

1 **Southwest Vermont Regional Technical School District (SWVRTSD)**  
2 **Regional Governing Board Meeting Minutes: May 19, 2014**

3 Assembly Room, Career Development Center

4  
5 Members Present: Gloria Alexander; Jim Boutin; James Culkeen; Kevin Goodhue; Jessica  
6 Gulley-Ward; Rickey Harrington; Jackie Kelly; Fran Kinney; Ed Letourneau; John  
7 MacDonald.

8  
9 Members absent: Leon Johnson; Heidi Pickering.

10  
11 Staff and Others Present: David Dence (6:50); Barb Gorbaty; Shelby Harkins; Marie-Pierre  
12 Huguet; Wendy Klein; Mike Lawler; Stephanie Mulligan; Sandra Redding; Jamie-Lynn  
13 Schmidt; Kathy Slade.

14 Videotaping: CAT-TV

15  
16 Recorder: Barb Schlesinger

17  
18  
19 **Call to Order and Welcome**

20 Chairman Boutin called the meeting to order at 6:30pm, noted there was a quorum and  
21 noted Culinary was busy preparing the food for tonight's presentation.

22  
23 **Public Comments**

24 Boutin called for comments; there were none.

25  
26 **Committee Reports**

27 **▪ Strategic Planning**

28 Alexander reported the committee met Friday, May 16 at noon. Michael Harrington,  
29 Bennington Economic Development, attended and suggested CDC conduct:

- 30 1. a twelve week entrepreneur boot camp
- 31 2. an emerging leaders in industry class
- 32 3. an experiential camp (similar to what the police are doing)

33 The committee also discussed creating an Advisory committee to support these classes.  
34 The committee will meet next on June 10 at 2:30 to discuss implementation.

35  
36 Alexander also spoke briefly of an article in the *New Yorker* this past weekend about the  
37 finances of education; copies will be provided to the board.

38  
39 **▪ Finance**

40 The committee did not meet.

41  
42 **▪ Education**

43 The committee did not meet.

44  
45 Boutin called for a meeting to be scheduled tonight to address the Superintendent's  
46 recommendations in regards to the budget deficit. He asked the meetings be held at a time  
47 convenient to staff and faculty and invited them to attend.

1 **Consensus was Finance will meet June 2 at 3:00pm and pass on their recommendation**  
2 **to Education, which will meet immediately following at 4:00pm, June 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

3  
4 **Consent Agenda**

5 **Minutes**

- 6 - Minutes of the April 21, 2014 Regional Governing Board Meeting

7  
8 **Harrington moved and Goodhue seconded the motion to accept the April 21, 2014 Full**  
9 **Board minutes.**

10  
11 Letourneau asked about the figures on page 2, line 47 (Health Care costs). Mulligan  
12 responded the figures are correct.

13  
14 **Hand vote was taken with all in attendance voting in favor.**

- 15  
16 - Minutes of the May 12, 2014 Regional Governing Board Special Meeting

17  
18 **Harrington moved and Kinney seconded a motion to accept the May 12, 2014 Special**  
19 **Meeting Minutes. Hand vote was taken with all in attendance voting in favor.** There  
20 was no discussion.

21  
22 **Warrants**

23 **PAYROLL**

- 24 - SWVRTSD Payroll Warrant # 23 4/30/2014 in the amount of \$ 2,828.34  
25 - SWVRTSD Payroll Warrant # 1041 4/30/2014 in the amount of \$ 72,173.15  
26 - SWVRTSD Payroll Warrant # 24 5/19/2014 in the amount of \$ 2,992.11  
27 - SWVRTSD Payroll Warrant # 1043 5/19/2014 in the amount of \$ 67,365.67

28  
29 **Harrington moved and Kinney seconded the motion to approve the Payroll Warrants.**  
30 **Hand vote was taken with all in attendance voting in favor.** There was no discussion.

31  
32 **VENDOR**

- 33 - SWVRTSD Vendor Warrant # 1042 4/30/2014 in the amount of \$ 78,171.81  
34 - SWVRTSD Vendor Warrant # 1044 5/19/2014 in the amount of \$ 44,951.22

35  
36 **Kinney moved and Harrington seconded the motion to approve the Vendor Warrants.**

37  
38 Letourneau inquired about the building supplies (Warrant 1042, page 14) and how they  
39 related to our allocation agreement with MAU. There was brief discussion as to examining  
40 more thoroughly what we are being charged for. Culkeen will schedule a meeting for  
41 himself, Marsden and Mulligan to review.

42  
43 **Hand vote was taken with all in attendance voting in favor.**

44  
45 **Revenue & Expenses** *(April 1 through April 30, 2014)*

46 Boutin called for comments and heard none.

1 **Action Items**

2     ▪ **Field Trips**

- 3         ✓ SkillsUSA                   6/23 → 6/28           Kansas City MO                   6 students

4  
5 **Harrington moved and Goodhue seconded a motion to approve the SkillsUSA field**  
6 **trip. Hand vote was taken with all in attendance voting in favor.**

7  
8 Slade reported Laurie Wright would be the driver. Culkeen reported only the State Gold  
9 winners would be going to Nationals.

10  
11     ▪ **Equipment Acquisition**

- 12         ✓ Backhoe Replacement

13 Culkeen reported the current machine is 20 years old and noted instructor David Dence did  
14 the background for the bids (a handout summarizing the bid results was distributed).

15 Payment for the backhoe will be a \$30,000 down payment (Perkins) with five (5) years of  
16 lease-to-own payments at 2%. Recommended is the full size 2013 John Deere 310SK  
17 (\$68,000) which includes many extras, most notably the cold weather package. \*\*\* (break for  
18 presentation)

19  
20 Dence noted the old machine was in decent shape which led to a good trade in. The  
21 problem with it was it was a 'warm weather' truck that required extended warm ups in our  
22 climate. Dence gave a summary of the bid process and noted the recommended backhoe is  
23 easier for the non-traditional students to work with and comes with good training videos.  
24 Dence noted the backhoe was set up to change controls and also includes excavator CAT  
25 controls.

26  
27 Mulligan addressed the payment plan and noted that after the \$30,000 Perkins down  
28 payment, the balance (at 2% municipal lease) would be either \$13,000/ year (for 3 years) or  
29 \$8,000/ year (for 5 years). Originally \$20,000/ year was budgeted for this machine.  
30 Because the machine assists non-traditional students, the Perkins grant can be used. This  
31 grant needs to be used by the end of the fiscal year, June 30<sup>th</sup>. The Finance committee will  
32 discuss the three or five year repayment plan.

33  
34 **Harrington moved and Kinney seconded a motion to accept the \$68,000 bid for a 2013**  
35 **John Deere 310SK Backhoe from Nortrax (Springfield VT). Hand vote was taken with**  
36 **all in attendance voting in favor.**

37  
38 **Guests and Visitors – \*\*\***

39 **First Annual Superintendent/ Director's Culinary Cook-Off Winner**

40 Culkeen reported on this First Annual Cook-Off:

- 41         – This year's competition featured sliders.  
42         – Six judges conducted a blind taste test on the entries.  
43         – The four participating students received gift certificates from the Kitchen Store  
44         in Manchester.  
45         – Winner Shelby Harkins, along with her grandmother and instructor Schmidt,  
46         served her winning entry, Pulled Turkey Sliders.  
47         – Shelby was awarded a gift certificate and Culkeen presented her with a trophy.  
48         Shelby plans on attending Paul Smiths in the fall.

49  
50 Congratulations and thanks were offered by the board.

1 **Director/ Superintendent's Report**

2 Culkeen:

- 3 - Noted that one of his goals this past year was to revise the Center's website. He  
4 reported this revision is almost there and he plans to have it for the June Board  
5 meeting.  
6 - Announced Awards Night will be held June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00pm at the Bennington Elks  
7 Club.  
8 - Reported interviews have been held for both the Engineering and Guidance  
9 Coordinator positions. The Guidance candidate will be spending a full day with Bill  
10 Swisher next week. The Engineering position has one solid candidate.  
11 - Reported that on May 29, the South Shire Challenge will hold its Award Ceremony at  
12 11:30am. Local businesses Abacus Automation and K&E Plastics participate in this  
13 program which challenges students with specific problems.  
14 - Reported we will know by June 1<sup>st</sup> about the status of the Sustainable Food grant.  
15 He further noted the teacher has completed her initial work to teach.  
16 - Reported Perkins has awarded \$150,000 in grant to the center:  
17     ➤ \$30,000 for tech integration (equipment has been targeted)  
18     ➤ \$70,000 for salary and benefits  
19     ➤ \$50,000 for professional development  
20 - Spoke on a day in Meriden CT at an American Association of School Administrators  
21 (AASA) conference on the collection of data and its use in decision making. Culkeen  
22 noted it was 'eye opening'.  
23 - Reported there would be no report tonight on negotiations. The teachers will be  
24 voting on the proposal tomorrow, and, if accepted, it will not come before the board  
25 until June 19<sup>th</sup>.

26  
27 Letourneau noted that he read in the *Legislative Roundup* that if a school has a website,  
28 agendas have to be posted there.

29  
30 Mulligan reported she is signing the center up for a one year extension at the Vermont  
31 Education Health Initiative (VEHI).

32  
33 **Chairman's Report**

34 Boutin:

- 35 - Reported there will be a joint meeting on Tuesday, June 10 at 7:30pm of the  
36 Bennington Select board, Town Manager and local school board members.  
37 - Reiterated that he hopes there is good participation from the staff at both the  
38 upcoming Finance and Education committee meetings and stressed 'we all need to  
39 work together'. He also noted the three letters submitted to the board (with this  
40 evening's handouts), reported another letter is to follow and commented that the  
41 board will respond.

42  
43 Further announcements/ comments included:

- 44 - Goodhue requesting the budget be placed in the Dropbox prior to the next meeting.  
45 - Culkeen noting the Legislative Breakfast is tentatively scheduled for June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 7:45 at  
46 Central Office.  
47 - Kinney noted legislative members want to know what we want done in their district  
48 and what grants are needed.  
49

1 **Executive Session**

2 There was none.

3  
4 **Other**

5 A Memorandum of Agreement arrangement was entered between the RGB Board and Barb  
6 Gorbaty regarding her health care coverage for July/ August 2013. The Board agreed to  
7 cover her healthcare as well as dental insurance costs. The total costs were \$3,399.00  
8 (health \$2760, dental \$639.00) and reimbursed to Gorbaty in Vendor Warrant #1042  
9 (approved earlier this evening).

10  
11 **Harrington moved and Alexander seconded a motion to approve the Memorandum of**  
12 **Agreement. Hand vote was taken with all in attendance voting in favor.**

13  
14 **Adjournment**

15 **At 7:25pm Kinney moved and Harrington seconded a motion to Adjourn. All were in**  
16 **favor.**

17  
18 Respectfully submitted,

19  
20 Barb Schlesinger  
21 May 26, 2014

22  
23  
24 **Dropbox:**

- 25 - Minutes of the April 21, 2014 Regional Governing Board Meeting
- 26 - Minutes of the May 12, 2014 Regional Governing Board Special Meeting
- 27 - SWVRTSD Payroll Warrant # 23 & 1041
- 28 - SWVRTSD Payroll Warrant # 24 & 1043
- 29 - SWVRTSD Vendor Warrant # 1042
- 30 - SWVRTSD Vendor Warrant # 1044
- 31 - Local Budget Revenue & Expenses Reports
- 32 - Field Trip – SkillsUSA
- 33 - Cash Flow Statement

34  
35 **Distributed at meeting:**

- 36 - Bid Summary for Backhoe loader
- 37 - Letters (3) Gorbaty, Foley, Slade re RIF Letters/ positions