

**MINUTES OF THE  
VERMONT LEAGUE OF CITIES AND TOWNS  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
THURSDAY, September 17, 2015**

**Members Present:** President Cadwell, Vice President Louras and Members Janssen, Legacy, Osgood, Pinsonault, Ramsay, Richard, Shepeluk, Simmons, Weinberger and Whittaker.

**Others Present:** Secretary Chris Cole and members of the VTrans staff, members of VLCT staff, including Karen Horn, Jessica Hill, and Abigail Friedman.

**Agenda Item #1: Call to Order by President**

President Cadwell called the meeting to order at 12:20 p.m. President Cadwell introduced newly appointed Secretary of Transportation, Chris Cole, who offered remarks to the Board.

**Agenda Item #2: Additions and Deletions to the Agenda**

No additions or deletions were made to the Agenda.

Member Janssen raised a point of order regarding the position of Immediate Past President. William Shepeluk left the meeting at 12:30 p.m. There was discussion about the interpretation of the VLCT Bylaws and the role of the Board in appointing an Immediate past President to fill a vacancy in that office. By motion made by Member Cadwell and seconded by Member Legacy, William Shepeluk was unanimously appointed to serve as Immediate past President and staff was instructed to draft an amendment to the Bylaws to be presented at the October Board meeting, clarifying that when a vacancy occurs in the office of Immediate Past President it shall be filled by the person last holding that office and appointed by the Board of Directors. Member Shepeluk returned to the meeting at 12:40 p.m.

**Agenda Item #3: Consent Agenda Items**

On a motion duly made by Member Simmons and seconded by Member Janssen, the Board took the following actions on consent agenda items:

Approved the minutes of the July 30, 2015 Meeting  
Accepted the Personnel Report

Member Pinsonault abstained from the vote.

**Agenda Item #4: Legislative Strategy Update**

Karen Horn presented an update on the strategy process and responded to questions regarding the report and recommendations offered to the Board (Attachment 4A). By motion duly made by member Osgood and seconded by Member Legacy, the Board voted unanimously to move forward with hiring a senior advocacy position. In addition, the Board asked staff to provide information at the October Board meeting about the financial effect of this position on the 2016 budget.

### **Agenda Item #5: VLCT Municipal Policy Recommendations**

The Policy Committee chairs introduced sections of the 2016 Draft Municipal Policy and the committees' recommendations for amendments to the Policy for the 2016 legislative session.

The following proposed amendments to the 2016 Draft Municipal Policy were endorsed:

On motion duly made by Member Louras and seconded by Member Whittaker to add “urge the Legislature to support the recommendations in the final report of the White House Task Force on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing in the Public Safety policy. The motion was adopted unanimously.

On motion duly made by Member Whittaker and seconded by Member Simmons to work with staff to refine language regarding the legalization of marijuana for the Board to consider at its October meeting. The motion was adopted.

On motion duly made by Member Whittaker and seconded by Member Simmons to include language in the Preamble that recognizes that Vermont has a growing opiate crisis. The motion was adopted unanimously.

After specific policies were discussed, the strategy of home rule and how best to address local control issues with the legislature was considered. The Board asked staff to provide a report to the Board at the October meeting regarding the status of local control in other states.

### **Agenda Item #6: Second Quarter 2015 Financials**

Mike Gilbar presented the quarterly financial reports as provided in the meeting packet.

**Mayor Weinberger left the meeting at 2:45.**

**President Cadwell left the meeting at 3:00. The remainder of the meeting was chaired by Vice President Louras.**

### **Agenda Item #7: Appoint Replacement VLCT Representative to the UVA Study Committee**

By motion duly made by Member Pinsonault and seconded by Member Shepeluk, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Kathleen Ramsay as the VLCT representative to the UVA Study Committee. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, September 25 from 9:00 – 11:30 a.m. in the Basement Conference Room at 133 State Street in Montpelier.

### **Agenda Item #8: Town Fair**

The Board discussed the events of Town Fair and the dinner on Wednesday evening.

### **Agenda Item #9: Other Business**

- a. Consent agenda Items to be voted separately – No action was taken.
- b. President’s Initiatives – No issues were raised.

- c. Member Initiatives – Member Janssen asked for an update on the joint salt purchasing process and provided information regarding the annual fees on dams being assessed by the Department of Environmental Conservation.
- d. Staff Initiatives – No issues were raised.
- e. **Adjourn** - On motion duly made by Member Janssen and seconded by Member Whittaker, the Board voted to adjourn at 3:15 p.m. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Maura Carroll  
Executive Director

*A digital recording of the meeting, with comments and discussion in open session as well as actions taken, is available upon request.*

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