

CVPSA Board Meeting Minutes March 28, 2019 at CV Chamber – DRAFT

Bd members Present: Kim Cheney, Chair; Dona Bate, Sally Dillion, Sam Dworkin, Ashley Hill, Martin Prevost, Will Schwartz and Mike Smith.

Other Attendees: Caroline Earle, Tony Facos and Tom Golonka, Acting Chair until election of officers.

Tom opened meeting at 6:35 and asked to amend agenda to include discussion of duties that had been done by Paco and will now need to be covered by board members. Mike made motion to accept agenda as amended, Martin seconded, and motion passed.

Tom asked for approval of payment to City of Montpelier to cover Paco's 2018 last quarter paycheck: \$17,679.41. Martin made motion to approve payment, Sally seconded, and motion passed.

Dona made motion to update Community National Bank signature card to remove signers no longer appropriate and have the Executive Committee decide who should be signers. Sally seconded and motion passed.

Tom asked if there were any changes to the Feb 21, 2019 Minutes, which Dona had circulated for Board review. There were none and minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

Tom shared that he missed getting the mail out of our box and some items were returned to sender. He apologized for not getting agenda and minutes posted for Jan or Feb. There are several duties like these that Paco did, and these must now be adjusted to being done by CVSPA Board. We need to learn how to post on our agenda & minutes on website, use online banking, coordinate with cities of Barre and Montpelier to post on their website, and more. Tom received bank boxes and a flash drive from Paco which contains all our records to-date. We need to make a comprehensive list of what needs to be done and when.

Tom explained that Montpelier City Council has appointed Council Member Ashley Hill to take his previous slot on the CVPSA Board. (Ashley had not yet arrived to be introduced.) Tom will be Chair of the CVMC Board and looks forward to working with CVPSA Board on Dispatching and EMS transportation matters.

Tom asked for nominations for board officers. Kim Cheney who had expressed an interest in being Chair was nominated by Dona, seconded by Sally and motion passed. Martin was nominated for Vice Chair by Mike, seconded by Sally and motion passed. Dona Bate was nominated to be Secretary for six months and Mike Smith for six months by Martin, seconded by Sally and motion passed. Bob Sager was nominated for Treasurer by Martin, seconded by Mike and motion passed.

2019 Officers are Kim Cheney, Chair; Martin Prevost, V Chair; Dona Bate, Secretary; and Bob Sager, Treasurer.

As new Chair Kim asked for report from the Capital West Communication Committee (Sally, Will & Martin). There was discussion whether we needed to do a Request for Information (RFI) as there are only two vendors who serve Vermont: Motorola (radio, cellular, satellite) and Harris (only radio). Tony was interested in looking broadly, including First Net and others. Technology and networks for cellular, satellite keeps improving, and should be examined. General agreement that each town needs to be surveyed about what they have and what they need. Caroline suggested using RFI and vendor list from Chittenden County PSA (brilliant idea!).

We need to be able to prove the value of any communication system we acquired. RFI should ask vendors to prove the value of their product and proposal to us and to each of our towns. The Communications Committee will work on RFI draft and bring it to our April meeting.

Tony shared Senate Bill 124, a miscellaneous bill of many different topics, which now includes new public safety language that is not desirable. Last year's Bill 273 had the preferred language to remove the inequality of some towns getting free dispatching while others paid 100% cost, and a provision to add funds to encourage regional dispatch systems statewide.

Kim introduced the idea of getting Paco to lobby for us this year. He wanted CVPSA to have a presence at the Statehouse. Dona felt we would need to develop a Statehouse work plan first and had concerns about spending our limited funds for anything but communication improvements. Tom share that Paco left his job to save us money. He also felt the remaining funds should be used to achieve our communications goals. Kim said he would talk with Paco and many others to assist him in developing a proposed work plan for the coming year.

Kim asked to move the April meeting to the 4th Thursday to provide him with more time to contact the many individuals he needs to speak with and time to organize taking over duties done by Tom and Paco. General discussion leaned towards moving the next meeting to April 25th.

Tom gave thanks to everyone for their support, time and steady effort to advance the CVPSA, who time may not have yet come, but we've increased the possibility. He offered to be part of our road show to towns.

Tony thanked Tom on behalf of the public safety staff, that public safety in Barre and Montpelier has greatly benefitted from your conscientious, long-term service. Many around the table echoed appreciation to Tom for his leadership, commitment and good humor while striving to form regional public safety services that would benefit employees and residents.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm by unanimous consent. Next meeting April 25, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary, Dona Bate