Minutes of the Rockville-Turkey Run School Reorganization Committee

October 3, 2011

The Reorganization Committee met at 7:00 pm, October 3, 2011 at the Turkey Run Schools’ Central Administration Office. All members of the committee were present, Ader, Craycraft, Gambaiani, Harbison, Rode and Wrightsman, as well as Dr. Tom Rohr and Counsel Gary Hanner. President Wrightsman presented a list of names for the new school corporation submitted in response to the public question. He did not include those suggestions which called for just Rockville or Turkey Run. Gambaiani complimented Wrightsman and Harbison on their excellent responses to the submitted suggestions. He and Harbison both stated that they felt the committee should not decide on the name of the new school district at this time. Wrightsman will publicize the list of names and number of responses through the Sentinel and school web sites.

Counsel Hanner responded to questions the committee had posed to him. “Community School Corporation” should be included in the name for legal matters. IC20-23-4 does apply to reorganization in regard to board member elections and districts. Term limits on school board members are possible but must apply to all seats. Current funds, such as rainy day, capital projects and bus replacement, should be kept separate. Regarding the disposition of assets etc, the reorganization committee has wide latitude, but limiting the disposition to the central office and immediate needs for transition seems most practical. Following discussion, Harbison moved and Gambaiani seconded the motion that each residence district board member be elected by the entire new district, with no term limits for board members. The districts for both the appointed board and future elected boards will be Town of Rockville, Adams (excluding Rockville), Union, Washington/Green, Penn/Howard and Liberty/Sugar Creek. For the appointed board, the current Turkey Run and Rockville School Boards will appoint three members from their current districts, following the residency requirements, and the Circuit Court Judge will appoint the at-large member. The committee unanimously approved this process, following a motion by Craycraft, seconded by Ader.

Counsel Hanner raised a question about the effective date of the reorganization. According to Indiana Code the budget for the new district and the tax rates would need to be established before the November 2012 election in order for the new district to begin January 2013. The time crunch could be alleviated if the new district would begin January 2014. Craycraft expressed her desire to have the district begin January 2013, the earliest possible date. Dr. Rohr will consider how a budget could be established for both current districts and the possible new district in the same time frame. Any approved budget would affect taxation. Wrightsman will discuss budgeting for the new district and the possibility of combining budgets with DLGF.

The committee approved a motion to set the salary of the appointed board at $2000/year, moved by Gambaiani and seconded by Ader.

The next meeting of the Reorganization committee will be held at 6:30 pm, October 24, 2011 at the Rockville Schools’ Central Administration Office.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Rode, Secretary