



October 15, 2024, 4:30 pm
HDEC Conference Room and Via Zoom Meeting

Board Minutes - Unapproved

Board Members:

Voting:

Jessica Burlew – Present
Bob Flint – Present
Lyza Gardner – Present
Chris Hodsdon – Present
Andrew Pennell – Present
Lois Perlah – Present
James Rumrill – Absent
Kelly Tarbell – Present
Sarah Vogel – Absent

Ex-Officio:

Scott Farr – Present
Layne Millington – Absent
Andrew Hass – Absent
Sherri Nichols – Absent
Kendra Rickerby – Absent
Cory LeClair – Absent
Jennifer Cummings – Absent
Kristen Wilson – Absent

Others: Tina Bixby, Ashley Newton, Melissa Sargent-Minor

Program Presentation: Carpentry, Joshua Chamberlain

Bob Flint, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:09 pm and thanked Josh Chamberlain for his presentation.

Agenda Item I. Agenda Changes or Additions

Move Statewide Update to Old Business.

Agenda Item II. Public Comments

None

Agenda Item III. Consent Agenda

Enrollment Update – Scott Farr reported we are 14 students ahead of where we were last year.

Financial Report – Scott Farr shared we are now projecting a \$1,359 surplus for FY25.

MOTION: (Jessica/Lyza) to accept and approve the consent agenda as presented with one change. Motion voted and passed unanimously.

Agenda Item IV. Old Business

VTVLC Update – Ashley Newton, Interim VTVLC Director, presented on the following:

- VTVLC Financial Report – Status quo from last month.
- Welcomed Melisa Sargent-Minor, Director of Special Ed for VTVLC to the meeting.
- Welcome – Two new Instructional Assistants, Carrie Roberts and Karen Harris.
- Webcams/Wolf Conservation Center – Virtual Learning Experience for the K-8 students through an interactive virtual field trip.
- eSports Teams – VTVLC has a middle school and a high school team who have been using Nintendo Switches playing/compete in Mario Kart.

- OBLC Conference – Scheduled for April 10-11, 2025
- Current Enrollment Numbers (Enrollments continue to grow.)
 - Collaborative Diploma Program (CDP) -119 enrollments / 22 unique enrollments
 - Course Lease – 20 enrollments / 12 unique enrollments
 - Traditional - 216 enrollments / 140 unique enrollments
 - On-Demand - 453 enrollments / 380 unique enrollments
 - CTE Online - 3 enrollments
 - Custom - 146 enrollments / 50 unique enrollments
 - Full-Time K-12 – 584 Enrollments / 112 unique enrollments

Technology/Equipment/Reserve Spenddown Update – Scott reported to date we are as follows:

- Technology – All spent down
- Equipment - \$40,000/\$7,718 = \$32,281 Balance – No change from last month.

Statewide CTE Update – Scott reported:

Meeting with APA was attended by Melissa Connor and Scott Farr; no other advisory members or AOE staff were present to float the governance models being considered including a statewide CTE district or split the State into three districts (North, South, and Chittenden County). APA is looking to schedule another meeting.

Listening Tour Session – Bob Flint, Christine Balch, and Scott Farr, along with Melissa Sargent Minor and Ashley Newton of VTLVC attended the meeting by AOE representatives including Interim Secretary Saunders. RVTCS D hosted the meeting in the RVTC Café. There were 45 anticipated attendees and ended up with 70 people. A general session was held, with break-out sections; topics included Career and College Readiness, Mental Health Cost and Systems of Support, and Academics Proficiency. Several Listen Tours are happening all around the state.

Ashley Newton shared VTVLC was able to have a great one-on-one meeting with Interim Secretary Saunders prior to the Listen Tour Session.

VACTED put out a revised white paper, not much different from the previous ones, and handed Interim Secretary Saunders a letter about the “drop out” requirement for early college participation. RVTC lost approximately seven students last year to early college; most of the students would have liked to participate in Level II of their CTE program (with Health Sciences most impacted) *and* early college but this is not allowed at this time. Three members of VACTED met with Kendal Smith from the Governor's office to discuss it.

Agenda Item V. New Business

Building Reserve Funds – Scott Farr asked the Board to authorize using some of the building reserve funds, not to exceed \$17,500 to cover the cost of the Springfield School District overhead billing for the HDEC building reserve fund.

MOTION: (Jessica/Lyza) to authorize accessing the RVTC building reserve funds, not to exceed \$17,500 as part of RVTC's annual contribution to the HDEC building reserve funds with a monthly update to the RVTC Board of Directors. Motion voted and passed unanimously.

Teachers' Association Agreement – Scott Farr informed the Board we are in the last year of a three-year agreement with the Springfield Teachers' Association. We recently received an intent

to negotiate letter from the union. We need to put together a committee, of three Board members. Scott asked that Derek Williams be added as an observer.

MOTION: (Lois/Jessica) to approve the RVTC Board to enter into negotiation with Springfield Teachers' Association and assign the following committee members:

Bob Flint

Andrew Pennell

And one more Board member

Inviting Derek Williams to observe.

Motion voted and passed unanimously.

Policy Readings/First Reading – Derek William provided a write up of the changes to these policies and Tina Bixby emailed them to the Board this afternoon. Bob Flint & Scott Farr reviewed these notes of changes:

- E21 Distribution of Non-School Sponsored Literature
- D3 Responsible Computer, Network & Internet Use

MOTION: (Chris/Kelly) to approve the first reading and warn the second reading of policies:

1. E21 Distribution of Non-School Sponsored Literature
2. D3 Responsible Computer, Network & Internet Use

Motion voted and passed unanimously.

Retirement – Scott Farr presented the Board with his announcement of retirement effective June 30, 2025.

Bob Flint shared his and the Board's gratitude for Scott Farr.

MOTION: (Chris/Jessica) with great regret, to accept Scott's notice of retirement. Motion voted and passed unanimously.

Administrator Positions – Scott reported we did research as to how the Search Committee was composed in the past.

Bob Flint noted we would like to get this committee established and the position posted as quickly as possible to get ahead of things.

MOTION: (Jessica/Lyza) to establish a RVTC Superintendent/Director Search Committee with:

- 2-3 Board members
- 2 Teachers
- 1-2 Support staff
- 1 VTVLC staff member
- 1 Student
- 1 Superintendent/Principal from a sending school

and the Board Chair to appoint the committee structure and chair as designated. Scott's role will be as facilitator, ex-officio, not participating in the face-to-face. Motion voted and passed unanimously.

Scott Farr reminded the Board that Ashley Newton is the VTVLC Interim Director and recommended we post this position at the same time to get ahead of things. He also suggested to try to get the Superintendent/Director hired prior to the VTVLC Director so the Superintendent could participate in this search if possible.

MOTION: (Chris/Kelly) to establish a VTVLC Director Search Committee with:

- 2 Board members
- 1 RVTC administrative staff who support VTVLC
- 1 AOE Representative
- 2 VTVLC administrative staff members
- 1 VTLVC support staff

and the Board Chair to appoint the committee structure and chair as designated. Scott's role will be coordinating with the Board Chair and his Administrative Assistant, but not participate. Motion voted and passed unanimously.

Superintendent's Report – Scott Farr reviewed his Superintendent's report.

Bob Flint shared RVTC hosted Susan Collins of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston who came to visit the Working Communities Challenge Committee. She also visited the Business Management & Entrepreneurship Program. The press will be writing a story on this that will be shared when available.

Bob wanted to also share that one of the visitors from the Federal Reserve approached him to acknowledge Scott's passion for CTE and how lucky we are to have such a great leader.

Other – none

Agenda Item VI. Next Meeting

Next Regular Meeting – Wednesday, November 6, 2024, at 4:30 pm

Agenda Item VII. Executive Session

None

The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 5:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Bixby, Recording Secretary