

**WACHUSETT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE**

**HOLDEN ♦ PAXTON ♦ PRINCETON ♦ RUTLAND ♦ STERLING**

Organizational Meeting

Minutes

Wednesday, May 26, 2004

7:00 PM

Modular Cafeteria  
Wachusett Regional High School

*Committee Members Present:*

Cynthia Bazinet	John Kane
Donald Benson	Duncan Leith
Elizabeth Brennan	Alice Livdahl
Charles Capparelli	Norman Plourde
Clifford Connell	Michael Sherman
Patricia Gates (7:05 PM)	Margaret Watson
David Gibbs	Patricia Young
Mark James	

*Committee Members Absent:*

Kelly Maxwell	John Nunnari
Natalie Mello	Cheryl Rauh
René Rodriguez	

*Administration Present:*

Alfred D. Tutela, Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools  
Paul K. Soojian, Director of Operations  
Steven Penka, Director of Administrative Services  
Susan Sullivan, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

*Others present, who desired to be recorded as present (see attached Attendance Sheet – attachment 1)*

I. Call to Order

Superintendent Alfred D. Tutela called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The Superintendent introduced new Members Cynthia Bazinet from Holden, and David Gibbs from Sterling. New Members Cheryl Rauh from Rutland and Kelly Maxwell from Holden were unable to attend.

## II. Election of Chairman

The Superintendent reviewed the By-Laws and Regional Agreement in regard to the election of the Chair and Vice-Chair. The Superintendent advised that the election is conducted by paper ballot, which is to be signed by the member and to be included in the public record. The Superintendent accepted the following nominations for Chairman:

Motion: To nominate Duncan Leith as Chair

(M. Watson)

(A. Livdahl)

Motion: To close nominations

(J. Kane)

(M. James)

Vote:

In Favor:

Cynthia Bazinet  
Donald Benson  
Elizabeth Brennan  
Charles Capparelli  
Clifford Connell  
David Gibbs  
Mark James  
John Kane  
Duncan Leith  
Alice Livdahl  
Norman Plourde  
Michael Sherman  
Margaret Watson  
Patricia Young

Opposed:

None

(Motion passed unanimously)

While Members were voting, Member Margaret Watson read a prepared statement in support of Duncan Leith as Chair (attachment 2).

The ballots were distributed and collected (attachment 3). The results were as follows:

Cynthia Bazinet	Duncan Leith
Donald Benson	Duncan Leith
Elizabeth Brennan	Duncan Leith
Charles Capparelli	Duncan Leith
Clifford Connell	Duncan Leith
Patricia Gates	Duncan Leith
David Gibbs	Duncan Leith
Mark James	Duncan Leith
John Kane	Duncan Leith
Duncan Leith	Duncan Leith
Alice Livdahl	Duncan Leith
Norman Plourde	Duncan Leith
Michael Sherman	Duncan Leith
Margaret Watson	Duncan Leith
Patricia Young	Duncan Leith

The results of the vote were:

Duncan Leith      15

Member Duncan Leith took over as Chairman of the School Committee.

### III. Election of Vice Chairman

Chair Duncan Leith accepted the following nominations for Vice-Chairman:

Motion: To nominate Donald Benson as Vice Chair  
(M. Sherman)  
(C. Capparelli)

Motion: To nominate Natalie Mello as Vice Chair  
(M. James)  
(A. Livdahl)

Motion: To close nominations  
(J. Kane)  
(A. Livdahl)

Vote:

In Favor:

Duncan Leith  
Donald Benson  
Cynthia Bazinet  
Elizabeth Brennan  
Charles Capparelli  
Clifford Connell  
Patricia Gates  
David Gibbs  
Mark James  
John Kane  
Alice Livdahl  
Norman Plourde  
Michael Sherman  
Margaret Watson  
Patricia Young

Opposed:

None

(Motion passed unanimously)

Member Michael Sherman read a prepared statement in support of Donald Benson as Vice-chair (attachment 4)

Member Mark James commented that Member Natalie Mello's service as Vice-chair speaks for itself and he urged support.

The ballots were distributed and collected (attachment 5). The results were as follows:

Cynthia Bazinet	Natalie Mello
Donald Benson	Donald Benson
Elizabeth Brennan	Donald Benson
Charles Capparelli	Donald Benson
Clifford Connell	Donald Benson
Patricia Gates	Donald Benson
David Gibbs	Natalie Mello
Mark James	Natalie Mello
John Kane	Donald Benson

Duncan Leith  
Alice Livdahl  
Norman Plourde  
Michael Sherman  
Margaret Watson  
Patricia Young

Donald Benson  
Natalie Mello  
Donald Benson  
Donald Benson  
Natalie Mello  
Donald Benson

The results of the vote were:

Donald Benson	10
Natalie Mello	5

Member Donald Benson will serve as Vice-chair of the School Committee.

IV. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn

(M. James)  
(C. Capparelli)

Vote:

In Favor:

Duncan Leith  
Donald Benson  
Cynthia Bazinet  
Elizabeth Brennan  
Charles Capparelli  
Clifford Connell  
Patricia Gates  
David Gibbs  
Mark James  
John Kane  
Alice Livdahl  
Norman Plourde  
Michael Sherman  
Margaret Watson  
Patricia Young

Opposed:

None

(Motion passed unanimously)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Alfred D. Tutela, Ph.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

ADT:ss

School Committee/Minutes