

VERMONT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes

April 4, 2025

A meeting of the Vermont Economic Development Authority's Nominating Committee convened on April 4, 2025, beginning at 11:20 a.m. Those Committee Members present via video conferencing: A. Eastman (designee for A. Tebbetts), Chair; D. Marvin; K. Bourgeois; P. Elwell and T. Collier. Board Member present via video conferencing: J. Goldstein (designee for L. Kurrle). Staff present via video conferencing: C. Polhemus, Chief Executive Officer and A. Wright, Executive Assistant and Facilities Manager. Those Members of the Committee present constituted a quorum.

Candidates to recommend to the Governor for VEDA Member vacancy

A. Eastman opened the meeting noting the resignation of C. Carpenter and the lending/banking experience she contributes to the Board. A. Eastman referred to the two supporting documents; geographical mapping that is currently representative of the VEDA Board as well as the background and expertise of each Member. A. Eastman noted today's meeting is to discuss areas of need and potential candidates to present to the Governor for consideration.

C. Polhemus noted that although the current representation is broad, there are several counties not specifically represented. Next, C. Polhemus indicated that the Vermont 504 Corporation Board, with the same Members as the VEDA Board, require certain Small Business Administration (SBA) requirements of expertise. Although the SBA requirements are a good guideline for VEDA, identifying areas that are not currently represented on the Board is important.

D. Marvin inquired specifically into Members with agricultural lending experience. C. Polhemus noted this important expertise, although not a criterion of the SBA it can be included as specialized lending.

P. Elwell thanked staff for the two informative supporting documents noting the need for representation in Southern Vermont, specifically Rutland and Bennington counties.

T. Collier inquired about exploring potential future needs, merging trends, and what opportunities there are so VEDA may continue to move forward. T. Collier noted age, industry and diversity should be considered. D. Marvin noted the current per diem compensation, suggesting that discussions with legislature needs to occur to increase the per diem compensation to encourage diversity and younger people to serve on Vermont boards.

A. Eastman noted the robust discussion and asked if Members desired to go into executive session.

#### Executive Session

K. Bourgeois made a motion to go into the executive session to discuss the appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee, provided that the public body shall make a final decision to hire or appoint a public officer or employee in an open meeting and shall explain the reasons for its final decision during the open meeting. See 1 VSA § 313(F3). The motion was seconded by D. Marvin, the Members voted unanimously to enter executive session at 11:34 a.m. All staff present via videoconferencing entered the executive session.

Upon vote taken, at 12:07 the Committee exited executive session.

A. Eastman noted that no action was taken in the executive session. The conversation concluded that representation from Rutland and Bennington County should be a priority. Should a candidate in either of these counties not be found the Committee may need to meet again. Any candidates of interest will be forwarded to the Governor for his consideration.

#### Public Comments

A. Eastman noted there were no members of the public in the meeting.

Other Business

There being no other business to properly come before the Committee, on a motion by P. Elwell, seconded by T. Collier, the meeting adjourned at 12:09 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cassandra F. Polhemus, Chief Executive Officer

Video transcripts of all meetings will be made available here -  
<https://www.youtube.com/@VEDAMeetingArchive>