

1 **Southwest Vermont Regional Technical School District (SVRTSD)**
2 **Regional Governing Board Meeting Minutes: Monday, March 8, 2021, Zoom Online Meeting**
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4 **RGB members present:** Michael Cutler, Asher Edelson, Art Haytko, Leon Johnson, Jackie Kelly, Francis
5 Kinney, John MacDonald, Kenneth Sweirad and Anthony (TJ) Williams
6

7 **CDC represented** by: Meg Honsinger, Assistant Director; Rebecca Tattersall, Business Manager
8

9 Audience: CAT-TV
10

11 **Recorder:** Sandra Redding, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent
12

13 Meeting was called to order by Assistant Director Meg Honsinger at 10:03AM for the purpose of re-
14 organization of this board. She welcomed the public and asked for comments. There were none.
15

16 The members of the board introduced themselves.
17

18 Honsinger then requested nominations for **board chair. John MacDonald** was nominated for the
19 position with motions from Fran Kinney and Ken Swierad. No other nominations were presented, so
20 nominations were closed and vote taken. MacDonald was unanimously elected as chair.
21

22 MacDonald proceeded with the re-organization by requesting nominations for **vice-chair. Leon Johnson**
23 offered himself if no one else was interested. Hearing no other nominations, Johnson was selected as
24 vice-chair.
25

26 **Jackie Kelly** was nominated by John MacDonald and Leon Johnson for **clerk**. There being no others
27 nominated, Kelly was unanimously elected clerk of this board.
28

29 Continuing on with the re-org, this group decided due to the continuing Covid situation to **meet online via**
30 **Zoom** until safe to gather in public. Meetings will continue to take place the second Monday of each
31 month at 10AM for the near future with some changes to be determined due to school holidays/vacations.
32 The April meeting will be held Monday, April 19, 2021 due to school vacation per the suggestion of the
33 business office.
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35 **The Paper of Record** will continue to be the Bennington Banner which includes the Manchester Journal
36 district coverage area.
37

38 **The Off Warrant Signers** will continue to be the board officers.
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40 A discussion concerning the **Vermont School Board Code of Ethics** ensued. Board members cannot
41 be forced to sign this document, but the board as a whole, felt the document should be adopted to
42 indicate our belief and compliance for the message implied. With motions from Leon Johnson and
43 Michael Cutler, the board unanimously voted to adopt the VSBA Code of Ethics for the board and allow
44 individual board members to sign individually as preferred. Motion carried.
45

46 The board then listened to an audio message from Superintendent Michael Lawler who could not be
47 present for this meeting. Lawler expressed his sadness at missing the meeting and extended a warm
48 welcome to new board members, his thanks for the service of out-going board members and his
49 appreciation to the SW Tech faculty and staff for all the above and beyond hard work being done for our
50 students and community. We enjoyed his explanation of his newly created term, "Tech-ademics" in regard
51 to our school and district's situation. All of us, (board members, faculty and staff), wish Lawler well and
52 look forward to his return.
53

54 The consent agenda was presented for approval:

- 55 • **January 11, 2021 Full Board minutes** were approved after motions from F. Kinney and K.
56 Swierad with abstentions from new board members. Asher Edelson inquired as to the progress of

1 hiring for open positions, Manufacturing and Culinary. Advertising for the manufacturing position
2 is ongoing and interviews continue to the next level for culinary.

- 3 • **February 4, 2021 Joint Boards Meeting minutes** were approved after motions from F. Kinney
4 and K. Swierad with abstentions from new board members
- 5 • **Monday, March 1, 2021 Annual Meeting minutes** were approved after motions from F. Kinney
6 and K. Swierad with abstentions from new board members.
- 7 • **Payroll Warrants** were approved after motions from F. Kinney and K. Swierad. New board
8 members abstained.
- 9 • **Vendor Warrants** were approved after motions from F. Kinney and K. Swierad. New board
10 members abstained.
- 11 • Rebecca Tattersall, Business Manager, explained how the warrant process works and the Docu-
12 sign application can be used during this time of social distancing.
- 13 • Cash Flow, Revenue, Expenses and Treasurer's Report were unanimously approved after
14 motions from F. Kinney and J. Kelly.

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16 There were no committee reports.

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18 No action items.

19
20 Leon Johnson inquired as to whether iPads or Chromebooks would be offered to board members if they
21 needed them. That will be determined as we assess needs. Also, he wondered if we are receiving Covid
22 funds from the state and that was answered in the affirmative.

23
24 John MacDonald extended the board's appreciation and thanks to the administration, faculty and staff of
25 SW Tech for their continued hard work in support of students thru this trying time. He also sent best
26 wishes to Supt. Lawler.

27
28 With no other business to come before the board at this time, the group unanimously voted to adjourn at
29 10:49AM.