

Organizational Meeting of the Slate Valley Modified Unified Union School District
Thursday, August 10, 2017
6:30 p.m.
Fair Haven Union High School Library
Meeting Minutes

Slate Valley Modified Unified Union School Board of Directors

Approved Minutes

Name	Role/Term	Town Representing	In Attendance
Rebecca Holcombe	Secretary of Education	State of Vermont	Yes
Jody Goodhue	Temp. Clerk/1 Year	Benson	Yes
David Renninger	Board Member/ 2 Year	Benson	Yes
Amy Munger	Board Member/3 Year	Benson	Yes
Toni Lobdell	Board Member/1 Year	Castleton	Yes
Liz Mackay	Board Member/2 Year	Castleton	Yes
Julie Finnegan	Board Member/3 Year	Castleton	Yes
Shannon Baldwin	Board Member/1 Year	Hubbardton	Yes
Joshua Hardt	Board Member/2 Year	Hubbardton	Yes
Mike Fallis	Board Member;3 Year	Hubbardton	No
Richard Wilson	Board Member/1 Year	West Haven	Resigned
Angela Charron	Board Member/2 Year	West Haven	Yes
Michael (Trevor) Ezzo	Board Member/3 Year	West Haven	Yes
Tara Buxton	Board Member/1 Year	Fair Haven	No
Michael Bache	Board Member/2 Year	Fair Haven	Yes
Roy L. Eckler	Board Member/3 Year	Fair Haven	Yes
Peter Stone	Board Member/1 Year	Orwell NMD (Non Member District)	No
Glen Cousineau	Board Member/2 Year	Orwell NMD	Yes
David Carpenter	Board Member/3 Year	Orwell NMD	Yes
Brooke Olsen Farrell	Superintendent	Slate Valley MUUSD	Yes

Others in Attendance: Ken Flowers, nominated and sworn in as Moderator; Barbara Phillips, nominated and sworn in as Clerk of Slate Valley Modified Unified Union School District.

Town Clerk's: Daphne Bartholomew from Benson, Nedra Boutwell from Castleton, Suzanne Duchame from Fair Haven, Dawn Custer from Hubbardton, Betty Walker & Sharon Macedo from Orwell, and Carol Richards from West Haven

Registered voters: Karla Ramey & Christopher Cole, both of Fair Haven; Linda Peltier, Principal of CVS, and Jeff Peltier of Benson, Mark Young of Orwell, Tom Spangenberg of Hubbardton, Ken Flowers of Castleton

The following were in attendance but were non voting members of the audience: Brooke Olsen-Farrell, Superintendent of Schools; Cheryl Scarzello, Director of Finance of ARSU; Skip Cooke, Principal FHGS; Patrick Walters, Principal of Orwell; Sherri Nichols, Curriculum Coordinator of ARSU; Kim Prehoda, Principal of Benson; Rebecca Armitage, Sped. Director of FHGS; Jason Rasco, Assistant Principal FHUHS; Brett Blanchard, Principal of FHUHS; and Bonnie Lenihan, Director of Special Education at C/H Schools and Minute Taker for Slate Valley Modified Unified Union School District

Meeting Opened at 6:33 PM with Rebecca Holcombe Secretary of Education for State of VT beginning with reading a Declaration to the legal voters of the Slate Valley Modified Unified Union School District. *The legal voters of the Slate Valley Modified Unified Union School District comprising the voters of the Towns of Benson, Castleton, Fair Haven, Hubbardton, Orwell and West Haven are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Fair Haven Union High School on Thursday, August 10th, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. And to take action upon the warned articles.*

I declare the Organizational Meeting of the Slate Valley Modified Unified Union School District is opened at 6:30 p.m. The Secretary of Education then lead Pledge of Allegiance

An opening Statement was shared by Glen Cousineau. Mr. Cousineau thanked all elected Board members for being here in their new roles on the SVMUUSD. He also took time to acknowledge the significant work done by the two ACT 46 Study Committees, which led up to the successful formation eventually of the Slate Valley Modified Unified Union School District.

There was then clarification of who would be able to vote on the Articles and the procedures that would be followed in such a vote. To vote on Articles from the warning, you must be a registered voter in the towns of Castleton, Benson, Hubbardton, West Haven, Fair Haven and Orwell and pass through the checklist at the entrance to the library. There you will have your name checked against the list of legal voters in each town and receive a colored voting ballot that you will show during a voice vote from the floor or deposit it at the ballot box if a vote by paper ballot is called. If a paper ballot vote is requested, you will be given instructions on procedure.

Non-residents and unregistered voters may not vote, but may be allowed to speak with the approval of $\frac{2}{3}$'s of the assembly. During a voice vote, please remain silent. Additionally, you may not raise your hands or stand if physical count is required. We appreciate your cooperation.

Minutes for this meeting are being recorded. All motions, remarks and discussion should be addressed to the Moderator. Anyone wishing to address the assembly or anyone responding to questions from the floor must state his or her full name and speak so that comments may be heard by the entire assembly.

Next Secretary Holcombe had all the new SVMUUSD Board Members Stand to be sworn in under two different Oaths. A list of their duties as Board Members was shared orally. The first being the Affirmation Oath of Allegiance and the Second the Affirmation Oath of Office. The members stood, stated their

names and repeated the Oaths being read by the Secretary of Education. All Board members recited this and were successfully sworn in as members of SVMUUSD.

Next order of business was to review and act on Article 1-10 of the new Slate Valley Modified Unified Union School District.

Article 1: To elect a Temporary Presiding Officer; Toni Lobdell nominated Michael Bache. All members were in favor of this nomination and the motion to elect Michael Bache as Temporary Presiding Officer passed. Mr. Bache was then sworn in to faithfully execute the office of Temporary Presiding Officer for the Organizational Meeting of the Slate Valley Modified Unified School District.

The Board continued in Article 1 to proceed to elect a Temporary Clerk. Julie Finnegan nominated Jody Goodhue. All members were in favor of this nomination and Jody Goodhue was sworn in as the Temporary Clerk.

Article 2: To adopt Robert's Rules of Order or other rules of order to govern the parliamentary procedures of this and subsequent meetings of the Slate Valley Modified Unified Union School District. Roy Eckler made the nomination to adopt Robert's Rules of Order and Liz Mackay seconded the motion. No objections or discussion. Action Passed.

Article 3: To elect the following officers:

- A. Moderator for the ensuing year; David Renninger nominated Ken Flowers for the position of Moderator for the ensuing school year. The registered voters agreed and Mr. Flowers nomination for Moderator was passed. Mr. Flowers then received and repeated the Oath of Office for Moderator. Mr. Flowers now officially sworn in will take over as Moderator for the remaining meeting.
- B. Clerk for the ensuing year; Shannon Baldwin nominated Barbara Phillips as Clerk of the Slate Valley Modified Unified Union School District for the ensuing year. The nomination was supported. Barbara Phillips received the Oath and was sworn in as Clerk.
- C. Treasurer for the ensuing year; Julie Finnegan nominated Suzanne Dechame as Treasurer. Suzanne's appointment was supported. She received the oath and was sworn in.

Election of officers for the new SVMUUSD was completed.

Article 4: To determine and approve compensation, if any, to be paid Modified Unified Union District Officers.

- A. Payment for Moderator; Joshua Hardt made a motion that the Moderator receive \$0 for this officer position; this was seconded by Julie Finnegan. The action Passed by the registered voters.
- B. Payment for Clerk; Joshua Hardt made a motion that the Clerk receive \$0 for this officer position; this was seconded by Michael Bache. The action was passed by the registered voters.
- C. Payment for Treasurer; Joshua Hardt made a motion that the Treasurer be paid \$1200 for this officer position; this was seconded by Toni Lobdell. The action was passed by the registered voters.

Article 5: To establish a date of the annual meeting. Glen Cousineau made a motion that the annual meeting date be set for the fourth Monday in February. This was seconded by Julie Finnegan. Daphne asked for clarification if this was to be an ongoing date recommendation for the annual meeting or just a one year date. It was clarified that this date was recommended as an ongoing (year to year) date for the annual meeting. After the above discussion and clarification that it will be a yearly annual review on the fourth Monday of February the registered voters passed the action.

Article 6: To establish provisions for the payment of any expense incurred by the Modified Unified Union District. Amy Munger made the motion that: the Slate Valley Modified Unified Union School District comply with the provisions of Title 16 Section 563, subdivisions (8) & (9), regarding the payment of expenses and the maintenance of financial accounts and also comply with the policies and procedures of the Addison Rutland Supervisory Union, until rescinded or amended by the Board. This was seconded by David Carpenter. Action was passed by the registered voters.

Article 7: To authorize the SVMUUSD to borrow money pending receipt of payments from the State Education Fund. Trevor Ezzo made the motion that: the Slate Valley Modified Unified Union School District have the power to borrow money pending receipt of payments from the State Education Fund by the issuance of its notes or orders payable not later than one year from date; provided, however, that the newly formed District is authorized by Vermont Statutes to borrow sufficient funds to meet pending obligations. This was seconded by Julie Finnegan. Action was passed by the registered voters.

Article 8: To determine and approve compensation, if any, to be paid to the Board of Directors. Payment considered for Board Directors and Chair of the Board. Barbara Phillips made a motion to pay the Board of Directors \$1,000 compensation and the Board Chair \$1500 compensation for their service. This was seconded by Roy Eckler. Action was passed by the registered voters.

Article 9: To determine whether to authorize the Board of School Directors, to provide mailed notice to residents of the availability of the Annual Report and proposed school budget. Angela Charron made the motion to: authorize the Board of School Directors, pursuant to the provisions of Title 16, section 563 subdivisions (10) and (11)(C), to provide mailed notice to residents of the availability of the Annual Report and proposed school budget in lieu of distributing the Annual Report and proposed budget. Julie Finnegan seconded this motion. Action was passed by the registered voters.

Article 10: To transact any other school business. Mr. Flowers, Moderator shares that this concludes the warned articles. He asks is there any other school business that may legally come before this meeting in connection with the foregoing articles?

There being no further business to come before the organizational meeting of the Slate Valley Modified Unified Union School District, I will entertain a motion to adjourn. Glen Cousineau made the motion to adjourn at 7:07 p.m. This was seconded by Shannon Baldwin. Action Passed by the registered voters, meeting adjourned.

Minutes are respectfully submitted by Bonnie Lenihan