

VERMONT LEAGUE OF CITIES AND TOWNS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, April 18, 2024

MINUTES

VLCT Board Members Present (in person): Bill Fraser, Mary Ann Goulette, Julie Hance, Kristine Lott, Nikki Stevens, Delsie Hoyt, Charlie Hancock, Michael Hogan, Ann Lawless.

VLCT Board Members Present (via Zoom): Georgette Wolf-Ludwig, Joe Major

VLCT Staff Present (in person): Ted Brady, Josh Hanford, Abby Friedman, Seth Abbene, Jeremy Weiss.

VLCT Staff Via Zoom: Kelley Avery

Agenda Item #1: Call to order by the President

President Bill Fraser called the meeting to order at 12:21 p.m.

Agenda Item #2: Additions and Deletions to the Agenda

Charlie Hancock moved to accept the agenda as presented. Mary Ann Goulette seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item #3: Consent Agenda

Ann Lawless had one addition and asked her name to be included in the March 21st meeting minutes as she was present. Charlie Hancock moved to approve the minutes of March 21, 2024, as amended, the meeting minutes of March 25th, 2024, accept the April Personnel Report, and approve the Northeast Delta Dental rate increase. Michael Hogan seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item #4: Organization Update

Ted Brady provided updates on the UVM Vermont Local Government Institute, USDA Capacity grant, Post Office sublease, town meeting contact updates, VLCT's status as a qualifying employer for the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program, Local Government Investment Pool Concept, Municipal Assistance center, new happenings in ARPA, FFA and MTAP, and Risk Management Services. Ted also discussed the status of VLCT workplan tracker.

Agenda Item #5: Allocate \$250,000 of VLCT Working Capital to VLCT Municipal Reinvestment Pilot

Seth Abbene discussed the Municipal Investment Pilot Program. VLCT's investment policy was updated in February 2022 to allow up to 40% of its excess working capital to be invested in local investments. VLCT put out an RFP for the program, received eight responses with management recommending to the board to approve a pilot investment in the Vermont Community Loan Fund's (VCLF) social investment account for one year. This will allow VLCT to evaluate the impact of the investment and potentially continue it for another year. Mary Ann Goulette moved to invest \$250,000 of VLCT working capital into the Vermont Community Loan Fund. Julie Hance seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. Mike Hogan abstained.

Agenda Item #6: Town Fair Discussion

Ted Brady led a conversation about the future of Town Fair which occurs this year at Killington Resort October 2-3. In an effort to reduce cost, staff suggest moving to a one-day event. Ted wanted to get the board's feedback on this idea. Ted also asked if the board would support a hybrid annual meeting, as it has been challenging in the past to obtain a quorum. There was a general consensus that holding the annual meeting as a hybrid meeting would help drive participation. Multiple Board members suggested that the Board meeting still be held day one, and that a board dinner, including the PACIF and VERB Board members, be held on day one. Board members also suggested having more intentional networking and roundtable discussions during Town Fair.

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Agenda Item #7: Appoint VPIC and E-911 Board Representatives

Josh Hanford discussed the applicants for the Enhanced 911 Board. Mary Ann Goulette moved to appoint Chris Violette, Barre Town Manager, to the Enhanced 911 Board. Delsie Hoyt seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Josh then discussed the applicants to the Vermont Pension Investment Commission (VPIC). Nikki Stevens moved to nominate David Barlow, Coventry Town Treasurer, to the Vermont Pension Investment Commission. Julie Hance seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item #8: Break

At 1:45 pm the Board took a break. No business was conducted during this time. The Board reconvened at 1:55.

Agenda Item #9: Legislative Update

Josh Hanford and Ted Brady provided a legislative update.

Agenda Item #10: Appoint Representatives to the Municipal Service Scholarship Review Committee

Ted proposed the board appoint the VLCT Executive Committee and the executive Director be appointed as the Municipal Service Scholarship review committee to review all the scholarship applications received and to bring recommendations back to the board for approval. Mayor Lott moved to appoint the executive committee members and Ted to the Municipal Service Scholarship Review Committee. Julie Hance seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item #11: Executive Session to Conduct VLCT Executive Director Evaluation

At 2:20 Mike Hogan moved to go into executive session to discuss the evaluation of a public officer or employee under the provisions of Title 1, Section 313(a)(3) of the Vermont Statutes. Nikki Stevens seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

At 2:37 p.m., the Executive Director was invited into the Executive Session. At 2:46 p.m., Ann Lawless moved to exit executive session. The motion was seconded by Mayor Lott. The motion was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item #12 Executive Director Evaluation

Mike Hogan moved to provide the Executive Director with a 4.67 percent salary increase retroactive to the Director's anniversary date of March 29th. The motion was seconded by Nikki Stevens. The motion was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item #13 Other Business

Bill Fraser expressed interest in holding an event for legislators who are either active or recent municipal officials.

Agenda Item #14 Adjourn

Julie Hance moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mayor Lott. The motion was approved unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 2:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jeremy Weiss,
Membership and Administrative Coordinator*