

OPENING OF MEETING

Board President and meeting chairperson Nicole Gerend called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Board Members Present: Nicole Gerend, Jeff Nelson, Rayn Warner, Maggie Boland, and Angela Hansen-Winker

Board Members Absent: Melinda Lemke and Tiffany Van Vreede

Also Present: District Administrator Andy Space
Board Counsel James M. Carroll of Buelow Vetter Buikema Olson & Vliet, LLC

ATTACHMENT OF PROPERTY HEARING PURSUANT TO WIS. STAT. § 117.12

Attorney Carroll introduced and explained the petition to detach the following territory: **Parcel M-616**, located at 3066 Hill Road, Greenleaf, WI 54126 and owned by Eileen and Austin Webster and **Parcel M-619**, agricultural land that does not presently include a residence and that is owned by Lesa Klug, who resides at 7898 Morrison Road, Greenleaf, WI 54126, **from** the Reedsville School District (“RSD”) and **attach said property** to the Wrightstown Community School District (“WCSD”).

Attorney Carroll then reviewed the statutory criteria for school district reorganizations set forth in Wis. Stat. § 117.15, as follows:

- a. In making any decision under ss. 117.08 to 117.132, a school board, the board and an appeal panel shall consider the following factors as they affect the educational welfare of all of the children residing in all of the affected school districts, and may consider other appropriate factors:
 - i. The geographical and topographical characteristics of the affected school districts, including the estimated travel time to and from school for pupils in the school districts.
 - ii. The educational needs of all of the children residing in the affected school districts, the educational programs currently offered by each affected school district and the ability and commitment of each school district to meet those needs and continue to offer those educational programs.
 - iii. If territory is proposed to be detached from one school district and attached to an adjoining school district or proposed to be included in a new school district

- school districts, including the effect of the apportionment of assets and liabilities.
- vi. Whether the proposed reorganization will make any part of a school district's territory noncontiguous.
 - vii. The socioeconomic level and racial composition of the pupils who reside or will reside in territory proposed to be detached from one school district and attached to an adjoining school district, in territory proposed to be included in a new school district under s. 117.105 or in school districts proposed to be consolidated or in a school district proposed to be dissolved; the proportion of the pupils who reside in such territory who are children at risk, as defined under s. 118.153 (1) (a); and the effect that the pupils described in this paragraph will have on the present and future socioeconomic level and racial composition of the affected school districts and on the proportion of the affected school districts' enrollments that will be children at risk.
 - viii. The results of any referendum held under s. 117.10.
 - ix. In reaching its decision, the school board may consider and weigh other appropriate factors as needed.

President Gerend reviewed the rules and procedures applicable to this hearing.

The following proponents of the petition addressed the Board:

Petitioner Eileen Webster of 3066 Hill Rd., Greenleaf, WI 54126, currently located in the Reedsville School District. Ms. Webster explained that in the 1970s the property was in the Wrightstown Community School District. Her grandmother petitioned to detach the property from WCSD and attach to RSD. Eileen and her husband are requesting to reattach the property because while their three younger children are currently attending WCSD through open enrollment, their 5th grade son was not accepted because no space was available and, therefore, still attends the private school. They feel it is important to attend WCSD because of connections with the families in the area they have made. Ms. Webster also noted that the WCSD bus route passes her property, while the RSD bus route does not, and that the school-age children in her neighborhood all attend WCSD schools.

No opponents of the petition addressed the Board.

property itself that is detached/attached.

Absent further questions or discussion, Attorney Carroll read sample motions into the record by which the Board could, at its pleasure, grant or deny the petition.

Mr. Nelson moved to grant the transfer of the territory requested in the petition: That the reorganization requested in the petition filed on December 14, 2023, be granted and an order entered detaching the territory described in said petition from the Reedsville School District and attaching said territory to the Wrightstown Community School District. Seconded by Ms. Hansen-Winker.

Prior to any vote on Mr. Nelson's motion, Attorney Carroll suggested that the Board members discuss their rationale for voting in favor of or against the motion in consideration of the statutory factors under Wis. Stat. § 117.15. Mr. Nelson, President Gerend, and Ms. Hansen-Winker all spoke in favor of the motion and noted that they found the reasoning presented in Ms. Webster's testimony to be compelling (see Wis. Stat. § 117.15(3)).

Roll call vote. Boland - Yes; Warner - Yes; Gerend - Yes; Nelson - Yes; Hansen-Winker - Yes.

Attorney Carroll read the proposed text of the Board's resolution reflecting the Board's action approving the petition into the record and explained that the resolution would be signed by the Board Clerk and filed with RSD and the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Ms. Boland to adjourn the meeting at 6:28 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Warner. Motion carried.

Maggie Boland, Board Clerk