

Minutes of the CVSWMD Special Board and Executive Board of Supervisors Meeting

February 17, 2010

approved

A meeting of the CVSWMD Board of Supervisors took place at the Chamber of Commerce, Berlin. Towns represented and Board of Supervisors/Alternates present were:

Representative	Town	4/09	5/09	6/09	9/09	10/09	10/21/9	11/09	12/09	1/10	2/10
Micheli, S	Barre City										
Wolfe, N (alt)	Barre City	√	√	√	√	√	√		√	√	√
Thumm, F	Barre Town		√	√		√	√		√	√	√
Mitchell, J (alt)	Barre Town					√					
Levin, M	Berlin	√	√	√		√	√	√	√	√	√
Postpischil, G	Bradford	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Eno, R.D.	Cabot	√	√	√	√	√		√	√	√	√
Powell, B	Calais	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		√	√
Brabant, J (alt)	Calais								√		
Gould, S	Chelsea	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Lembke, M (alt)	Chelsea										
Callan, G	E. Montpelier	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
vacant	Hardwick	√					√				
Sills, P	Marshfield										
Krauth, A	Middlesex	√	√		√	√		√	√	√	
Moore, M	Montpelier	√	√				√	√	√	√	√
Hooper, A (alt)	Montpelier										
White, F.	Northfield	√	√		√	√	√	√	√		√
Morse, C. (alt)	Northfield									√	
Cattaneo, L	Orange	√	√			√	√	√	√	√	√
Walrafen, J CHAIR	Plainfield	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
D'Amico, G	Roxbury	√	√	√	√				√		
vacant	Strafford										
vacant	Tunbridge										
Lynaugh, B	Walden										
vacant	Washington										
vacant	Williamstown										
vacant	Woodbury										

Donna Barlow Casey, Leesa Stewart, Mia Roethlein, Peter Anthony, Barb Baird
 Carl Rogers – Barre Town Manager
 Dave Delcore – Times Argus

Call the meeting to order (1) Janice Walrafen called the meeting to order at 6:40.

Agenda Revisions (2) Matt Levin asked to move item #7, (Update on Depot Transitions) to 4b.

Public Comment Period and Announcements (3)

Donna Barlow Casey announced that she was resigning as Executive Director and handed out a letter to the Board. She has taken a job at Vermont Technical College as Director of its Center for Sustainable Practices. She said that her last day will be March 12 but that she can be flexible. The March 3rd board meeting will have an update on hiring.

Carl Rogers, Barre Town Manager was asked by his Selectboard to ask the board to allow EarthWaste to set up within the gates of the old depot this Saturday by signing a Memorandum of Understanding. The District holds the lease until it is signed off on by the Selectboard. The completion of the closure plan was delayed because the Selectboard wished to do a soil test.

Lee Cattaneo moved to have the Chairperson sign the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to allow the town to use the depot land starting on Saturday February 20th. The motion was seconded.

Until the lease release is complete, the District is liable for what happens on that piece of land. Rogers brought a Memorandum of Understanding asking the Chair to sign it – releasing the District of liability by agreeing to let the town use the land even though the soil samples aren't back and the paperwork releasing the District is not signed.

The Board wanted to know if there had been a soil test done before the District used the land. Rogers answered no. Leesa Stewart had talked to Vermont League of Cities and Towns and was told that the District is liable no matter what is signed until all paperwork is complete. Board Supervisors agreed that Federal law would trump a signing of this MOU. Fred Thumm, as the Barre Town representative, was upset that he wasn't told about the MOU coming to the Board. After more discussion, it was agreed that the District would send the lease release to the town for them to sign before Saturday. All around the table agreed that if contaminants were found, Federal law would address everyone who had operated on that piece of land.

R.D. Eno called the question. It was seconded and passed unanimously.

The main motion failed unanimously.

Consent Agenda (4)

- Adopt Financial statements for the period ending January 31, 2010
- Adopt minutes of the January 13, 2010 Board meeting
- Accept minutes of the January 20, and February 10, 2010 Executive Board meetings

R. D. Eno moved the consent agenda. It was seconded and passed unanimously.

The question of town withdrawals came up and it was explained that Ron Shems, the District Legal Counsel is looking at two different language pieces in the District Charter and will be at the March 3 board meeting to talk about what happens when a town votes to withdraw.

Update on Depot Transitions (4b)

Mia Roethlein gave the following updates on the 6 towns:

Northfield and Barre Town are going with Earth Waste.

Bradford is using Steve Rogers.

Calais is using John Cookson and Brian Perry.

Cabot has Cookson at the past location but they will be somewhere else if they vote to join NEKSWD. Hardwick has sent out an RFP that is not due back until a later date so more information will be coming on that.

Matt Levin asked about the selling of equipment he read about in the FOC/Ex. Board minutes. He expressed concern that the full Board didn't discuss it. Leesa Stewart explained that \$30,000 received from the sale of depot equipment has been placed in the reserve fund with the additional \$10,000 to be received in March. \$40,000 from the reserve fund has been drawn to cover accounts payable. Janice Walrafen explained to Levin that sometimes work is spread out over committees and that, in some cases, they can make these kinds of decisions. R.D. Eno, from the FOC, also stated that time was of the essence in the decision since the District has no land to store such items and a good price was received on the equipment.

Financial Briefing and Timeline for Budget Processes (5)

Donna and Leesa went over the timeline in the packet. Budget materials will get to the Board as soon as they are available. They could adopt the budget at the April 7th meeting or wait until the May 5th meeting.

Adopt Capital Plan (6)

Mia Moore moved to adopt policy #1001 – Capital Planning and Funding. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Round Table and Announcements

Mia Moore: Will Donna have an exit interview? What is going on with the hiring? Janice Walrafen: The Executive Board held an emergency meeting to discuss taking the Executive Director and Administrative Manager positions and combining them into a General Manager position. The Executive Board will contract with VLCT to find candidates. A hiring Ad Hoc Committee was formed consisting of Mia Moore, Fred White, Lee Cattaneo and Ginny Callan.

Mia Moore – thanked Donna for her years of service to the District

Fred White – Donna has excellent leadership skills – the first time I saw her at a landfill hearing I thought “*holy crow*” – this woman is a saint

Lee Cattaneo – wished Donna luck

Fred Thumm – thanked Donna for her hard work

Janice Walrafen – it was a pleasure working with Donna all these years and she appreciates her commitment to zero waste

Gerhard Postpischil – the LA Times had a story about a miracle cleaner – tap water and salt/ Whitey Stripey likes to watch the toilet water swirl around when it flushes

R.D. Eno – always in awe of Donna and her command of detail and knowledge – her executive skills have been invaluable to the District. R.D.'s wife, Janet, went to Japan and there are no paper towels in the public bathrooms. Everyone carries their own towel... which he believes would be a good idea as revenue for the District...

Ginny Callan – thanked Donna

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Prepared by: