

Washington West Supervisory Union School Board
“UNOFFICIAL” Meeting Minutes for January 5, 2015
Harwood Union High School Library

WWSU Board Members Present:

Fayston: Doug Mosle, Heidi Spear, Jill Ellis
Harwood: Dale Smeltzer
Moretown: Jim Burmester, Kate O'Neill
Waitsfield: Eve Frankel, Rob Williams
Warren: Rob Rosen, Mike Ketchel, Adam Greshin (arrived 6:30)
Waterbury-Duxbury: Ben Smith, Steve Odefey
Waterbury Town: Reed McCracken

Other Board Members: Kitty Friedman (Fayston), David Goodman (Harwood), Gabe Gilman (Moretown), Christine Sullivan (Waitsfield)

WWSU Administrators Present: Brigid Scheffert, Michelle Baker, Donarae Dawson, Sheila Soule

Public: Tom Stevens, Rebecca Ellis, Laura Caffrey, Ann Cummings, Theresa Murray Clasen, , Anthony Pollina, Jill Ballou, Kaiya Korb

1) Eve Frankel called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

2) **ACTION ITEMS:**

- a) **Approve Minutes of March 31, 2014:** Rob Rosen moved to approve the minutes of March 31, 2014 as written. Ben Smith seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
- b) **Vote on WWSU FY2015 Budget:** Michelle Baker presented the information packet on the proposed budget provided to board members by email that day, titled "WWSU 2015-2016 General Fund Budget Information". The expenditures budget presented represents a 4.7% increase. Revenues are down slightly, and hence assessments out to districts would have a 5.0% increase.

Rob Rosen moved to approve the WWSU expenditures budget of \$1,288,863 as presented. Doug Mosle seconded the motion which then passed unanimously.

3) **Other Business:** There was none. Eve then suggested that information be provided to prepare for the Discussion on Education Funding reform planned for the rest of the meeting. There was then a break until the start of the presentation at 6:30 p.m.

4) **For all Board Members, Administrators, Local Legislators & Public: DISCUSSION ON EDUCATION FUNDING REFORM:** Brigid Scheffert introduced and facilitated the discussion between board members and local legislators (representatives and senators). She had presented a handout that organized the ideas into six areas for group input and discussion:

- a) Expanding the role of the House Education Committee to include education finance
- b) The "Renovation Plan"
- c) Creating a Variable Income Tax Model
- d) Creating a Regional Block Grant Model (budgets set regionally)
- e) Establishing an Adequacy Model
- f) Establishing a Reasonable Cost Standard

5) **Adjournment:** Dale Smeltzer moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 p.m. Doug Mosle seconded the motion which passed unanimously

Minutes recorded by Dale Smeltzer