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**Vermont League of Cities and Towns
Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, November 13, 2017**

Minutes

Members Present: President Cloud, and Members Beckett, Cadwell, Goulette, Pinsonault, Safford, Simmons, White, Whittaker and Wonsor. Vice President Weinberger attended via telephone.

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

Agenda Item #1: Call to order by the President

Immediate Past President Cadwell called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and welcomed all to the meeting.

Agenda Item #2: Additions and Deletions to the Agenda

On motion duly made by Member Simmons and seconded by Member Pinsonault, the Board unanimously voted to approve the agenda as presented.

Agenda Item #3: Consent Agenda Items

On motion duly made by Member Pinsonault and seconded by Member Beckett, the Board unanimously voted to approve the amended minutes of the October 4, 2017 Board meeting correcting the spelling of Mary Ann Goulette's name.

On motion duly made by Member Beckett and seconded by Member Goulette, the Board unanimously voted to accept the Personnel Report.

Agenda Item #4: Organizational Update

Maura Carroll offered updates about the progress of the migration to the cloud, spring workshop

planning, legislative planning as well as the scheduled DFR audit of PACIF, set to begin on December 1. She also responded to questions about feedback from Town Fair.

Agenda Item #5: Budget

Mike Gilbar presented the draft 2018 VLCT budget, explaining details and responding to questions from the Board. He noted that the capital budget will be presented at the December Board meeting. On motion duly made by Member Safford and seconded by Member Simmons, the Board unanimously voted to approve the 2018 budget as presented.

Agenda Item #6: Dues

Mike Gilbar presented the draft 2018-19 VLCT dues, and responded to inquiries from the Board. There was some discussion about the various membership dues categories and the level of service provided to each. On motion duly made by Member Cadwell and seconded by Member Safford, the Board unanimously voted to approve the 2018-19 VLCT dues as presented. Notification will be sent to members shortly.

Agenda Item #7: Listening Sessions

Maura Carroll presented the draft plan for 2018 listening sessions and requested that Board members host a session in their region sometime between March and June 2018. There was an enthusiastic response from Board members and meetings will be scheduled soon.

Agenda Item #8: Department of Taxes

There was lively discussion among Board members about the topics of discussion with the representatives of the Tax Department. It was agreed that specific questions should be asked of Douglas Farnham about the current use program related to agriculture and to schedule 15 minutes for the discussion.

It was also agreed that a 30 minute general discussion should be had with Commissioner Samsom about overall issues of the department as they affect local government. Board members would like to start an on-going dialogue with the department about issues of concern to municipalities and to the department and how VLCT might assist with resolving some of the concerns that have been expressed locally. Maura Carroll will communicate with Mr. Farnham and Commissioner Samsom prior to the December Board meeting.

Agenda Item #9: Review of Legislative Matters

Karen Horn and Gwynn Zakov provided the Board with recommendations about municipal priorities for the 2018 legislative session. They explained that the priorities would be condensed for purposes of preparing a brochure for the membership and the legislature. Discussion ensued, including a request to have a more in-depth discussion at the December Board meeting about the rules by which the Annual Meeting operates. On motion duly made by Member Pinsonault and seconded by Member Goulette, the Board unanimously voted to accept the priorities as presented.

Agenda Item #10: NLC Policy Committees

Maura Carroll explained that the National League of Cities is interested in having every state represented on policy committees that develop federal legislative policies for adoption by the NLC membership. On motion duly made by Member Wonsor and seconded by Member Goulette, the Board unanimously voted to approve Member Beckett's application to serve on an NLC policy committee.

Agenda Item #11: 2017 Town Fair Debrief

Lisa Goodell and Dean Mudgett provided a recap of the 2017 Town Fair details and responded to questions posed by the Board. The consensus was that the program was well done and the Board offered several compliments to staff about the event.

Agenda Item #12: 2018 VLCT Board Meeting Dates

Board members agreed to the following meeting dates for 2018. All are currently scheduled at 12:20 p.m. at the VLCT offices: January 4, February 1, March 8, April 5, May 3, June 7, July 12, August - no meeting, September 6, October 3, November 19, December 13.

Agenda Item #13: Other

b. President's Initiatives President Cloud appointed Member Pinsonault and Member Safford to serve on the Nominating Committee with Member Cadwell as chair.

d. Staff Initiatives Karen Horn reported that VLCT has an appointment to the Marijuana Relief Oversight Council. However, there might be significant changes made to the Council depending on legislative action in 2018. The Board suggested that staff attend the meetings for now and report to the Board about any legislative developments that include changes to the responsibilities of the Council and those who might serve on it.

On motion duly made by Member Cadwell and seconded by Member Wonsor, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 12:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maura Carroll
Executive Director
Board or Committee:
VLCT Board of Directors

Resource Category:

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