

# Minutes

## VSAC Programs & Services Committee Meeting

September 12, 2014  
10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Board Room, VSAC Offices  
10 East Allen Street  
Winooski, VT

**Committee Members Present:** Martha Heath (chair), Pam Chisholm, Dave Larsen,

**Committee Members Absent:** Dennis O'Brien, Katharine Hutchinson

**Other Board Members Present:** Dodie Mitchell

**Staff Present:** Marilyn Cargill, Patrick Leduc, Tom Little, Mike Stuart,  
and Kristi Rocheleau

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Martha Heath called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. and a quorum was declared present. The committee reviewed the agenda and proceeded to take up the first item of business.

### 1. Approval of Minutes

*Upon a motion made by Dave Larsen and seconded by Pam Chisholm, the committee approved the meeting minutes of May 12, 2014, by unanimous vote.*

### 2. Federal Update

*Upon a motion made by David Larsen and seconded by Pam Chisholm, the Committee voted unanimously to enter executive session at 10:23 a.m. in order to consider sensitive, ongoing contract negotiations. Premature knowledge of any of these matters would clearly place VSAC at a substantial disadvantage. The Executive Committee members are requested to remain in the room, as they have information needed for the executive session.*

The Committee exited executive session at 10:51.

### 3. Vermont Update

Tom Little presented a State affairs update:

- The Governor ordered a General Fund rescission, affecting VSAC by roughly \$96,000.
- Legislative summer studies are underway:
  - *Vermont Strong Scholar Loan Forgiveness Program* - The target employment areas of this program are still under review, and the study committee is

scheduled to present a recommendation in November. This will not go into effect until Fiscal Year 2016.

- *S40 (Act 148)* - This Act establishes a study to identify policies that would result in returning levels of funding to 1980 levels for Vermont State Colleges, University of Vermont, and VSAC. Progress is slow. Three more meetings are scheduled.

#### **4. Operations Update**

Marilyn Cargill shared status updates on the Dual Enrollment initiative and the VSAC FAFSA Completion pilot expansion.

Committee members did not have questions on the standing reports previously distributed.

#### **5. Vermont Strong Scholars**

Marilyn Cargill provided additional content to the report on the status of the Vermont Strong Scholars program.

#### **6. Grant Policies – ongoing annual review**

The Committee continued its ongoing annual policy review. Marilyn and Tom presented materials regarding portability and the revisions to Veterinary Students, Tuition Waivers, and Approved Schools policies that the Committee suggested in April.

#### **7. Other Business**

Tom Little informed the Committee that a Request for Proposal process is under way for the Vermont Higher Education Investment Program (VHEIP). The Committee will be asked to review the proposals this winter.

#### **8. Adjourn**

There being no other business, the committee adjourned at 12:03.

Respectfully submitted,

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Marilyn Cargill, Assistant Secretary