

VERMONT LEAGUE OF CITIES AND TOWNS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, June 18, 2026

MINUTES

VLCT Board Members Present: MaryAnn Goulette, Jessie Baker, Karen Barber (via Zoom), Tracy Borst, Julie Hance, Charlie Hancock, Michael Hogan, Ann Lawless, Emma Mulvaney-Stanak (via Zoom, entered the meeting during Agenda Item #3), Kyle Rowe, and Scott Tucker.

VLCT Staff Present: Ted Brady, Katie Buckley, Abby Friedman, Phil Latvis, Seth Abbene, Josh Hanford, Jessi Hill (via Zoom), and Jeremy Weiss.

Guests Present: Lynn McNamara of Paladin Consulting, Gary Kupferer, VLCT Legal Counsel

Agenda Item #1: Call to order by the President

President Mary Ann Goulette called the meeting to order at 12:20 p.m.

Agenda Item #2: Additions and Deletions to the Agenda

Jessie Baker moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mike Hogan seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. The Board introduced themselves and welcomed newest Board member Kyle Rowe.

Agenda Item #3: Consent Agenda

Ann Lawless moved to approve the consent agenda including the meeting minutes of May 21, 2026, accept the June Personnel Update, the June Organizational Update (including MAC and RMS reports), approve Multi-year CallTower VOIP contract for \$12,024/Year for 3 Years, approve the multi-year Viv Web Sol. contract for \$89,300 and \$14,100/year for 3 Years, approve vehicle purchase of \$33,044 from 802 Subaru, accept VLCT 2026 Q1 Financials, and approve a \$250,000 investment in the Vermont Community Loan Fund. Mike Hogan seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item #4: Executive Session to Discuss VLCT / VLCT PACIF / VERB Administrative Agreements and Addendum and VLCT Lease Negotiations

Scott Tucker moved that the evaluation and discussion of the Board's goals and strategies regarding the anticipated modifications of our administrative contracts with PACIF is needed. The public disclosure of the discussion of these goals and strategies would clearly place VLCT at a substantial disadvantage. Scott moved that the Board find the public disclosure of the discussion of the Board's goals and strategies would clearly place VLCT at a substantial disadvantage. Jessie Baker seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Thereupon, Scott Tucker moved that in accordance with 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(1)(A) to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing the PACIF administrative contract and include the Executive Director, CFO, Director of Risk Management Service, Jessi Hill, Lynn McNamara of Paladin Consulting, and Gary Kupferer to join. Kyle Rowe seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. At 12:25 p.m., the Board entered executive session. The recording was paused and all other staff left the room.

At 1:20 the Board exited executive session. No action was taken.

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Agenda Item #5: Approve VLCT Lease

Ann Lawless moved that pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(1)(A) to enter executive session in accordance with 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(2) to discuss the negotiating or securing of real estate purchase or lease options with respect to the VLCT lease and invite Ted Brady, Seth Abbene, Phil Lavis, and Jessi Hill to participate. The motion was seconded by Jessie Baker. The motion was approved unanimously and at 1:24 p.m., the Board entered executive session. The recording was paused and all other staff left the room.

At 1:30, the Board exited executive session. Thereupon, Ann Lawless moved to authorize Ted Brady to execute a new 18-month lease with renewal options not to exceed \$21 per square foot plus parking costs. Jessie Baker seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item #6: Acrisure Relationship

Ted updated the Board that per the previous conversation, he has not provided Acrisure with a draft 2026 contract and continues to honor the provisions of the 2025 contract. Ted submitted a request for payment for the first half of 2026. It appears Acrisure is contemplating that payment resulting in the payment of 40K with the caveat that a new contract will be necessary for the second half of the year.

Agenda Item #7: Appoint Municipal Policy Committee

Josh Hanford provided an update on the formation of the Municipal Policy Committee, noting that recruitment has generated strong interest with more than a dozen applications received and additional applications continuing to arrive. Because the Board does not meet in July, he recommended authorizing the Executive Committee to finalize committee appointments to maintain the implementation schedule. The Board also discussed appointing Karen Barber to serve as Committee Chair, recognizing her willingness to provide leadership as the committee begins its work.

The Board engaged in a thoughtful discussion regarding the committee's charge and priorities. Members emphasized the importance of strengthening collaboration among municipalities of all sizes, addressing emerging issues throughout the year rather than only during the legislative session, and ensuring the committee serves as a standing resource for policy development and advocacy. Discussion also highlighted anticipated priorities including municipal revenue authority, regional governance, property tax and reappraisal issues, Public Records Act reforms, land use, housing, public safety, transportation, federal grant changes, and other emerging municipal concerns. Ted encouraged ongoing Board input as the committee develops its work plan.

Julie Hance moved to approve Karen Barber as chair. Ann Lawless seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Julie Hance moved to authorize the executive committee to appoint the policy committee members when they become available. Mike Hogan seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. The Board also agreed to reserve July 16, 2026, at 12:20 p.m. as a potential special Board meeting should committee appointments or other business require Board

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action before the regular August meeting.

Agenda Item #8: Break

At 1:52 the Board took a break. The recording was paused and no business was conducted during this time. The board reconvened at 2:00 p.m.

Agenda Item #9: Consider Amendments, Changes, Or Postponement of June 22nd VLCT Membership Meeting

Ted Brady reported that following discussions with VLCT's health insurance consultant and carrier partners, it became clear that an association health plan would not provide a competitive benefit for members in 2027. Current market conditions, including favorable statewide premium trends and the performance of the municipal insurance pool, make it unlikely that a VLCT-sponsored plan could offer meaningful savings next year. Ted noted that while the effort did not produce the desired outcome for 2027, the research and groundwork completed may support future opportunities should market conditions change.

Because the primary purpose of the previously scheduled special membership meeting was to consider bylaw amendments necessary to establish the association health plan, Ted recommended postponing those actions until the regular annual membership meeting at Town Fair if the initiative is revisited.

Julie Hance moved to cancel the June special membership meeting. Ann Lawless seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously and the meeting is cancelled. An email will go out this afternoon to alert membership of the cancelled meeting.

Agenda Item #10: Municipal Service Awards

The Board reviewed the annual Municipal Service Awards program and encouraged Board members to actively submit nominations before the July 31 deadline. Ted reminded the Board that nominations are accepted for the Municipal Service Award, Legislative Service Award, and Lifetime Achievement Award, and noted the flexibility to recognize multiple deserving recipients when appropriate.

Board members discussed several legislators whose long-standing support of municipalities has been especially noteworthy during recent legislative sessions. Members recognized individuals from both political parties who consistently advanced municipal priorities and demonstrated exceptional leadership. It was agreed that the executive committee would continue discussions and make final award recommendations following additional consultation with staff and the Municipal Policy Committee. No action taken.

Agenda Item #11: Adopt Declaration of Inclusion and Adopt Equity Committee Recommendations

Ted Brady reviewed the work completed by the Equity Committee in response to evolving federal guidance affecting diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives. Following extensive review and discussion, the committee recommended updating VLCT's framework to more accurately reflect the organization's ongoing work supporting civic engagement, belonging, and public service while

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maintaining its longstanding commitment to welcoming and supporting all Vermont municipalities.

Board members expressed appreciation for the committee's thoughtful work and recognized that the revised documents accurately reflect VLCT's mission and values. The updated Declaration of Inclusion, Civic Engagement and Belonging Plan, and committee charter were viewed as positive steps that reinforce VLCT's commitment to fostering engagement, collaboration, and service throughout Vermont's municipal community.

Jessie Baker moved to approve the VLCT Declaration of Inclusion. Julie Hance seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Thereupon, Jessie Baker moved to approve the Civic Engagement and Belonging Plan and the Civic Engagement and Belonging Committee Charter. Julie Hance seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item #12: Other Business

There was no other business.

Agenda Item #13: Adjourn

With no further business before the Board, Mike Hogan moved to adjourn. Julie Hance seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 2:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeremy Weiss

Membership and Administrative Coordinator

As approved by the VLCT Board of Directors on July 16, 2026.

View Meeting here:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/play/LW0d1N01A5lJxkpp3S4TORd2eIclxc6Y5sVUK-75Bkt4BNuqT9CwZIXWZUob-QPdjoIP0mOI9T3v5IYX.FQJ4nUKehkYnPOq9>