

OUR OPINION

This 'n that

July 21, 2013

As the Daily Press reported Friday, the Victor Valley College Board of Trustees remains deadlocked over how to go about replacing Michael Krause, who resigned from the board in June.

We're told — see Letters elsewhere on the page today — that a special meeting of the trustees Thursday was not only contentious, but involved some shouting and finger-pointing. Two of the trustees, Dennis Henderson and John Pinkerton, apparently remain adamant that the board should fill the vacancy by naming ex-board President Joe Range, while Joseph Brady and current board President Lorrie Denson are opposed. If the board can't agree on someone to appoint, a special election will be held to let voters decide.

Before that happens, though, yet another special meeting will be held to see if some agreement can be reached. This one will be July 22 at the school.

While we suspect it would be a relief to the public to learn that the board had agreed on the appointment process and named someone, thus avoiding a special election, we're among those who believe that bringing Joe Range back on the basis that he received 31,000 votes last November as a board candidate would be a mistake. Mr. Range finished last on that ballot, a clear sign that the public was unhappy with his performance (and the board's, since it was unable under his leadership to bring VVC back to full accreditation).

What we wonder is why the remaining four trustees can't come up with a name that's acceptable to at least three of them. Surely, with 350,000 people to choose from (that's the estimated population of the valley) there is someone who's qualified and interested enough to be chosen. We've heard some rumors, but no one's standing up yet.

Steve Williams