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## VLCT Board of Directors Meeting Minutes 2018 10-03

### Vermont League of Cities and Towns Board of Directors Meeting Wednesday, October 3, 2018

#### Minutes

Members Present: President Dominic Cloud, Vice President Miro Weinberger and Members Deb Beckett, Jared Cadwell, Peter Elwell, Bill Fraser, Mary Ann Goulette, Sandy Pinsonault, Charles Safford, Ted Simmons, Rebecca White, Brendan Whittaker and Lucrecia Wonsor.

Others Present:

PACIF Board of Directors: Pete Johnson, Aaron Frank, Jackie Higgins, Neal Fox, David Atherton, Joshua Powers, Carl Rogers, Bruce Urie, and Jerry Storey.

VERB Board of Directors: William Shepeluk, Todd Odit, Joel Cope, Carrie Johnson, Kathleen Ramsey and Christopher Hoyt.

VLCT staff members: Karen Horn, Gwynn Zakov, Jessica Hill, Abigail Friedman, Mike Gilbar, Dean Mudgett, Joe Damiata, Dave Sichel, Jeremiah Breer and Maura Carroll.

National League of Cities staff: Timothy Evans

**Agenda Item #1: Call to order by the President.** President Cloud called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m. and welcomed all to the meeting. Since members of all three VLCT Boards and guests were present, President Cloud asked all attendees to introduce themselves.

**Agenda Item #2: Additions and Deletions to the Agenda.** On motion duly made by Member Cadwell and seconded by Member Pinsonault, the Board unanimously voted to approve the agenda as amended to include a request to add two items to Other Business.

**Agenda Item #3: Consent Agenda Items.** On motion duly made by Member Safford and seconded by Member Beckett, the Board unanimously voted to approve the consent agenda items including the underlined change to the September Board minutes under the heading Member Initiatives. "Member Whittaker is stepping down from the Board after the Annual Meeting, not by choice, but due to term limits set by the membership, and spoke about his time on the Board..."

**Agenda Item #4: Organizational Update.** Maura Carroll reported that staff has been focused on Town Fair and 2019 budget preparations, developing 2019 training programs, preparing the PACIF Annual

Report and marketing materials for this renewal season, rebranding ideas and potential consultants to assist VLCT in that process and compiling the Compensation Survey in a way that is most effective and user-friendly for members.

**Agenda Item #5: 2019 VLCT Budget.** Mike Gilbar presented the details of the proposed 2019 VLCT budget and responded to questions. The final draft of the budget will be presented for action at the November 19 Board meeting.

**Agenda Item #6: Rebranding Discussion.** Dean Mudgett described his research to date in determining how to approach the rebranding process and what he thinks will be needed from a consultant. He is looking to involve both Board and staff and, potentially, a local official from a community not represented on the Board.

**Agenda Item #7: Working Groups to Discuss Rebranding and VLCT Dues Formula.** After a brief discussion, the Board agreed to delegate authority to the President to appoint Board members to the working groups to and to be informed by email about those members and the members of staff who would be participating in each process.

**Agenda Item #8: VLCT Appointment to the NLC Mutual Insurance Company (MIC) Board.** On motion duly made by Member Pinsonault and seconded by Member Cadwell, the Board unanimously voted to appoint the Director of Risk Management Services, Joe Damiata, as VLCT's representative to the NLC MIC Board.

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

**b. Member Initiatives.** On behalf of the Nominating Committee, Member Cadwell proposed revisiting the eligibility requirements of those eligible to serve on the VLCT Board. There had been a lively discussion at the September Board meeting on that subject. Member Cadwell suggested researching the evolution of the requirements, looking at the history of positions serving on the Board and looking forward to whether there are changes in local governance that would support offering a change in eligibility at this time. He also suggested reviewing such requirements in other rural state leagues. It was suggested that the Nominating Committee and staff do the background research and report back to the Board in two or three months' time.

Member Whittaker spoke about unfunded mandates and the requirement that all camps be provided with E-911 addresses, a daunting task. He has asked for the League's assistance with determining whether it is a state or a federal mandate and whether towns can receive financial or other assistance from the state or federal government.

**c. Staff Initiatives.** Karen Horn informed Board members that the Town of Middlebury would be offering an amendment during the Annual Meeting and briefly explained the nature of the amendment. She also mentioned that an amendment might be offered by the Town of Castleton, as well. No action was taken.

On motion duly made by Member Wonsor and seconded by Member Cadwell, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 11:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Maura Carroll  
Executive Director

**Board or Committee:**

VLCT Board of Directors

**Board Meeting Date:**

Wednesday, October 03, 2018

**Resource Category:**

- Minutes
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