

Southwest Vermont Regional Technical School District (SVRTSD)
Annual Floor Meeting Minutes: February 28, 2005
Assembly Room, Career Development Center

Regional Governing Board Members Present: Lance Matteson, Chair; Bob Burgess; Leon Johnson; Frank Lamb; Ed Letourneau; Rick Pembroke; Sean-Marie Oller.

CDC Staff Present: Bill Burfeind, Treasurer; Wes Knapp, SVSU Superintendent; Greg Lewis, Business Manager; Donna Oyama, Director.

Others Present: Jim Kocsis; Claude DeLucia; Kevin Goodhue; Ann Mooke; Wes Mooke; Laura Raskin, Bennington Banner.

Moderator: Gordon Black.

Recorder: Richard Bump.

Matteson called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

1. Moderator: Lamb moved and Johnson seconded a motion to nominate Gordon Black as Moderator. Burgess moved and Burfeind seconded a motion to close nominations, and the motion passed unanimously, whereupon the first motion was voted and passed unanimously. Black then noted that the Floor Meeting would be run according to Robert's Rules of Order, some of which were summarized on the Agenda distributed for the meeting.
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2. Warning of Annual Meeting: Black read aloud and in its entirety the Warning of the Annual Meeting, February 28 and March 1, 2005, a copy of which is attached to and hereby incorporated into these Minutes.
 - a. Article 1: Burfeind moved and Oller seconded a motion to establish the annual salaries of the District directors at \$550 each. In response to a question from Pembroke, Lamb noted that the \$50 increase per director per year
 - brings the directors' salary more in line with that paid by other local districts
 - provides reimbursement, in part, for additional transportation expenses incurred by board members
 - the increase may make the position somewhat more attractive to people considering running for the board in the future.The motion then passed, one abstention.
 - b. Article 2: Pembroke moved and Oller seconded motion to authorize the School District Board to borrow money in anticipation of revenues to meet current operating expenses of the District. After a brief discussion during which Burfeind noted that the District has never yet needed to borrow money to fund the operating budget, the motion carried unanimously.
 - c. Article 3: This is the Article permitting discussion of the Articles to be voted by Australian ballot 3/1/05
 - Article A: no discussion
 - Article B: Noting that Ed Letourneau, Claude DeLucia, and Jon Peaslee are running for 3-year seats and that Kevin Goodhue is running for a 1-year seat, Black then asked those candidates present to introduce themselves and state briefly why they are interested in serving on the Regional Governing Board
 - Article C: Noting that this is the \$2,860,051 CDC budget article, Black then opened the floor for discussion. Kocsis commended the board, faculty and administration for providing the excellent educational opportunities to CDC students and then commented on the potential confusion about the two different numbers presented in the Annual report reflecting the tuition assessment to Pownal (one figure did not

include the \$180,000 general state support grant, the second figure did include that figure). Although he noted that he is in support of the budget, Kocsis did comment that the 6.4% tuition increase is considerably higher than the cost of living increase. Kocsis also questioned the accounting procedures used for reflecting the Fund Balance in the expense and revenue sections of the budget. Lewis noted that although the Fund Balance appears to be reduced to \$70,000 at the end of FY06, expenses and revenues are budgeted conservatively, and as a result, the Fund Balance at the end of the year will more than likely be considerably higher than the \$70,000 indicated. Kocsis also asked if actual revenues and expenses could be included in the Annual Report, and Matteson recommended that the CDC Finance Committee could review this request. Pembroke noted that this information is also included in the annual audit.

- *Article D*: Oyama reported that legal counsel reviewed and approved the language of this and the next article, both of which establish reserve funds for future upgrades to facilities and equipment, and read aloud a 2/25/05 e-mail memo from Steve Stitzel, CDC Attorney, stating such.
- *Article E*: Legal Counsel has approved the language of this article as well.

3. Other Business: Pembroke expressed thanks and appreciation for the time and energy spent on the board by out-going members: Oller, Dixie Zens, and Janet Thompson. And Matteson, peaking on behalf of the entire board, iterated Pembroke's remarks.

After Black called for and found no other business to transact, Burfeind moved and Burgess seconded a motion to adjourn until the polls open on March 1, 2005, and, at 5:25pm, the motion passed unanimously.