



## July 10, 2018 Governing Board Meeting Minutes

Berlin Elementary School Library  
372 Paine Turnpike N, Berlin, VT

6:00pm

**Present: Governing Board Delegates:** Chris Riddell (Barre City), Jeremy Hansen (Chair, Berlin), Andrew Gilbert (Cabot), David Healy (Calais), Bob Klein (East Montpelier), Bob Burley (Elmore), Jonathan Williams (Marshfield – in place of Jim Barlow), Phil Hyjek (Vice Chair, Middlesex), Dan Jones (Montpelier), John Quinn (Northfield), Siobhan Perricone (Orange), Michael Birnbaum (Plainfield), Rama Schneider (Williamstown), Allen Gilbert (Worcester); **Alternates:** Elliott Bent (Barre City), Seth O'Brien (Cabot), Tom Fisher (East Montpelier), Becca Schrader (Clerk, East Montpelier alternate), Stephen Whitaker (Montpelier); **Other Attendees:** ORCA camera person, Irv Thomae and Carole Monroe of ECFiber (arrived at 7:50)

**Absent:** Jon Guiffre (Roxbury), Barre Town delegate (not yet appointed)

### **Agenda:**

#### **Meeting call to order:**

Hansen called the meeting to order at 6:17 PM, after a brief delay where we were locked out of the building. Quorum was determined.

**Additions or changes to the agenda:** Hansen added a presentation by David Healy and discussion regarding mapping.

**ACTION:** Birnbaum made a motion to have the Clerk send meeting warning notices directly to town clerks instead of delegates posting or alerting the clerks. Second by Quinn, motion passed unanimously.

**Public comment:** Stephen Whitaker suggested that rather than tackling the whole district at once it might be more feasible to run a pilot in one town, and he suggested Calais.

**Report back about Certificate of Organization:**

Vote certifications were submitted to the clerk, who filed them with the Secretary of State. Hansen asked if we also need to file a trade name. Schrader will check with the Secretary of State's office.

**Petition by Orange Town to join CVI:**

The select board of Orange Town has voted to petition to join CVI and appoint Siobhan Perricone as their delegate to the governing board. There was a discussion about desirable size of the district. Concerns included becoming unwieldy and losing the personal, local branding and service we're trying to provide, as well as defining Central Vermont. Quinn suggested that we might want to adopt a policy of only accepting new petitions once per year. It was agreed that this is a larger discussion to have on the agenda at a future meeting.

**ACTION:** Motion from Gilbert (Worcester), second by Gilbert (Cabot) to accept Orange Town into the CUD. Motion passed unanimously.

**Appointment of additional committee members:**

It was noted that committees of only three members create problems of quorum and open meeting law. Healy, Hansen, and Bent volunteered to serve on the Business Development Committee. Schneider volunteered to serve on the Bylaw/Policy Committee.

**ACTION:** Motion from Hyjek, second by Jones to appoint the above named volunteers to the respective committees. Motion passed unanimously.

**CVI Rules of Procedure Adoption:**

Motion from Williams, second by Perricone to adopt Rules of Procedure as edited. Motion passed unanimously and the Rules were signed.

**David Healy mapping presentation:**

Healy gave a presentation on what data he's been able to gather, what types of data are needed, and some preliminary mapping. He requested a motion to have authority to seek more information.

**ACTION:** Motion to authorize Healy to gather data on behalf of CVI.

Discussion included concerns about privacy, personally identifiable information and public body issues.

Motion by Schneider to make exception to rules to allow Whitaker to speak with a motion on the floor. Motion died for lack of second.

Amendment by Gilbert (Cabot), second by Jones: Authorize Healy to gather GIS information on behalf of CVI with review of the executive committee.

Amendment by Birnbaum, second by Hyjek: (Strikethrough previous amendment) Authorize Healy to seek GIS physical data from VELCO and the Public Service Department and that we as a board establish policy for future data gathering.

Vote on Birnbaum amendment: Twelve yes votes, two no votes, motion passed.

Vote on Birnbaum amendment to motion: Thirteen yes votes, one no vote, motion passed.

Vote on motion as amended: Thirteen yes votes, one no vote, motion passed.

**Future guest speakers to invite (suggestions):**

- Secretary of State (or representative): Hansen and Barlow will meet with someone from the Secretary's office to narrow the scope of information that will be most useful.
- Lauren-Glenn Davitian (Common Good VT/CCTV Center for Media and Democracy) on Net Neutrality.
- Matt Dunne: Bent will reach out to invite.
- Former Sovernet staff: Long haul
- VELCO: Healy will invite.

**Vision/Mission discussion:**

Hansen proposed Integrative Consent as a framework. Birnbaum suggested we eliminate having a designated proposer but otherwise adopting the process, and there was consensus about that. Hansen facilitated the discussion and took notes. Proposals for vision/mission were made, and then the discussion was tabled for the next meeting.

**ECFiber presentation:**

Irv Thomae and Carole Monroe gave a presentation to share their process, successes, and mission as the first CUD in Vermont.

## **Backburner/pending items & assignment of committee tasks:**

Existing:

- Barre Town appointment to Board
- Washington considering application
- Business Development Committee tasks
- Internet2 connection
- Rural Broadband Access Loan/Loan Guarantee  
<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-broadband-access-loan-and-loan-guarantee>
- Net neutrality
- Relationship to 10 year plan
- Public safety

Discussion of data policy – separate committee needed or add to bylaw and policy committee?

**ACTION:** Motion by Gilbert (Worcester) to have the policy committee begin development of a data privacy and access policy. Second by Schneider. Motion passed unanimously.

Gilbert (Cabot) and Whitaker volunteered to join the Bylaws/Policy Committee. Motion by Quinn, second by Schneider to appoint Gilbert (Cabot) and Whitaker to Bylaws/Policy Committee. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion of tasks for Business Development Committee – looking for business partner? Branding? Open a bank account? Explore crowdfunding?

**ACTION:** Motion by Hansen to task the Business Development Committee to identify a short list of potential operating partners that exist in Vermont, second by Perricone. Discussion: RFP should be built as well, and we shouldn't pick one. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Perricone to task the Business Development Committee to survey local financial institutions about account terms offered. Second by Birnbaum. Motion passed with three nos.

## **Approval of June 12<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes:**

**ACTION:** Motion by Jones, second by Hyjek to accept minutes. Motion passed with three abstentions from those who were not present.

## **Roundtable:**

The group went around the table to share anything they want to. Concerns included sticking to meeting time.

**Adjourn:**

**ACTION:** Motion by Jones, second by Riddell to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:13 PM.

Next meeting: August 14<sup>th</sup> @ 6pm, BES

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