

# VERMONT TRANSPORTATION BOARD MEETING DECEMBER 7, 2016

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## **Board Members Present:**

David Coen, term expires 2/28/18  
Richard Bailey, term expires 2/28/18  
Larry Bruce, term expires 2/28/2018  
Faith Terry, term expires 2/28/19  
Vanessa Kittell, term expires 2/28/19

## **Board Members Absent:**

William Tracy Carris, term expires 2/28/2017

## **Others Present:**

John Zicconi, Board Executive Secretary  
Ron Shems, Board Attorney  
Richard Forney, Court Reporter  
Toni Clithero, Assistant Attorney General  
David Hoyne, VTrans Construction Engineer  
Kevin Marshia, VTrans Chief Engineer  
David Toolin, Attorney Pike Industries  
Mark Peloquin, Lead Engineer Pike Industries

## **Call to Order:**

Acting Chairman Coen called the Wednesday, December 7, 2016 meeting to order at 9:45 a.m., which was held in Dewey Conference Room R206 at 1 National Life Drive in Montpelier, VT.

## **1. NEW BUSINESS**

### ***1.1 Review/Approve Minutes of the August 11, 2016 Meeting***

**On a motion by Mr. Bruce seconded by Mr. Bailey, the Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the September 29, 2016 Board meeting with corrections.**

### ***1.2 TB-441 Pike Contractor Claim***

The Board held an evidentiary hearing in TB-441 that lasted about three hours. A court reporter was present, and a full transcript of the hearing is available by contacting the Board's office.

### ***1.3 TB-450 Wilton Small Claim Request for Reconsideration***

Discussion of TB-450 took place during deliberative session.

### ***1.4 Executive Secretary's Report***

Mr. Zicconi noted that all six of the Board's members live in a location whereby it is a faster drive to Chittenden County than it is to Montpelier. Given this, he asked the Board if it wished to hold its regular

meetings at a location within Chittenden County rather than in Montpelier, so long as there was no reason to hold the meeting elsewhere. The Board agreed, but said should the Governor appoint a new member from the state's eastern half that it would shift the default location back to Montpelier.

## **2. OLD BUSINESS**

### ***2.1 Fall Public Forums and Report***

With the Board's seven public forums on rail now complete, Mr. Zicconi said that he has started drafting the Board's Annual Report, which will be based on the information gathered at the hearings. Mr. Zicconi passed out a report outline, and said he planned to base the report's chapters on the same subject matters that were discussed at the forums.

1. Introduction
2. Executive Summary
3. Passenger Rail Expansion
  - a. Rutland to Burlington
  - b. Montreal Extension
  - c. Commuter Rail
4. Railroads as Neighbors
5. Downtown Truck Traffic
  - a. Possible Vergennes Breakout
6. Railside Economic Development
7. Railroad Safety
8. Conclusion

Mr. Zicconi said that the Board's report usually is presented to the Legislature during the last week of January. To meet that deadline, a final draft would have to be completed by the middle of the month so that the report could be both designed and printed prior to meeting with the House and Senate transportation committees.

Mr. Zicconi said he would email draft chapters of the report to Board members one at a time as he completed them. He requested that Board members review the draft chapters as they were received, make any edits they wished, and provide those edits to him at the member's earliest convenience. Mr. Zicconi said he preferred this chapter-by-chapter editing system because waiting to edit the document all at once after all chapters were complete would likely cause the process to miss its deadline, he said.

Mr. Zicconi said that his goal was to complete an entire report draft by Friday, January 6. He said that he would like the Board to hold its January meeting the following week so that the Board at that time could discuss a final draft, make any additional edits it wished, and approve the document. He would then design the document the following week and have it printed so that it could be present to the Legislature the following week.

The Board discussed January meeting dates, and chose Wednesday, January 11. Mr. Zicconi said he would find a location and let the Board know.

**2.2 TB-387 Route 7 Rutland Break in Limited Access**

Discussion of TB-387 took place during deliberative session.

**2.3 TB-452 Smith Small Claim**

**At 12:50 p.m. the Board on a motion by Mr. Bruce seconded by Mr. Bailey voted unanimously to enter into deliberative session, pursuant to Title 1 § 313, to discuss TB-387 Town of Rutland Request for a Break in Route 7's Limited Access, TB-450 Wilton Small Claim, and TB-452 Smith Small Claim.**

Mr. Zicconi and Mr. Shems was invited to join the deliberative session.

**The Board exited deliberative session at 2:10 p.m.**

**3. OTHER BUSINESS**

**3.1 Round Table**

No one had any issues to discuss

**4. ADJOURN**

**On a motion by Mr. Bailey seconded by Ms. Kittell, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 2:20 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

John Zicconi  
Executive Secretary

**Next Board Meeting: 9:30 a.m. on January 11, 2017 at Dewey Conference Room R206 at  
National Life in Montpelier**