



APPROVED BY BOARD 05/01/2018

**BURLINGTON BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS  
EMERGENCY BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
Ira Allen Administration Building  
150 Colchester Avenue  
April 1, 2018**

The meeting was called to order at 8:37 p.m.

**1. Opening Items**

Commissioners:

Stephanie Seguino, Kat Kleman, Anne Judson, Jeff Wick, Liz Curry,

Via phone: Mark Porter and David Kirk

*Commissioners Jeff Wick and Kathy Olwell have announced that they do not support the meeting as it is potentially in violation of Open Meeting Law, and they will not count towards a quorum.*

**2. Approval of Agenda**

*Motion ( Curry /Judson ) to approve agenda.*

**3. Amendment to the agenda to include public comment**

Jeff Wick

Mike Fisher explained that this is highly unusual to call an emergency meeting. He wondered why it was so important to do this tonight.

Christopher Hood asked all commissioners present tonight to explain why this meeting is being held on Easter Sunday on the last day of the term of the current board. This is deeply troubling as a Burlington citizen.

**Board Reflections**

Commissioner Curry explained that it was a 40 minute phone call and a quorum was already established. This particular Board has more knowledge than the onboarding Board. This Board has a responsibility to bring closure to the circumstances that we are in. To neglect to do that would leave open a EEOC complaint. To not bring closure to this leaves the Superintendent exposed to a Board that does not have a relationship with. I would like to bring closure to this issue. We need to keep conversations consistent. One individual delayed speaking with the investigator and withheld information needed for the report.



Commissioner Klemen agrees that closure needs to be achieved. Tired of the negativity. She wanted to be here to signify her first step in healing.

Commissioner Judson agrees that closure needs to be brought to this situation. If we had gotten the report before 5 PM tonight. I am hoping the future Board do the research they need to do before they speak up on things. This is the most important thing we can do, we started the investigation, why not finish it.

Chair Seguíno explained the Board has the responsibility to monitor itself in particular when there may be discrimination towards its employee. We have a responsibility to live and enforce equality as the board has stated on many occasions. This report reminds us that the Board and staff should be continuously vigilant to make sure that bias does not occur in the future.

#### **4. Executive Session**

**A.** Motion to enter into executive session pursuant to 1 VSA 313 (a) (1) (E) and (F) and (3) to officially receive and discuss with legal counsel the investigation report of investigator Daniel Troidl concerning possible racial discrimination against a District employee by a District official, where premature public disclosure would clearly place the Board and District at a substantial disadvantage.

*Motion ( Seguíno /Curry ) to enter into Executive Session*

*Yes: Commissioner Klemen, Commissioner Judson, Commissioner Porter, Chair Seguíno*

*Nay: Commissioner Wick, Commissioner Olwell, Commissioner Kirk*

*5-3*

*Motion Passes*

*Motion ( Judson/Klemen ) to leave Executive Session*

*Motion Passes unanimously*

#### **5. Adjournment**

**A.** *Motion ( Curry /Klemen ) to adjourn at 11:15 p.m.*