OFFICERS PRESENT:
President: Tim Mills
Vice President: Jeff Fay
Treasurer: Sonia Koehler via phone
Secretary: Absent

DIRECTORS PRESENT:
Addison: Lewis Barnes
Bennington: Scott Westlake via phone
Caledonia: Ken Gammell
Chittenden: Pat Poulin
Essex: Stewart Ahearn via phone
Franklin: Mike Burns
Grand Isle: Dave Ladd
Lamoille: Ellis O’Hear
Orange: Juliann Sherman
Orleans: Roger Gosselin via phone
Rutland: Merritt Budd, Alternate
Washington: Mark Reaves
Windham: Ivor Stevens, Alternate
Windsor: Dick Jewett

ALTERNATE DIRECTORS PRESENT: Merritt Budd, Rutland County; Ivor Stevens, Windham County.

STAFF PRESENT:
Executive Director: Cindy Locke
Trails Administrator: Matt Tetreault
Trails Manager: Ken Brown
Office Coordinator: Cyndy Carrier Brown

GUESTS PRESENT: Star Poulin, Chittenden County.

Meeting called to order at 6:02 PM.

Recognition of Visitors:

Approval of Agenda: Lewis Barnes moved to approve; Dave Ladd seconded, motion carried.

Secretary’s Report: Dick Jewett moved to approve; Mark Reaves seconded, motion carried.

Treasurer’s Report: Sonia Koehler gave an overview of the TMA counts to date.

Mark Reaves moved to approve the Treasurer’s Report; Pat Poulin seconded, motion carried.
Old Business

LVRT
- Ken Brown – The contractors have started working on bridge 93 in Sheldon. They are starting to stage material.
- Mike Burns – The bridge in Fairfield; what about putting some money into it so they don’t have to go around?
- Ken Brown – The abutments have issues and it would be very expensive to fix.
- Mike Burns – We have seen less evidence of 4 wheelers in the area overall.

Act 250
- Cindy Locke – We are continuing to work on an exemption from Act 250 on the trails.
- Handed out a few pages for information on Act 250 rules, i.e., Rule 5B and Rule 71.
- In order to get exempt from Act 250 we are working with FP&R, ANR and other trail organizations.
- Would like to have a system set up where the other trail organizations do what we are presently doing.
- We have a meeting here next Thursday, March 7th with all the trail organizations.
- Will talk about what they already do and we will draft a one page proposal to FP&R and ANR.

New Business

Leadership Summit Update & Subjects to Discuss
- Cindy – Looking at renting a house in Killington for the Summit; dates are June 22 and 23. (Less expensive than motel rooms).
- Mark Reaves – We are looking at exploring the way we allocate grooming funds, looking at how clubs can use Social media too could be a subject.
- Giving clubs experience in working with contractors, other ideas?
- Matt Tetreault – What about outside speakers?
- Some clubs won’t let other people in to help out and volunteers don’t understand why.
- Have clubs schedule their monthly meetings so others can attend, i.e., non-residents.
- Have term limits on officers?

Directors and Officers Insurance Update
- Cindy Locke – We just changed our policy. Our agent now has a different company they can work with.
- The cost is $14,000, down from $24,000. Cincinnati also covers all of our clubs, directors, officers and county clubs.

Canaan Border Rider Update
- Cindy Locke – I have ridden their trails and they have done a good job in updating signs.
- There are still some clubs out there that need help in signing.

Clubs In General
- Snow Depth – Make sure signs are not covered up.
- Double up Stop Ahead and Stop signs – That way if one gets knocked down or stolen, there is still one there.
- Reflectors on stakes with green flags are a good idea; especially on the crest of hills.

Trail Administrator’s / ED / Trail Manager’s Report
- Matt Tetreault – There are 3 clubs that are about to go over their grooming contract.
- We need to see where the membership comes in at before we can do anything.
- 3 clubs are: Canaan / Sno Bees / Lambert Farm; possibly others.
- If they meet their weeks of grooming and grooming cap all at the same time, they can put in a request but nothing is guaranteed.
• Stewart Ahearn – The policy states that they have to notify ahead of time if they are going over it.
• Stick to the contract and wait until the end of the year to see what numbers are.
• Ken Gammell – They need to manage their contract. Let’s table this and look at it next month.
• Jeff Fay – Do we have an update on economic impact study?
• Cindy Locke – No, I haven’t heard anything; I don’t think it’s going to happen this year.

Committee Reports

Northeast Chapter
• Pat Poulin - USA meeting in April 29th in Syracuse NY.
• Chapter ride coming up in New Brunswick in March.

Annual Meeting
• Ken Gammell – Plans are coming along well; going to be great.

Trails
• Jeff Fay – We will have a meeting in April.

Safety
• Pat Poulin – We met on the 20th.
• NH hands on program that F&G has been initiated. Had some feedback on this program.
• Thinking about creating a poster to put out for promoting hands on.
• Hand signal is in the safety training booklet. Want to recertify safety teachers for the hands on.
• Hands on, always assume that there are other riders behind, ride safe. Promote the light?
• The state police does not keep track of nor do they get notified when there are snowmobile accidents.
• Sonia Koehler – Would like to have the 911 trails signs story in the magazine, it was a big help recently.
• Lewis Barnes – Canaan – I think the County should promote helping clubs to put up trail signs.

Governor’s Council
• Pat Poulin - We did meet, but sparse attendance. The fines schedule needs to be looked at.
• Matt Tetreault – There has been lots of off trail riding, powerlines.
• We are not having good response from law enforcement of being out on the trails.
• Julianne Sherman – They are out in Orange county.
• Sonia Koehler – Orleans and Essex county are out a lot, at junctions.

Miscellaneous

Ellis O’Hear – We had a couple that came from PA to ride and they had a great time.

Mark Reaves made a motion to adjourn; Dick Jewett seconded, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 PM.