

**MINUTES OF THE
VERMONT LEAGUE OF CITIES AND TOWNS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
WEDNESDAY, October 7, 2015**

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

Others Present: Bob Rusten, Burlington Finance Director, and VLCT staff members including Abigail Friedman, Mike Gilbar, Jessica Hill and Karen Horn.

Agenda Item #1: Call to order by the President. President Cadwell called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. President Cadwell welcomed Bob Rusten and thanked him for being present at the Board meeting since Mayor Weinberger was unable to attend.

Member Ramsay entered the meeting.

Agenda Item #2: Additions and Deletions to the Agenda. Member Whittaker asked to offer an oral report on the work of the Joint Investment Committee. President Cadwell suggested that it be done during Other Business. No other additions or deletions were made to the Agenda.

Agenda Item #3: Consent Agenda Items. On motion duly made by Member Legacy and seconded by Member Janssen, the Board took the following actions on consent agenda items:

Approved the minutes of the September 17, 2015 meeting.
Accepted the Personnel Report.

Agenda Item #4: Legislative Strategy Update. Mike Gilbar presented options for the financing of the new Legislative Advocacy position in the 2016 budget. Discussion included the concern about placing the entire cost of the position on dues and the effect that would have on members. Options considered were a cap on the dues, a change in the dues funding formula, increasing the existing service fee and the potential that the trusts assist in funding the position. The Board asked that there be further discussion at the next Board meeting, in conjunction with the adoption of the VLCT 2016 budget.

Mayor Paul Monette entered the meeting.

Agenda Item #5: VLCT Municipal Policy Recommendations. Board members discussed the proposals brought forth by the Town of Shelburne and the City of Rutland addressing the funding of municipal PSAPs and employer mandates regarding health care, respectively. No action was taken on these proposals. On motion duly made by Member Osgood and seconded by member Pinsonault, the Board adopted a change to Quality of Life and Environment Policy 4.05B, changing the word “should” to “shall” for recommendation to the full membership at the Annual Meeting. On motion duly made by Member Shepeluk and seconded by Member Legacy, the Board adopted a change to the title of policy 4.05B to include the word Telecommunications, so the title would read “Air Quality, Energy and Telecommunications.” That change will also be recommended to the membership at the Annual Meeting.

Karen Horn explained a suggestion that VLCT received from Charlie Baker of the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission relative to Council of Government legislation. RPCs are not members with voting privileges, so a municipal member would need to bring the issue forward for consideration by

the full membership at the Annual Meeting. No one suggested it be brought to the Annual Meeting for discussion.

The Board discussed the language of Public Safety Policy 3.01C, addressing the legalization of marijuana. It was determined that the language adopted by the Policy Committee and endorsed by the Board was inadvertently removed from the policy as it was printed in the Annual Meeting Guide. On motion duly made by Member Pinsonault and seconded by Member Simmons, the Board unanimously adopted the original language of the policy and asked to have it printed for insertion in the Guide for the Annual Meeting the following day.

No further changes to existing recommendations were made.

On motion duly made by member Whittaker and seconded by Member Pinsonault, the Board voted to endorse all of the municipal policies as presented and amended.

Members Shepeluk and Ramsay left the meeting to attend the VERB Board meeting at 3:35.

Agenda Item #6: Draft Bylaw Amendment. The Board discussed a change to the VLCT bylaws, clarifying that when the office of Immediate Past President is vacant, the Board may appoint the person who has most recently held the office of Immediate Past President, and who continues to be eligible to serve on the Board of Directors. On motion duly made by Member Janssen and seconded by Vice President Louras, the language of the bylaw change was adopted unanimously. The recommended bylaw change will be brought to the full membership at the next meeting of the membership.

Agenda Item #7: Other Business. Member Whittaker provided a brief report on the meeting of the Joint (with PACIF and VERB) Investment Committee which met on August 28, 2015. No action was taken.

Staff asked the President to appoint a Credentials Committee to respond to any potential questions at the Annual Meeting to be held the following day. The President appointed Vice President Louras and Member Simmons.

On motion duly made by Member Legacy and seconded by Member Osgood, the Board adopted the motion to **adjourn** at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maura Carroll
Executive Director