

1 **Southwest Vermont Regional Technical School District (SVRTSD)**  
2 **Regional Governing Board Meeting Minutes: Monday, February 14, 2022, Zoom Online Meeting**  
3

4 **RGB members present:** Mike Cutler, Asher Edelson, Art Haytko, Leon Johnson, Jackie Kelly, John  
5 MacDonald, Ken Swierad, Anthony (TJ) Williams and Dane Whitman  
6

7 **CDC represented** by: Michael Lawler, Superintendent/Director; Meg Honsinger, Assistant Director and  
8 Rebecca Tattersall, Business Manager  
9

10 Audience: CAT-TV  
11

12 **Recorder:** Sandra Redding, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent  
13

14 Meeting was called to order by Board Vice-Chair, Leon Johnson at 10:05AM. He wished everyone a  
15 Happy Valentines's Day, then presented the agenda; welcomed the public and asked for public  
16 comments. Board member, Mike Cutler, thanked the Building Trades class students for the fine work and  
17 cooperation in assisting the drama students in building sets for their coming production. He recommends  
18 this event to all and hopes the public will find the time to enjoy it. No other comments being heard, the  
19 consent agenda was up for vote:

- 20 • RGB Full Board Minutes, January 10, 2022-motions from M. Cutler and A. Edelson; unanimous  
21 vote for approval
- 22 • Payroll Warrants: #1025-motions from M. Cutler and A.J.Williams, unanimous approval  
23 #1026-motions from A. Edelson and K. Swierad, unanimous approval  
24 #1029 and #18-motions from A. Edelson and K. Swierad, unanimous approval
- 25 • Vendor Warrants: #1024-motions from J. Kelly and K. Swierad, unanimous approval  
26 #1028-motions from J. Kelly and K. Swierad, unanimous approval

27 Business Office documents were considered for any questions or concerns. There were none.

28 Action Items:

- 29 • Nomination of Forestry/Heavy Equipment Instructor- Supt. Lawler presented the paperwork for  
30 applicant Eric Bishop. Mr. Bishop has been interviewed in-person and proper clearances have  
31 been secured. Supt. Lawler is comfortable recommending Bishop to the board. The board voted  
32 unanimously to accept this nomination and welcomed him to our school.
- 33 • L. Johnson, chair of the Policy Committee, shared the updates completed at this time for several  
34 policies: 2200C, 4035C, 5050C and 7195C. He noted all but 7195C were reviewed by the  
35 committee and no changes were needed. 7195C was recommended by the Agency of Education  
36 concerning special education and accepted as presented. Motions from K. Swierad and M.  
37 Cutler to accept policy reviews as presented were unanimously approved. 6010C is another new  
38 Special Education policy recommended by the AoE. The AoE will provide protocols and  
39 procedures for inclusion. K. Swierad and J. Kelly motioned for acceptance of this policy, board  
40 unanimously agreed even though more information may be forthcoming, so a re-visit should be  
41 expected. Kelly noted that our district very closely follows our larger neighboring SVSU district in  
42 setting policies.
- 43 • Johnson then brought up the current status of this board's by-laws. Review is pretty complete  
44 with some grammatical updates and a few changes to some wording. Formatting will be ready to  
45 share very soon. There is a bit of fine tuning to do to complete.
- 46 • Johnson noted that board election is coming up soon. We have 3 incumbents running and one  
47 open seat. Board member Art Haytko is retiring from the board this year. We extend our thanks  
48 for his years of input and devotion to our district. Johnson encourages everyone to vote and  
49 show support for our students and budget. Lawler confirmed that with the open position, if no one  
50 person receives 30 or more votes as a write-in, the spot may be left open or the board could  
51 recommend someone to fill in for a year.

52 Rebecca Tattersall, Business Manager, reminded the group to be ready to attend the Annual Meeting,  
53 Monday, February, 28, 2022, 6PM online by Zoom. We will lead off the town meetings just before the  
54 SVSU/BSD, so should be no more than 10 minutes. She indicated the importance for all members to be

1 in attendance for this online meeting. It promotes good rapport and public relations for our district at this  
2 very important time of our school budget vote.  
3

4 Supt. Lawler shared with the group the positive publicity pieces running in the Vermont News Guide each  
5 week. Along with a strong, colorful, informative ad concerning what SW Tech is and offers, we are show-  
6 casing outstanding students from our district. This is a great way for our northern towns and communities  
7 to learn more about us. Applications for enrollment have been coming in fast and furious especially for  
8 certain programs. We should not have any trouble filling seats as we are near capacity in enrollment  
9 numbers. Also, as part of Student Emotional Learning, we have begun our Mindful Monday experience  
10 which promotes positive interaction and thoughtful response for students as well as faculty/staff. This has  
11 been very well received so far.  
12

13 Jackie Kelly inquired if we have any other open positions at this time. Lawler responded that we have  
14 one teaching position to be filled for next year, Manufacturing. We presently have an instructor in place  
15 thru the end of June. Also, we are aware that one VoTech Specialist/Bus Driver position will be available  
16 for the next school year due to a retirement.  
17

18 Lawler explained that the SW Tech damage pictures due to the flooding incidents are in our drop box and  
19 he would like to make them available for the public to see what we are dealing with. Offices and one  
20 classroom have been returned to use, but there are several more areas that will take months to repair.  
21 Cost estimates are not complete at this time. There is a great deal of insurance to cover the incidents as  
22 well.  
23

24 Johnson extended Valentine's best wishes to one and all and also noted that February is Black History  
25 Month. He suggests and hopes we all make an effort to review, remember and embrace Black heritage  
26 as well as participate in cultural events.  
27

28 With no other business to come before the board and motions from Edelson and Cutler, this meeting  
29 adjourned at 10:42AM.