

Vermilion Country School Board

Meeting Minutes

Date: September 3, 2010

Location: SuLu's restaurant meeting room, Tower, MN

Members present: Becky Gawboy, Muriel Scott, Troy Swanson, Marshall Helmberger, Jodi Summit, Ray Toutloff and Chris Schuster

Members absent: None

Others present: None

Meeting called to order at 8:40 am.

Jodi Summit passed out the meeting agenda to all in attendance.

- Issue: Marshall Helmberger states that he was told by Brian Rossi at NEO that he received a phone call from Randi Sykes who had a complaint that Vermilion Country School did not have a school site. Discussion: Many charter schools still in the planning stage do not have a site in place. VCS planning committee has a couple of potential sites one of which is the current Tower-Soudan High School.

First order of business: Review of authorization process and timeline for Minnesota Department of Education approval.

- All changes and amendments for application have been submitted to NEO by Jodi Summit and Marshall Helmberger. Members of the committee thank them for working over the weekend to get the items together for submission.
- Application has been submitted to MDE by NEO. MDE has said they will inform NEO of their decision by early October.

Second order of business: VCS will need to establish an office. Equipment will need to be purchased. Troy Swanson will post a wish list online for people to make donations. A PayPal account will need to be set up so donors can use their PayPal accounts to make contributions to VCS.

Third order of business: Approve minutes from August 27th meeting. Becky Gawboy makes motion to approve minutes with corrections. Ray Toutloff 2nds the motion. All approve for consensus.

Fourth order of business: Formation of committees and set meeting dates.

- Governance: Members have been assigned. Becky Gawboy, Ray Toutloff and Jodi Summit. The committee will meet on September 6.
- Facilities: Members assigned are Becky Gawboy, Jim Gawboy, Troy Swanson and Marshall Helmberger. Discussion: Will need to find community members with relevant background to help with facilities issues and planning. Committee will need to do a walk through at the Tower-Soudan School and make note of what will be needed for the building for VCS. This will need to be done before ISD 2142's September 20th school planning meeting. Committee will meet on September 10th for further discussion.
- Financial: Committee members are Muriel Scott and Chris Schuster. Discussion: Committee will contact Dave Hageman from the Northern Lights School to get contact information on their financial planner. (Dave Hageman has since sent an email with the information.) Committee members will set date to meet to discuss establishing financial controls per the application after contacting the financial planner.
- Grant writing: Members are Becky Gawboy and Marshall Helmberger. Discussion: Committee will get list of grant opportunities together. Once MDE has given their approval for VCS the committee can submit for the Federal planning grant. Committee will contact potential volunteers to help with applying for grants.

Fifth order of business: Set dates for official board meetings. Board has come to consensus that meetings will be held the third Friday of each month at 8:30 am.

Sixth order of business: Website. Troy Swanson will post meeting minutes (upon approval of minutes) and meeting dates on the website.

Seventh order of business: Compile list of interested persons to help on committees. Jodi Summit will get a list of people who have signed up to volunteer to Troy Swanson. Troy will set up email notices to people on the list.

Eighth order of business: September 20th ISD 2142 meeting at the Tower-Soudan School. Table until next meeting, discuss talking points and people who should speak.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 am.