

December 28, 2011

Dear Patrons of the Helvetia Post Office and HC Delivery,

Thank you for attending the meeting last week to support your Helvetia Post Office by hearing the Postal Service's presentation. According to the announcement each postal customer received, postal representatives were to hold a meeting to "explain the process and address community concerns . . . answer questions and provide information". Unfortunately Mr. Rick Stiltner's presentation was not very informative, and our questions and comments were, for the most part, unanswered.

The closure of the Helvetia Post Office will have an adverse effect on our community, but Mr. Stiltner did not record the meeting nor have a postal assistant to take note of your comments, concerns, or questions. Shortly before the meeting, Eleanor Betler was asked to take notes. It is impossible to capture an accurate sense of a meeting without a recording device or a professional note taker. The notes taken and sent to Mr. Stiltner do not fully cover the important comments you made. Immediately following the meeting Mr. Stiltner was offered a copy of our recording so he could better relay our comments and address our unanswered questions. He declined. It is important that your comments are part of the official record.

Earlier this month the Post Office distributed two documents you may not have received. These were the *Customer Questionnaire* with the check boxes, and more importantly the *Optional Comment Form* which asks for your thoughts on the proposal to close the Helvetia Post Office. A copy of the *Optional Comment Form* is enclosed. Please take 10 minutes to write comments or questions about the proposed closing.

Your words are important. You can say what you did last Wednesday, or maybe something has occurred to you since then. If you have a question, ask for a written response since you did not get answers at the public meeting.

A website has been set up so that those with internet access can read the proposal to close the Helvetia PO and find other useful information, <http://PostOffice.HelvetiaWV.com>. A transcript of the meeting will soon be online, and we put the hour long video of the meeting there as well. If you need a copy I would be glad burn you a cd.

Together, I believe our efforts to save the Helvetia Post Office will get noticed. Thanks for your time.

Dan Lehmann

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