

VERMONT LEAGUE OF CITIES AND TOWNS
Joint Executive Committee, Nominating Committee Meeting. VLCT
Members of VLCT/PACIF/VERB Working Group Meeting

April 7, 2026
Hybrid Meeting – VLCT Offices and Zoom

Minutes

Present: South Burlington City Manager Jessie Baker, Thetford Town Clerk Tracy Borst (via Zoom, departed at 9:45 a.m.), West Ruland Town Manager Mary Ann Goulette, Montgomery Selectboard Chair Charlie Hancock, Calais Selectboard Chair Michael Hogan (entered at 10:35 a.m.), Huntington Selectboard Member Karen Barber (entered at 10:35 a.m.)

Staff Present: VLCT Executive Director Ted Brady, Phil Latvis (entered at 10:35 a.m.)

Others Present: Gary Kupferer (arrived at 10:35 a.m.)

Jessie Baker called the VLCT Nominating Committee to order at 9:35 a.m.

Mary Ann Goulette moved to approve the agenda as presented. Tracy Borst seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mary Ann moved to approve the March 5, 2026, Nominating Committee minutes. Tracy Borst seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mary Ann Goulette moved that the VLCT Nominating Committee enter executive session to discuss the appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee in accordance with [1 V.S.A. § 313\(a\)\(3\)](#). She invited the Executive Director and VLCT Board Vice President Charlie Hancock to join the executive session. Tracy Borst seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The committee entered executive session at 9:38 a.m.

At 9:44 a.m. the committee exited executive session.

Mary Ann Goulette moved to recommend the VLCT Board of Directors appoint Panton Town Clerk and Treasurer Kyle Rowe to one of the two vacant board seats on the VLCT Board of Directors with terms expiring in October of 2027. Tracy Borst seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Jessie Baker stated the committee intended to leave one seat vacant for the immediate future.

Mary Ann Goulette moved to adjourn the meeting. Tracy Borst seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the VLCT Nominating Committee adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Mary Ann Goulette called the VLCT Executive Committee meeting to order at 9:47 a.m.

Jessie Baker moved to approve the agenda as presented. Charlie seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Charlie Hancock moved to approve the March 5, 2026, VLCT Executive Committee meeting minutes. Jessie

Baker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mary Ann asked if there were any comments on the agenda for the April 16, 2026, VLCT Board meeting. Ted Brady shared he anticipated the Board may want to re-evaluate its position on Act 181 (Act 250 modifications) in light of increased calls for the bills repeal from VLCT members. He mentioned that the selectboards of Castleton, Bakersfield, and Highgate have all sent letters calling for repeal of all or portions of the bill. Ted shared that VLCT's adopted policy position calls for making modifications to Tier 3 and the road rule to better respect the local land use decisions of our members. Ted asked if the committee thought a guest speaker was appropriate. Charlie mentioned a Land Use Review Board member might be a good guest. Mary Ann suggested working with Devin from the Rutland Regional Planning Commission. After discussion, Jessie suggested the Board may wish to instead have an internal debate about our current legislative position and whether it remains the most representative of our members' interests. Jessie Baker also suggested after that conversation occurred, VLCT should send a "reverse legislative update" to members that have contacted us on the issue explaining VLCT's position. Charlie Hancock suggested adding time to the current legislative update. Ted said he'd make it a 30 minute block. Mary Ann suggested moving the update up.

The committee also discussed the health insurance investigation agenda item. Jessie Baker expressed concern about proceeding with additional work on the project before a new financial agreement was in place with VERB and PACIF, and asked if the project could wait one year. Ted said yes, it could wait until either a July 2027 launch or January 2028 launch. Charlie and Mary Ann shared that this is a very important issue for our members. Ted said he thought it would be helpful to have a discussion about whether spending \$20,000 from VLCT net position to finish the project was worthwhile. Mary Ann and Ted shared that even if the outcome was no product offered in 2027, we'd at least know that we did a thorough evaluation of the options. Jessie shared that she supported having that discussion at the board, and supported the Executive Committee recommending we spend the \$20,000 this year.

Charlie asked if the Board would be adopting new policies as part of the "Adopt VLCT Board Policy" agenda item. Ted explained that the only new policy being considered was a Public Records Act policy. All other policies have been previously adopted by the Board.

Jessie Baker moved to enter executive session to discuss the appointment, employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee in accordance with 1 V.S.A. §313 and invited Ted Brady to participate in some or all of the discussion. Charlie Hancock seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. The Committee entered executive session at 10:13 a.m.

At 10:29, the committee exited executive session and took no action. Mary Ann shared that the full board will now consider the Executive Director's annual evaluation at its next meeting.

The committee then reviewed applications for the 2026 VLCT Municipal Scholarship. Ted shared that not one of the 14 applicants met all the application criteria. However, he recommended selecting one of the two that met the most of the criteria. Charlie Hancock made a motion to award the 2026 VLCT Municipal Service Scholarship to Jacob Mason, a seasonal employee in Randolph interested in municipal service and pursuing a degree in environmental studies at UVM. Jessie Baker seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Members of the VLCT/PACIF and VERB Working Group from the VLCT Board then joined the meeting.

Jessie Baker moved that an evaluation and discussion of the Board's goals and strategies regarding the anticipated modifications of our administrative contract with PACIF and VERB is needed. The public disclosure of the discussion of these goals and strategies would clearly place VLCT at a substantial disadvantage. Therefore, she moved that the Committee find the public disclosure of the discussion of the Board's goals and strategies would clearly place VLCT at a substantial disadvantage. Charlie Hancock seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Jessie Baker moved that we in accordance with 1 V.S.A. Section 313 (a)(1)(A) enter executive session for the purposed of discussing the VLCT / PACIF / VERB agreements. She invited the following people to join them in executive session: Karen Barber and Michael Hogan, members of the VLCT / PACIF / VERB Work Group, VLCT staff Ted Brady and Phil Latvis, and attorney Gary Kupferer. Charlie Hancock seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The committee entered executive session at 10:35 a.m.

At 10:54 a.m., the committee exited executive session and took no action.

Jessie Baker moved to adjourn the meeting. Charlie Hancock seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

Submitted by Ted Brady.

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To view a recording of this meeting, click [here](#).

Approved by the VLCT Executive Committee on May 7, 2026

Approved by the VLCT Nominating Committee on August 31, 2026