



VERMONT ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BUSINESS OFFICIALS

SERVING EDUCATION THROUGH SOUND BUSINESS PRACTICE

www.vasbo.net

Brenda Fleming, President
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VASBO Meeting Minutes September 8, 2017 VSBIT Office Building

Present: See attached sign-in sheets.

Meeting was called to order by Brenda Fleming, President, at 9:32.

Introductions

Secretary's Report available at: www.vasbo.net Accepted – A motion was made, seconded, to accept the report. Correction was noted that Steve Hier was at the meeting.

Treasurer's Report available at: www.vasbo.net Accepted – A motion was made, seconded, to accept the report.

Announcements and Correspondence-

*Membership Dues are due. The enrollment form is on the website, also sent to the list-serve mid-August.

*VEHI Health Ins. booklets are available to be picked up for each district. See Lisa Locke.

* *P-cards, Brenda asked how many districts are currently using P-cards. Approx. 20 districts currently using P, cards are very useful with more control than credit cards. Information on the website, go to fiscal management tab, P-card contact.

*State Board has changed meeting dates meeting every 3rd Wednesday not every 3rd Tuesday.

*VSHARP has organized and Brenda reached out to President, in an effort to build collaboration with this group as with other partners.

*ASBO International conference. A few from the membership are planning to attend. P-card is hosting breakfast.

Committee Reports

List was shared. Contact Lisa Perreault if you are interested in becoming a member. No Tristate members needed at this time. Health Insurance is no longer a committee.

*Handbook II-Nothing to report.

*Certification-1 certif. – committee approved.

*Business Manager 101-Three new business managers-Marilyn has agreed to assist Robin Pembroke and Richard Seaman.

*Tristate-No need for additional members. Annual conference is a week later than typically scheduled in May. Portland, ME on May 23, 24, 25. Should you have suggestions for programming, please reach out

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to members. Executive committee is meeting next week to plan the year. ASBO has a School Finance & Operations (SFO) certification program. Brenda suggests having a strand at Tristate for those who may be interested. Generally 8 hours, six or more people showed interest.

*Webmaster-Back up for website? Someone interested?

*Internal audit-Robin will continue to audit books, Lori Blood offered to be on this committee.

*Legislative collaborative-nothing to report.

Updates:

VSBIT - Tim Vincent spoke about the following: Workers Comp. self-audit with supporting documentation is due Sept. 22. Member luncheons are scheduled for October. A snapshot of agenda items are, program financials, loss ratios, student transportation issues, personal carriers as program, 1-1 devices coverage, purchase and crime pass-through or run through VSBIT (more economical).

VAOE – Welcome to Emily! Emily Byrne, CFP replacing Bob Talbott, introduced herself. Aside from keeping Brad in line, Emily has jumped right in. Previous experiences, Director of Finance and Management, building state budget, prior to that she was a budget analyst, prior to that she was completing graduate school and worked in the Medicaid Dept. Learning about the diverse governance structures, etc.

VMBB – Interest rates no clear direction in movement, waffling yield, curve dropped slightly. Bonds trade on bad news, lesson if planning to issue bonds, wish others ill-will. Last summer bond pool was successful. 20 year 3.36 or 30 years 3.62 percent. Planning to have mid-winter bond pool to see who might be interested. Loan volume 15 to 20 million issue can happen- proceeds available end of Feb. Midsummer bond pool will happen as well. School consolidations need to submit acknowledgement for school debt. Be sure to file with IRS. Federal sequestration, qualified school construction 6.6 dropped applies to construction bonds. Bob’s replacement is Michael Gauchan, he has experience in tax exempt financing, and has worked in non-profits in the area of economic. Bob will continue to stay on for mentoring and support. Michael will start on Oct 16, Bob will bring Michael to the November VASBO meeting. New business managers call Bob for to learn. It is currently the right time to borrow long-term. Shorter terms and capital lease options are not as popular.

VEHI- Annual meetings are taking place at Lake Morey on Oct 20 VSA, VSBA. VSBIT has 3 opening on the Board, no openings on VEHI. VEHI Board minutes are on line, Laura suggests we all read minutes. There has been a Commission established because of Act 85 legislation, first meeting was on Wednesday. Minutes will be published on VEHI website, go to, DFR, right bottom corner. Teacher appointed by speaker representing reported she was there on behalf of NEA. GOOGLE VT DFR Senate George Cross for more information.

Vendors-Health Equity, has hired a consultant and will send Brit around the state. Future Planning-Well supported. Contact Bobby Jo Salls if you have questions. Health Equity is conducting meetings around

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the 19th. Their representatives will come to you, they also have a tool that you can connect to which will give information about plans. 60-90 days from contact to going live.

The VEHI website has all health care documents in the VSHARP tab. There will be a meeting on the 21st for focusing on open enrollment. VEHI has a new Benefits Guide. Please do not use the old one. OPEN ENROLLMENT-emails-what do we do if not settled. Boards are obligated to figure out what to do. Refrain from trying to be helpful. BOARD must decide the default plans. There is a compliance team at Gallagher and multiline consults, reach out to be sure you have accurate information and resources. Rates for FY19 will be announced in November. Nothing dramatic projected for dental and unemployment. Health rates are another story. Based on an analysis and what is happening with contracts VEHI knows the new plans are underpriced. Laura explained why VEHI is estimating and suggesting we budget a 10% increase in premiums. VEHI will eventually drop plans. Pharmacy list will be sent to Lisa to forward to the membership.

AOE Finance: Sean spoke about the data management RFP- Final stages and nearly ready to post. Responses to be received by Oct 31. Demonstrations are scheduled for early Dec. Decision in January. Funding is in place. The goal is to contract for a State-wide shared financial system, with opt in arrangement. Vendor hosted.

Statbooks have been submitted. Discussion and feedback was taken, Brenda suggest a mechanism for folks who want make suggestions/comments do so in a spreadsheet. This spreadsheet/survey will be developed and sent out for membership comment.

Nicole Mace representing VSBA spoke about regional meetings with focus on resolutions to be voted on at meetings regarding cost containment. Fewer than 1/2 of the contracts have settled, Boards need guidance in how to manage collective bargain or side letter. Contact legal counsel if questions. General approach, is for the Board to send letter to Assoc. to create interim default. Document efforts to work with association in an effort to reach an agreement. Articulating throughout session last year, FY19 \$50million deficit in ed fund. Problem 8 cent increase on the rate. Change yield to equate to the 8 cent rate. Pressure to not increase taxes. More discussion to take place.

Brad James agrees that there will be pressure to level fund budgets. Mark Perreault, JFO, wonders how school districts will use their health care systems, HRAs, HSAs? The state auditor's office questions the validity of the secondary and prekindergarten count last year. There were also questions regarding ELL and state placed counts, continue to work with DCF to reconcile. Brad will try to include the recapture in the Cash Flow sheets. Discussion around how to budget in the FY19 recapture was discussed. Brad believes there will be pressure on the need for cost containment. Never let a good crisis go to waste, discussion around convening a committee to discuss cost containment ideas, and special education costs. Some ideas are to increasing staff to student ratios. How can we make a lasting change? Cost containment committee will be structured.

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Jeff Francis agreed with all comments and added there will need to be strong will from everyone to get a handle on the cost containment and with power coming from the community. Everyone is in agreement that there needs to be change but resist when making tough decisions. Boards recognize there's a need for change but local control is strong.

Nicole Tousignant reported that the State findings from a Federal fiscal monitoring gave specific guidance that they are too nice and they are not disallowing costs. They will be looking for complete procurement documentation and will be disallowed costs. Monitoring is current year only. FY19 Service Plans due Oct 19th. SEERs 2 weeks from closing out. Independent schools they must be able to serve primary and secondary disability. Nicole to send list to Brenda for distribution to membership.

Meeting adjourned at 12:04 pm.

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VASBO

Sept. 8, 2017

Lisa Peneault
 KICK Pembroke
~~Alma Gault~~
 Heather Wright
 Trisha Hankinson
 GRACE MANIATTY
 Jenn Chaffee
 Karen Atwood
 Lon Langevin
~~MA 222~~
 Robin Pembroke
 Randy Morton
 Cheryl Herward
 MORGAN DABOLL
 April Taxwell
 GLEN HALLINSON
 Grant Geisler
 Howard Mansfield
 Christine Kimball
 GISSON SMITH
 Debra Simmons
 STEVE HIER
 Cheryl Scorzello
~~Cheryl Huh~~
 Peter Amoroso
 Brenda Fleming
 Laura Nassau
 Jeanne Jensen
 Stephanie Lassonde
 Becky Hart
 Melodie Elliott
 Brittany Gillman
 Pat Amos
 Chris Sumner
 Martha Sagner
 ANDY LUNDEN

Barre
 OSSU
 Winochi
 OOSU
 CNSU
 OSSU
 Rwenbell
 Windham Southwest
 Windham Central
 CHITTENDEN EAST
 OSSD
 BVSU
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 OESU
 RESU
 CCSU
 FWSU
 MRUSD
 LSSU

JIM VEZINA

Frank Rucker

Sue Wilborn

Miranda MacDonald

Eddie Lou Cole

Don Johnson

Richard Seaman

Jeri Blood

Deb Clark

Laura Egan

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