Minutes of the Rockville-Turkey Run School Reorganization Committee

November 7, 2011

The Reorganization Committee met at 6:30 p.m., November 7, 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 Dr. Randy Kerkhoff. Invited guests were school treasurers, Sally Burgess and Terri Veach, as well as county officials, Pam Adams and Diana Hazlett. President Wrightsman stated this meeting would be a discussion concerning taxation, assessed values and tax rates for the present corporations and the possible combined corporation. He distributed the letter he had sent to Rep. Grubb and Baird concerning a request for a special exception on published budget deadlines. Grubb had responded with a special request to legislative services. Gambaiani had approached our representatives and said he would stay in close contact. He stated that Tony Bennett would welcome a meeting to discuss this issue if the matter came to his desk.

Pam Adams distributed 2010 tax tables to be collected in 2011 as well as assessed valuations and tax rates. Treasurers Burgess and Veach stated current balances in the funds for both schools. The debt service fund stays with the corporation who owes the money. The new corporation would pay to lease the buildings from the holding companies. Counsel Hanner will be asked to provide appropriate language to use in the plan.

The general fund, rainy day fund, as well as the other funds using local tax dollars, transportation, bus replacement and capital projects, showed differing balances between the two schools. However, when the funds were grouped together the total money was fairly equal. Dr. Rohr stated that the school districts were fairly similar in total assessed valuation also. Rode moved and Harbison seconded a motion that all unobligated funds in the general, rainy day, capital projects, bus replacement, and transportation funds be combined under the new corporation. Since capital projects are site specific, the new three year plan for the possible new corporation would need to address the current proposed projects. Hazlett stated that the new corporation would be starting with new levies for each fund.

Turkey Run’s pension fund moneys are held in the general fund and stated as a line item in the budget each year. Ader moved and Gambaiani seconded a motion to include in the plan a statement that this obligation be identified and protected by the new corporation.

The special education cooperatives for both corporations need one year notification if either school intends to withdraw from the contract. Dr. Rohr is investigating the possibility of creating a new Parke-Vermillion special education cooperative which would match the current vocational cooperative.

Dr. Rohr presented the question whether we address the teacher master contracts in the plan. The statute states that our reorganization plan address disposition of personnel. Following discussion, Gambaiani moved and Harbison seconded a motion to include the statement that all personnel of Rockville and Turkey Run Community School Corporations will become the personnel of the combined new corporation. A discussion concerning the framework for the central office staff and location of the central office will be continued at the next meeting.

The next meeting of the reorganization committee will be November 21, at 6:30 p.m. at the Rockville High Schools’ Central Administration Office. A meeting on December 5, at 6:30 p.m. at the Turkey Run High Schools’ Central Administration Office was also scheduled.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Rode, Secretary