VALA Legislation Discussion Hybrid Meeting Minutes

 **Wednesday, March 8th, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.
 West Rutland Town Office and Zoom**

The meeting began at 9:30 AM with board members Lisa Wright, Cheryl Tudhope, and Lisa Truchon present. Jacob Dorman spent time leading up to the meeting establishing the quorum. It was verified with the following delegates or alternates present: **Addison:** Absent; **Bennington:** Absent; **Caledonia:** Absent; **Chittenden:** Karen Lemnah; **Essex:** delegate vacancy, no rep; **Franklin:** Absent; **Grand Isle:** Sue Lawrence; Alternate: Dave Davis **Lamoille:** Terri SabensAlternate: Tim Morrissey; **Orange:** Mimi Burstein & Alternate: Phyllis Hayward; **Orleans:** Maree Bushey; **Rutland: Alternate:** Karen Folger; Adan Garcia **Washington:** Absent; **Windham:** Alternate: Linda Sherman**;** **Windsor:** Stacey Bradley **& Alternate:** Cristina Tardie

Present via Zoom – Elizabeth Curran, Russ Collins, Bob Quaderer, Cheyenne Latimer, Joe Turner, Marty Lagerstedt, Walter Hastings, Barb Schlesinger, M Brewster, A Couture, N Poquett, Gail Fallar, Bob Maidstone, Sandra Brodeur, Bill Basso, John Westmore, Robert Vickery, Noel Walker Dorothy Knott, Dough Mosle, Dylan Broderick, Meg Eberhardt, Chaveli Miles, Theresa Gile, Deanna Robitaille, Jen Myers, Jill Remick, Patrick Santoso, Chris Miele, Todd Leblanc
Also in-person present –Jeremiah Sund, Christie Wright, Terri Gildersleeve

**Minutes Approval:** The minutes from the February meeting were submitted for approval. Cheryl Tudhope moved a motion to approve the January minutes; Linda Sherman seconded the motion. After no further discussion the motion carried.

**Treasures Report:** Corporation registered with the state. Done Bi annually.

**Legislative Committee:**  Website legislative section for news and tracking info uploaded for public. Committee members continue tracking legislative activities. Christina Tardie and Christie Wright provided brief updates and summaries.

**Membership Committee:** VALA membership form live on web, fees remain the same as last year. 1 membership number will be provided to offices with multiple members as a whole.

**Annual Meeting Committee:** First sponsor “CAI” acquired**.** Hotel Registration and conference form now accessible online.

**LOTY/Rising Star Award –** Nominations requests will be sent out in May.

**Education Committee:** Form live on website. Green form for Vermonters Blue for out of state. No longer accepting last minute registrations.

**PVR:** Legislative recess for town meeting day. Update on Land Use Change Tax piece is minor. Legislative crossover delays forward movement of proposal. No actions taken and no bill currently drafted. No foreseeable changes this year.

No new reappraisal draft bill (**23-0629)** or updates on **(23-0161) “**new categories of non-homestead property” reservations presented by listing and assessing officials to W&M committee about blending categories of property in relation to how its treated for tax purposes but no new updates.

The committee heard testimony about the reappraisal bill and are working on another draft. A study will be recommended. The original moratorium may still be put in place. Short lesson on navigating Vermont legislature’s website. No Senate discussion of either piece of legislature.

**VLCT Report:** Karen Horn was not present at the meeting but emailed information in regards to VLCT standings prior to the meeting to the VALA community via comp 60.

**VT PIE/NEMRC Report:** Feeling pressure of rollout, proactive approach to a number of challenges presented from the transition. Patrick Santoso addressed some common questions about VT PIE and performed a small demonstration of the exporting process. Members expressed some concerns about access to reports and exporting from different CAMA systems. Patrick confirmed before the end of March and explained briefly about the export process. Chris Miele added some additional explanation. Christie Wright advised holding off on homestead work until reports were accessible. Members presented more assessment upload concerns in relation to different CAMA vendors. Local control is leading to issues with CAMA vendors, Jill Remick points out that a state system could potentially alleviate those issues. Workaround’s will be unmanageable. The VT PIE systems transition period looks to be unclear at the moment. Christie Wright clears up some education concerns. Chris Miele gives a short demonstration on the upload process. Municipalities not using NEMRC/MICROSOLVE need to contact CAMA vendors to make sure a process for uploading and exporting is ready.

**New Business:** Wednesday April 12, 2023 is the next board meeting. Discussion of additional education offered at the annual conference and working with the VLCT.

**Adjourned:** Motion to adjourn the meeting from Lisa Wright, Cheryl Tudhope seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned at promptly 11:48 AM.

Respectfully submitted, secretary, Jacob Dorman