



VALLEY SCHOOLS WORKERS'
COMPENSATION GROUP

VALLEY SCHOOLS
INSURANCE GROUP

VALLEY SCHOOLS
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS GROUP

Management Board

Tom Boone, Chairman/CEO

Jim DiCello, Vice-Chairman

Bill Maas, Secretary-Treasurer

Jill Barragan, Member

Mike Barragan, Member

Ken Hicks, Member

Jim Migliorino, Member

Michelle Myers, Member

VALLEY SCHOOLS MANAGEMENT GROUP

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 16, 2022

1. The meeting was called to order by Tom Boone, Chairman, at 11:38 a.m.

2. Board Members Present:

Tom Boone, Chairman/CEO

Jim DiCello, Vice-Chairman

Bill Maas, Secretary-Treasurer

Jill Barragan, Member

Mike Barragan, Member

Jim Migliorino, Member

Michelle Myers, Member

Board Members Absent:

Ken Hicks, Member

Staff Present:

Lisa Dessenberger, Executive Assistant

Tom Elliott, Executive Director Member Services

Laura Felten, Chief Financial Officer

Sheri Gilbert, Marketing Director

Jodi Jerich, General Counsel

Leigh Steele, Internal Communications Advisor

Kendall Taylor, Executive Director Health and Wellness Services

Guests Present:

Meghaen Dell'Artino, Lobbyist, Public Policy Partners

3. Approval of the minutes of the VSMG Board meeting held on December 15, 2021.

MOTION: Jim DiCello

Tom Boone – yes

Jim DiCello – yes

Jim Migliorino – yes

SECOND: Mike Barragan

Mike Barragan – yes

Ken Hicks - absent

Michelle Myers – yes

VOTE: 7-0-0-1

Jill Barragan – yes

Bill Maas – yes

4. Approval of the Valley Schools Insurance Group (“VSIg”), Valley Schools Workers’ Compensation Group (“VSWCG”), Valley Schools Employee Benefits Group (“VSEBG”), and Valley Schools Management Group (“VSMG”) financial statement for the months of December 2021 and January 2022 – Laura Felten.

VSIg – Laura Felten reviewed the VSIg financial statements in detail. Ms. Felten has had extensive conversation with our investment firm and they will come to Arizona to host a financial presentation in the spring. A discussion took place regarding the best month for them to come out and the most important topics to address. She then reviewed the total assets and net liabilities, noting the largest change in liability is the recognition of revenue. She added a lot of activity has taken place since the last Board meeting.

VSWCG – Laura Felten reviewed the VSWCG financial statements in detail. Operating expenses are holding steady and are very constant. Net position is holding strong.

VSEBG – Laura Felten reviewed the VSEBG financial statement in detail. She noted because we manage our cash flows, we are able to have higher returns for our members.

VSMG – Laura Felten reviewed the VSMG financial statement in detail. She reminded the Board that in June 2021, a budget was adopted for Wellness and she provided a short report.

MOTION: Jim DiCello

SECOND: Michelle Myers

VOTE: 7-0-0-1

Tom Boone – yes

Mike Barragan – yes

Jill Barragan – yes

Jim DiCello – yes

Ken Hicks - absent

Bill Maas – yes

Jim Migliorino – yes

Michelle Myers – yes

5. Legislative Update – Meghaen Dell’Artino.

Jodi Jerich reminded the Board that briefings from the Lobbyists will take place quarterly. Meghaen Dell’Artino provided an update to the Board of what was taking place down at the legislature. She reviewed several of the pertinent bills and added there are so many bills being brought to the legislature this year that affects public education. Mike Barragan asked about some political strategies and a discussion took place. Jodi Jerich inquired about legislative voting records and further discussion took place.

6. Valley Schools Executive Director Member Services summary report and update – Tom Elliott.

Tom Elliott reviewed the medical and dental experience report summary. A short discussion took place about specific members. VSEBG is almost done with medical renewal meetings. The average increase was discussed. Renewal documents have been sent out to Members. Discussion about changes in vendors took place and Mr. Elliott said the transition is currently in process. The VSEBG Annual Compliance seminar was held last week and was well attended in person and virtually. Bill Maas updated the Board about a monthly Superintendent teleconference and some conversation that took place regarding premium increases with other carriers, however, it was noted Valley Schools was recognized for the saving we provided the members and how premiums are low and have rarely increased over the years.

7. Internal Communications Advisor summary report and update – Leigh Steele.

Tom Boone introduced our new Internal Communication Advisor, Leigh Steele. She provided a high-level overview of what her role at Valley Schools is and what she has been working on for the last few months. She discussed strategies and targeted communications that are being implemented. Tom Boone added a few details and the Board welcomed Leigh.

8. Wellness Services summary report and update – Kendall Taylor.

Kendall Taylor reviewed some of the Wellness strategies and provided an update on the goals for Health and Wellness Services. Performance indicators, KPIs, and internal services were addressed. Mental Health Services was discussed. She reviewed the service goals for the next two years. Tom Boone added some additional information. He talked about some strategic pilot programs being rolled out. A discussion took place. Kendall asked for the Board's opinions regarding topics for Wellness presentations at AASBO and other conferences. Several ideas were shared.

9. Chairman/CEO summary report and update – Tom Boone.

Tom Boone reviewed the next VSMG Board meeting date and the conference taking place over the next few months.

10. Board Member comments.

Michelle Myers expressed appreciation for the legislative update. Jim Migliorino asked a legal question to Jodi Jerich and another pertaining to the financial statements and the approved budget and a short discussion took place.

11. Motion to convene Executive Session, pursuant to:

A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3) – Discussion and consultation for legal advice with counsel; for the purpose of long-term planning and proposed changes to organization structure.

MOTION: Jim DiCello

SECOND: Jill Barragan

VOTE: 7-0-0-1

Tom Boone – yes

Mike Barragan – yes

Jill Barragan – yes

Jim DiCello – yes

Ken Hicks - absent

Bill Maas – yes

Jim Migliorino – yes

Michelle Myers – yes

Executive Session convened at 1:30 p.m.


12. Returned to regular session at 1:51 p.m.

13. Possible action from Executive Session.

There was no action from Executive Session

14. The meeting adjourned at 1:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Bill Maas, Secretary-Treasurer