-Lopez called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

2. Proof of Notification - Chair Murphy-Lopez confirmed with Assistant to the Administrator Cheryl Dull that the meeting had been properly noticed.

3. Agenda Approval - Moved by Supervisor Severson to approve the agenda, seconded by Supervisor Luck. All voting aye, motion carried.

4. Previous Meeting Minutes - Moved by Supervisor Severson to approve the minutes for the January 6th meeting of the Rules and Resolutions Committee and Ethics Board, second by Supervisor Cosgrove. All voting aye, motion carried.

5. County Board meeting date change - Chair Murphy-Lopez stated there has been a conflict with the City Council meeting on the same night. He is recommending a resolution to the County Board changing the regular meeting for the County Board from the 3rd Tuesday to the 3rd Thursday of most months except for April which is required by State Statute. Supervisor Severson stated, the City Council meets twice a month with the County only meeting once a month so he is not in favor of this change. He feels the City could change one of their meetings to work around the County. Supervisor Cosgrove and Luck both agree with Supervisor Severson. Supervisor Brewer feels it should be changed.

It will remain status quo.

6. Committee restructuring – Chair Murphy-Lopez stated that this was on the previous agenda at which time Supervisor Luck agreed to tackle the restructuring process.

Supervisor Luck provided her presentation to the committee and explained her 2 flow charts and thought process. As she reviewed her slides she suggested that regardless of if the Committee Structures are changed, at a minimum there should be clean up of Committees.

Supervisor Severson likes the idea but still needs some issues worked out such as the committee that has the fairgrounds. Will members of the new oversight committee all go out to the fairgrounds at fair time to help out?

Supervisor Luck added Director Gudgeon had a lot of questions concerning the Joint Ambulance Committee.

Chair Murphy-Lopez stated he originally felt there was a lot of issues so he put it in a spreadsheet to understand. Chair Murphy-Lopez presented his idea for the committee restructuring, providing 3 options and explained his designs and thought process.

Supervisor Lucks suggestion is that the committee members narrow down their choices then they could make a plan to progress forward with the steps to the procedure.

Supervisor Severson felt we should get a background on why current committees were combined the way they are now and what that thought process was to come to where we are today. Chair Murphy-Lopez didn't feel it should not be assumed that a department couldn't report to a couple different committee. With this design, he felt it would get the committees thinking about the bigger picture rather than the silo affect we currently have.

Moved by Supervisor Severson to adopt option B of Supervisor Lucks with the 11 step process with the Executive Committee being between the other committees and the County Board, 2nd by Supervisor Cosgrove. Supervisor Severson called for discussion. He wants to go on record that this motion is to just study this option further and come back with development and discussion.

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Moved to amended the motion by Supervisor Cosgrove to develop a highbred of Lucks option B and Murphy-Lopez's option C, 2nd by Severson. All voting aye, motion carried.

Discussion followed to where the outlaying committee will fall into this structure and who they will report to.

Supervisor Severson recommended that County employees should be briefed on what we are working on as it was voted on today.

7. Roles and responsibilities of the County Board Chair and Vice Chair - Postposed to February 17.

8. Process for running for Board Chair/Vice Chair – Postposed to February 17th.

Supervisor Cosgrove left at 11:50 a.m.

9. Ethics ordinance - Chair Murphy Lopez stated this has been discussed several times in the last year. At last discussion was there was 9 points they wanted added. Attorney Windle reviewed the 9 points and with that information he rewrote the ordinance to include State Statute numbers that should be referenced, employees, officials, immediate family members who receives one half of their support from the county and anyone else that should otherwise be included. After discussion it was decided that the Statement of Economic Interest (aka SEI) should only apply to County Board members, candidates for County Board, constitutional officers and their immediate families where they get one half of their income from the County. This will go into effect with the new Board and/or committees. Supervisor Luck asked that definitions be added to define questioned items specifically. Attorney Windle will make those changes and bring back for review.

10. Future agenda items – Supervisor Severson – none; Supervisor Cosgrove - review todays discussion and the framework of committees; Supervisor Murphy-Lopez – none; Supervisor Luck - none.

& 11. Adjournment – Next meeting will be Thursday, February 17th at 3:00 pm to discuss items 7 & 8 and the highbred model of the Committee restructuring. Moved by Supervisor Luck to adjourn at 12:23 p.m., seconded by Supervisor Severson. All voting aye, motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by
Cheryl Dull
Assistant to the County Administrator