

Volunteer Reorganization Committee
Organizational Meeting Minutes
Authorized by the Ellettsville Town Council

Date: Monday, December 22

Time: 5:00 PM

Location: Ellettsville Town Hall

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM at the Ellettsville Town Hall.

Members present were Williams Ellis, Andrew Henry, Dawn Durnil, Kevin Farris, Scott Reynolds, and Mike Cornman.

Also present were Mike Farmer, Ellettsville Town Manager; Darla Brown, Ellettsville Town Attorney; and Eric Koch, Richland Township Attorney.

Andrew Henry was appointed as Secretary.

It was noted that this was the first meeting of the Volunteer Reorganization Committee and that no prior minutes or formal agenda existed.

The committee made the following motions:

The committee approved meeting every two weeks. Motion was moved, seconded, and approved unanimously.

The committee approved holding meetings every two weeks beginning Wednesday, January 7, at 6:00 PM, at the Ellettsville Town Hall. Motion was moved, seconded, and approved unanimously.

The committee approved scheduling public comment at the beginning and end of each meeting, with a five-minute time limit per person. The committee retained discretion to request public comment at any point during meetings. Motion was moved, seconded, and approved unanimously.

The committee discussed the appointment of a required seventh member. By consensus, the committee agreed to delay the appointment until the next meeting and expressed a preference for appointing a representative from a local school to ensure that school district concerns are addressed.

The committee discussed the possibility of having the seventh member serve as chair, so that neither Ellettsville Town appointees nor Richland Township appointees would be perceived as exercising greater control over the committee or its meetings.

The committee discussed the importance of widely disseminating information to the public regarding the potential reorganization. The committee expressed interest in mailing a postcard to every resident in the affected area as early as possible in the process. The cost of such a mailing was estimated at approximately \$10,000. Town Manager Mike Farmer stated that he believed funds were available to cover this expense.

An additional communication measure discussed was including a notice with every Ellettsville Town water bill. It was noted that this approach would not reach all residents of Richland Township.

Victoria Fields of Fields & Co introduced herself to the committee and the public. Fields & Co will be working with the Town and Township on communications and publicity related to the reorganization process.

William Ellis provided a Town email address (questions@ellettisville.in.gov) and Dawn Durnil provided a Richland Township Gmail address (richlandquestions@gmail.com) for residents to submit questions related to the reorganization.

Public comment was received from Jim Perry, who stated that he was unable to locate a copy of the Richland Township budget, that available maps of the potential reorganization area were unclear or insufficient, and that he would like to see a longer time limit than the usual three minutes per person for public comment at future meetings.

Public Comment was given by the following individuals

- James King
- Valerie DeWar
- Shari Newcomer
- Victoria Fields
- Jim Perry
- Clark Greiner
- Pamela Davidson
- Liz Feitl

The meeting was adjourned at 6:28pm.

Seen and submitted by:

Andrew Henry, Secretary

Approved by the Committee on: 01/13/2026