

**WACHUSETT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE**

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

Organizational Meeting

Minutes

Thursday, May 29, 2003

7:00 PM

Media Center  
Wachusett Regional High School

*Committee Members Present:*

Donald Benson	Alice Livdahl
Elizabeth Brennan	John Nunnari
Charles Capparelli	René Rodriguez
Clifford Connell (7:10 PM)	John Rokicki
Carol Esperti (7:12 PM)	Julie Scott
Patricia Gates (7:05 PM)	Michael Sherman
Mark James	Margaret Watson
Duncan Leith	Patricia Young

*Committee Members Absent:*

Peter MacDonald	Natalie Mello
Tammy Tod	Norman Plourde

*Administration Present:*

Alfred D. Tutela, Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools  
Paul K. Soojian, Director of Operations  
Steven Penka, Director of Administrative Services  
Philip E. Campbell, Director of Student/Information 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 Elizabeth Brennan from Rutland, Mark James, René Rodriguez, Jr. and Michael Sherman from

Holden. New member Norman Plourde from Sterling was 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)  
(C. Capparelli)

Member Margaret Watson read a prepared statement in support of Duncan Leith as Chair (attachment 2)

Motion: To close nominations

(C. Capparelli)  
(J. Scott)

Vote:

In Favor:

Donald Benson  
Elizabeth Brennan  
Charles Capparelli  
Patricia Gates  
Mark James  
Duncan Leith  
Alice Livdahl  
John Nunnari  
René Rodriguez  
John Rokicki  
Julie Scott  
Michael Sherman  
Margaret Watson  
Patricia Young

Opposed:

None

(Motion passed unanimously)

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

Donald Benson	Duncan Leith
Elizabeth Brennan	Duncan Leith
Charles Capparelli	Duncan Leith
Patricia Gates	Duncan Leith
Mark James	Duncan Leith
Duncan Leith	Duncan Leith
Alice Livdahl	Duncan Leith
John Nunnari	Duncan Leith
René Rodriguez	Duncan Leith
John Rokicki	Duncan Leith
Julie Scott	Duncan Leith
Michael Sherman	Duncan Leith
Margaret Watson	Duncan Leith
Patricia Young	Duncan Leith

The results of the vote were:

Duncan Leith        14

Duncan Leith took over as Chairman of the School Committee.

### III. Election of Vice Chairman

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

Motion: To nominate Natalie Mello as Vice Chair  
(A. Livdahl)  
(C. Capparelli)

Member Alice Livdahl read a prepared statement (attachment 4). She also read a statement from Member Natalie Mello (attachment 5). Member Michael Sherman requested that his written statement of support be included as part of the public record (attachment 6).

Motion: To close the nominations.  
(J. Rokicki)

(J. Scott)

Vote:

In Favor:

Donald Benson  
Elizabeth Brennan  
Charles Capparelli  
Clifford Connell  
Carol Esperti  
Patricia Gates  
Mark James  
Duncan Leith  
Alice Livdahl  
John Nunnari  
René Rodriguez  
John Rokicki  
Julie Scott  
Michael Sherman  
Margaret Watson  
Patricia Young

Opposed:

None

(Motion passed unanimously)

The ballots were distributed and collected (attachment 7). The results were as follows:

Donald Benson	Natalie Mello
Elizabeth Brennan	Natalie Mello
Charles Capparelli	Natalie Mello
Clifford Connell	Natalie Mello
Carol Esperti	Abstain
Patricia Gates	Natalie Mello
Mark James	Natalie Mello
Duncan Leith	Natalie Mello
Alice Livdahl	Natalie Mello
John Nunnari	Natalie Mello
René Rodriguez	Natalie Mello
John Rokicki	Natalie Mello

Julie Scott  
Michael Sherman  
Margaret Watson  
Patricia Young

Natalie Mello  
Natalie Mello  
Natalie Mello  
Natalie Mello

The results of the vote were:

Natalie Mello	15
Abstentions	1

IV. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn

(J. Rokicki)  
(J. Scott)

Vote:

In Favor:

Donald Benson  
Elizabeth Brennan  
Charles Capparelli  
Clifford Connell  
Carol Esperti  
Patricia Gates  
Mark James  
Duncan Leith  
Alice Livdahl  
John Nunnari  
René Rodriguez  
John Rokicki  
Julie Scott  
Michael Sherman  
Margaret Watson  
Patricia Young

Opposed:

None

(Motion passed unanimously)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM

Respectfully submitted,

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

ADT:ss

School Committee/Minutes