

Journal of the Joint Assembly

IN JOINT ASSEMBLY, FEBRUARY 16, 2012

10:30 A.M.

The Senate and House of Representatives met in the Hall of the House of Representatives pursuant to a joint resolution which was read by the Clerk and is as follows:

J.R.S. 41. Joint resolution providing for a Joint Assembly for the election of two legislative Trustees of the Vermont State Colleges Corporation.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the two Houses meet in Joint Assembly on Thursday, February 16, 2012, at ten o'clock and thirty minutes in the forenoon to elect two legislative Trustees of the Vermont State Colleges Corporation to serve a four year term commencing March 1, 2012, and expiring on March 1, 2016. In case election of all such Trustees shall not be made on that day, the two Houses shall meet in Joint Assembly at ten o'clock and thirty minutes in the forenoon, on each succeeding day, Saturdays and Sundays excepted, and proceed in such election, until all such Trustees are elected.

Presiding Officer

Honorable Philip B. Scott, President of the Senate, in the Chair.

Clerk

John H. Bloomer, Jr., Secretary of the Senate, Clerk.

Statement by Presiding Officer

Pursuant to our statutes we are assembled here today in Joint Assembly for the election of two legislative trustees for the Vermont State Colleges Corporation, who are to be elected as trustees for four-year terms commencing on March 1, 2012, and expiring on March 1, 2016. The Chair now cautions you with respect to two statutory conditions imposed by that law for this election:

First: No candidate for election to the Vermont State Colleges Corporation can presently be serving as a member of the Board of Trustees of the University of Vermont.

Second: Consideration shall be given to the *geographic* distribution of those elected in order to "prevent an unfair focus on any single college".

The procedure for the election of these two legislative trustees of the Vermont State Colleges Corporation will be similar to the procedure which we followed in past years. The candidates will be nominated from the floor and elected by plurality vote.

In the event that more than two candidates are nominated, the procedure for the election of these two legislative trustees of the Vermont State Colleges Corporation will be different from the procedure which we would normally follow under the Joint Rules.

J.R.S. 42 sets up a special procedure for this particular election. In the event that more than two candidates are nominated, the adoption of J.R.S. 42 permits us to determine the winners of this election by means of a *plurality vote*, so that two candidates can be elected on the *same* ballot.

In the event that more than two candidates are nominated, you will be instructed to vote for not more than two candidates on the same ballot.

Accordingly, we will need tellers, and the Chair will now make these appointments.

Tellers Appointed

The Chair appointed the following tellers:

Senator Jeanette K. White, of Windham District, as chief teller
Senator Diana B. Snelling, of Chittenden District
Senator M. Jane Kitchel, of Caledonia District
Representative Leigh J. Dakin, of Chester
Representative John L. Bartholomew, of Hartland
Representative Robert A. Bouchard, of Colchester
Representative Mollie Burke, of Brattleboro

Election of Trustees of Vermont State Colleges Corporation

The Joint Assembly then proceeded to the election of two legislative trustees of the Vermont State Colleges Corporation, each for a term of four years, from and including the first day of March, 2012.

Nominations for Both Vacancies

Representative Carolyn W. Branagan of Georgia nominated *Representative Eileen G. Dickinson* of St. Albans. The nomination was seconded by Representative Bill Botzow of Pownal and Representative Warren F. Kitzmiller of Montpelier.

Representative Johannah Leddy Donovan of Burlington then nominated *Representative William J. Lippert, Jr.* of Hinesburg. The nomination was seconded by Senator Margaret K. Flory of Rutland District.

Representative Donna G. Sweaney of Windsor then nominated *Representative Peter Peltz* of Woodbury. The nomination was seconded by Representative Richard Lawrence of Lyndon.

There being no other nominations, the Chair declared that nominations were closed.

Summary of Names Placed in Nomination

Accordingly, those names placed in nomination and on the ballot for the office of Trustee of the Vermont State Colleges Corporation were as follows:

Representative Eileen G. Dickinson of St. Albans Town
Representative William J. Lippert, Jr. of Hinesburg
Representative Peter Peltz of Woodbury

Review of Voting Procedure

Prior to the taking of any ballots, the Chair reviewed the “plurality” procedure for choosing candidates, by quoting verbatim from the text of J.R.S. 42:

“(1) All candidates for the office of trustee shall be voted upon and decided on the same ballot; members may vote for any number of candidates up to and including the maximum number of vacancies to be filled, which in this case shall be two.

“(2) The two candidates receiving the greater number of votes shall be declared elected to fill the two vacancies.

“(3) In the event that the first balloting for the trustee vacancies results in a tie vote for one or more of the two vacant positions, then voting shall continue on successive ballots until the vacancies have been filled, again by election declared of those candidates receiving the greater number of votes.”

Balloting for Both Vacancies

The ballots were taken and counted, and the result was as follows:

Total ballots cast	170
Necessary for election	two greater numbers of votes
Dickinson.....	96
Lippert.....	94
Peltz	91
Write-in Geier.....	1
Write-in Campbell	1
Write-in Mazza	1

Whereupon the Chair declared that

EILEEN G. DICKINSON of ST. ALBANS TOWN

having received a greater number of the total votes cast was duly elected a trustee of the Vermont State Colleges Corporation for a term of four years, commencing March 1, 2012.

The Chair further declared that

WILLIAM J. LIPPERT, JR., of HINESBURG

having received a greater number of the total votes cast was duly elected a trustee of the Vermont State Colleges Corporation for a term of four years, commencing March 1, 2012.

Dissolution

The purposes for which the Joint Assembly was convened having been accomplished, the Chair then declared the Joint Assembly dissolved.

JOHN H. BLOOMER, JR.
Secretary of the Senate
Clerk of the Joint Assembly