



SNOWMOBILE VERMONT

Board of Directors
August 26, 2024
Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

OFFICERS PRESENT

President, Jeff Fay

Vice President, Mark Reaves

Secretary, Ruth Halpin

Treasurer, Patty Companik

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Addison: Lewis Barnes

Bennington: Carol DeJohn

Caledonia: Bruce Carlson

Chittenden: Pat Poulin

Essex: John Hull

Franklin: Mike Burns

Grand Isle: Jeff Porter (Not Present)

Lamoille: Dustin Turner

Orange: Juliann Sherman

Orleans: Roger Gosselin

Rutland: Mike Stewart

Washington: Jeff Halpin

Windham: Michael Garber

Windsor: Doug Jacobs

STAFF PRESENT:

Executive Director: Cindy Locke

Trails Administrator: Matthew Tetreault

Media Manager: Beth Flint

Office & Programs Manager: Mandy Dwinell

Office & Programs Assistant: Tina Bedard

Finance Manager: Sheila Fenoff-Willett

GUESTS:

Ivor Stevens, Windham County Alt. Director; Ed Hebebrand, Caledonia County Alt. Director; Stan Choiniere, Windsor County Alt Director; Director; Mike Mutascio, Lunenburg Polar Bears; Bruce Binnix, EZ Riders Snowmobile Club; Andrew Fitzgerald, B.E.S.T.; Greg Rouleau, Washington County Alt. Director; Bethany Hallock, Ferrisburgh Sledheads; Austin Bowdish, Weybridge Trailblazers; Jim Hill, VT Snow Trails Conservancy; Andy Hager, Jacksonville E-Z Riders, Mike Koehler, Orleans County Alt Director.

President Jeff Fay called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm

Approval of Agenda

Rutland County moved and Lamoille County seconded, to approve the agenda as presented.
MOTION CARRIED

Secretary's Report

Addison County: Motion to approve, Chittenden County seconded to approve Secretary's Report.
MOTION CARRIED.

Treasurer's Report

	Jul-21	Jul-22	Jul-23	Jul-24	<i>Mbrshp Income w/o \$10 increase The \$5.00 is included since it is reflected in prior data</i>	<i>\$10 per TMA estimated</i>
Membership \$\$					July 2024 w/o \$10	
Budget	\$2,481,915	\$2,478,385	\$2,767,295	\$2,767,295	\$2,767,295	
MONTHLY activity	\$110	\$345	-\$380	\$120		
Season So far	\$2,824,573	\$2,768,357	\$2,439,192	\$2,312,779	\$2,141,651	\$171,128
percentage	113.81%	111.70%	88.14%	83.58%	77.39%	
Income \$\$					July 2024 w/o \$10	
Budget	\$3,255,180	\$3,310,443	\$3,436,342	\$3,586,956	\$3,586,956	
MONTHLY activity	\$24,752	\$18,870	\$26,917	\$26,446		
Season so far	\$3,157,351	\$3,199,162	\$3,039,142	\$2,987,258	\$2,868,014	
percentage	96.99%	96.64%	88.44%	83.28%	79.96%	
Expense						
Budget	\$2,816,998	\$2,752,476	\$2,983,607	\$3,032,072		
MONTHLY activity	\$140,771	\$65,884	\$82,766	\$61,764		
Season so far	\$2,244,726	\$1,968,012	\$2,159,822	\$1,938,643		
percentage	79.69%	71.50%	72.39%	63.94%		



Membership - July 2024 - Increase of \$10.00 per TMA implemented this Season.

\$120 in Membership Income Activity for July/ 83.58% of budget expectations
(WITH \$10 increase included) - and is from Paid Volunteer TMAs

77% year over year comparison (WITHOUT \$10 included) which is about 10% less than last season at this time
(88% vs 77%)

Data Reference: NSB-Trails Special Reserve Acct - \$259,285 (5.00 & 10.00 per TMA sold) x 66% = \$171,128 Season.
Management Rpt and Trails Rpt have 2 different balances for this item
Sheila confirmed she reconciles the end of August to September - so I used the Trails Rpt number

Income - July 2024 - Increase of \$10.00 per TMA implemented this Season.

\$26,446 in Income Activity for July (WITH \$10 increase)
Income activity represents \$5576 in interest/dividends, 12k in contract services from SSTP for Admin Svcs,
~\$6400 in Media Sales

We are at 83% of budget expectations (WITH \$10 increase)
compared to 88% last year at this time.

We are at ~80% year over year comparison (w/o the \$10 included) -
or 10% less than last season at this time (88.44% vs 79.96%)

Expenses - July 2024

~\$61k in Monthly Expenses of which ~\$45k in Salaries/Benefits, ~\$5k in Operating and Office (taxes and Telephone),
~\$5k in Professional (\$2700 Audit GF/TF and ~\$1k in Technical, \$740 in Internet/Website)

We are at 83% of our fiscal year and 64% of Expense Budget has been utilized
GF expense budget is at ~74% and TF expense budget is at ~56%

Trails Encumbered	2020 Season Final	2021 Season Final	2022 Season Final	2023 Season Final	Jul-24
Budget	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$550,000	\$554,170	\$554,170
MONTHLY ACTIVITY					\$0
Season so far	\$363,721	\$434,560	\$501,293	\$583,721	\$331,571
8310/2010 Trail Construction		\$100,764	\$157,804	\$223,860	\$0
8310/2010a Trail Maintenance		\$283,450	\$268,248	\$303,654	\$0
8310/2021 Trails Emergency Fund		\$24,895	\$45,556	\$26,499	\$0
8310/2027 Trail Debrushing		\$26,942	\$29,686	\$29,708	\$0
8310/2030 Next Year's Trails Projects		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Flood Relief Trail Work	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24
Budget	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$750,000
MONTHLY Project Expenses 8310/2010	\$16,044	\$91,518	\$150,784	\$109,968	\$9,003	\$6,725	\$14,040.82	\$13,748	\$23,221	\$0
Season So Far	\$16,044	\$107,563	\$258,348	\$368,316	\$377,319	\$379,406	\$393,446.00	\$412,194	\$435,415	\$435,415
Percentage of Budget Utilized	2.14%	14.34%	34.45%	49.11%	50.31%	50.59%	52.46%	54.96%	58.06%	58.06%
BALANCE	\$733,956	\$642,437	\$491,652	\$381,684	\$372,681	\$370,594	\$356,554	\$337,806	\$314,585	\$314,585

**Windsor County: Motion to approve, Washington County seconded to approve Treasurer's Report.
MOTION CARRIED.**

TABLED ITEMS

Nothing to report.

Old Business

Nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Elected Official Question – Cindy 15 min

Four questions have been created for members to ask local officials. VAST is not permitted to send questions directly to the officials, clubs and members are encouraged to. It is possible that the local officials will raise the property tax rate by 14% next year. Cindy will be emailing the finalized copy of the questions soon.

b.* Clubs missing extended deadline for Financial Analysis

The six clubs that reached out and joined this meeting:

- Jacksonville E-Z riders
- Guilford Pitstoppers
- Weybridge Trailblazers
- Ferrisburg Sledheads
- B.E.S.T.
- E.A.S.T.

After a discussion on each clubs reasoning as to why they missed the first and second deadline to fill out the financial analysis forms the B.O.D. came to agree that these six clubs can be reinstated in good standing after they fill out the financial analysis. The 7th club that has not reached out yet needs to be notified they are not in good standing and need to come before the Board.

**Addison County: Motion to approve, Orleans County seconded
for the 6 clubs who came forward at the August Board of Director's meeting
to be reinstated to be a club in good standing once they have completed the financial
analysis by September 9, 2024, as presented.**

**Orleans County: Motion to approve, Lamoille County seconded the 7th club, the West River
Sno Goers to remain not in good standing with VAST, VAST will send the notification of their
current status as presented.**

Discussion on why the financial analysis needs to be filled out by all clubs no matter if they groomed or not. The financial analysis form will be activated by VAST for the clubs to submit their FY24 financial analysis.

Trails Administrator's / ED Report – Cindy 15 min

Update on the annual meeting schedule. Trails committee meeting at 9:15 – 10:15. Volunteer strong photo at 11:45, location to be determined.

Matt and Cindy are meeting the Governor and his cabinet on 8/28 to discuss the flood damage.

Committee and Other Meeting Reports

a. American Outdoor Risk Retention Group (AORRG) Insurance – Mark Reaves
Met on July 29th. Mike Koehler was elected to serve the remainder of Pat Poulin's term. Dustin Turner joined the meeting to see if he was interested in serving on the committee. The annual meeting is on Thursday October 10 at 6PM. The rest of the meetings for next year are 1/9/25, 4/10/25, 7/10/25. The report by the auditor was also reviewed.

b. Northeast Chapter and USA – Pat Poulin, Jeff Fay as VT Representatives
USA met last month and discussed the federal RTP program and some of the changes that might be coming. Some states are having issues with the way the state is disbursing the funds. Alaska being one of them. They are waiting to find out what they can do to help.

c. VT Snow Trails Conservancy (VSTC) – Cindy
Nothing to report.

d. Law Enforcement (LE) Committee – Cindy
Nothing to report.

e. Awards & Nominating – Patty Companik, Chair
All award-related tasks for the annual meeting have been completed.

f. By-Laws & Policy – Mark Reaves, Chair
Nothing to report.

g. Annual Meeting – Michael Garber & Amber Stevens
A lot of vendors are coming for food and equipment.

h. Executive Committee – Jeff Fay, President
Nothing to report.

i. Personnel Committee – Juliann Sherman, Chair
The personnel committee met, putting together documentation to go to the By-Laws Committee for the process for the E.D. evaluation and personal insurance update for future employees.

j. Finance - Patty Companik, Chair
A meeting is scheduled for August 28th.

k. Long Range Planning & Organizational Committee – Mark Reaves, Chair
Nothing to report.

l. Resource Committee
Nothing to report

m. Trails Committee – Curt Marechaux & John Hull, Co-Chairs
Discussion on storm damage. Meeting the morning of annual meeting and will hopefully have a better assessment of club's damages to trails. The Trails Committee in agreement that clubs need to maintain maintenance records to get equipment grants. Trying to create a map that shows all the flood damage on VAST trails.

n. Safety Committee – Stan Choiniere

Met this month. The initiative was to deal with the safety course online. The committee members were asked to give input on what they would like to see changed. Jacob Matayer with the Vermont State Police was sent 3 pages worth of comments that they would like changed or updated for the Vermont section of the course. Stan stated that Jacob was going to initiate the changes. One issue is that the course states it is a requirement for the course to be 6 hours long, the course online takes about 2.5 hours. That conflict will be dealt with.

The app "What 3 Words" was discussed as well. An article in the magazine and eNews regarding the app will be done so the members can be educated.

o. Governor's Council – Pat Poulin

Nothing to report.

Motion to adjourn: Windsor County moved to approve; Addison County seconded to adjourn the meeting. MOTION CARRIED.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruth Halpin, Secretary

Prepared by Tina Bedard, VAST Office & Programs Assistant