



SNOWMOBILE VERMONT

**Board of Directors
May 20, 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 (Not Present)

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

GUESTS:

Ivor Stevens, Windham County Alt. Director; Ed Hebebrand, Caledonia County Alt. Director; Stan Choiniere, Windsor County Alt Director; Nathan Lafont, Green Mountain Roamers; Barry Messer, Hawk Mtn Ridge RRunners; MikeMutascio, Lunenburg Polar Bears; Mike Koehler, Orleans County Alt Director.

President Jeff Fay called the meeting to order at 6:11 pm

Approval of Agenda

Washington County moved and Chittenden County seconded, to approve the Agenda as presented.
MOTION CARRIED

Treasurer's Report

	Apr-21	Apr-22	Apr-23	Apr-24	<i>Mbrshp Income w/o \$10 increase The \$5.00 is included since it is reflected in prior data trckg per yr</i>	<i>\$10 per TMA estimated</i>
					April 2024 w/o \$10	
Membership \$\$						
Budget	\$2,481,915	\$2,478,385	\$2,767,295	\$2,767,295	\$2,767,295	
MONTHLY activity	\$5,411	\$1,751	\$10,721	\$11,730		
Season So far	\$2,821,514	\$2,748,463	\$2,431,063	\$2,306,059	\$2,135,581	\$170,478
percentage	113.68%	110.90%	87.85%	83.33%	77.17%	
	Apr-21	Apr-22	Apr-23	Apr-24	April 2024 w/o \$10	
Income \$\$						
Budget	\$3,255,180	\$3,310,443	\$3,436,342	\$3,586,956	\$3,586,956	
MONTHLY activity	\$23,429	\$19,351	\$33,389	\$32,829		
Season so far	\$3,100,382	\$3,128,467	\$2,953,821	\$2,879,975	\$2,709,497	
percentage	95.24%	94.50%	85.96%	80.29%	75.54%	
	Apr-21	Apr-22	Apr-23	Apr-24		
Expense						
Budget	\$2,816,998	\$2,752,476	\$2,983,607	\$3,032,072		
MONTHLY activity	\$96,460	\$105,712	\$100,158	\$144,554		
Season so far	\$1,563,657	\$1,438,215	\$1,548,222	\$1,640,667		
percentage	55.51%	52.25%	51.89%	54.11%		

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

\$11,730 in Membership Income Activity for April/ 83% of budget expectations
(WITH \$10 increase included) - ~\$10,550 is from Paid Volunteer TMAs

77% year over year comparison (WITHOUT \$10 included) which is about 10% less than last season at this time (or 2,431,063-2,135,581 =295,482 less)

Data Reference: NSB-Trails Special Reserve Acct - \$258,300 (5.00 & 10.00 per TMA sold) x 66% = \$170,478 Season.

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

\$32,829 in Income Activity for April (WITH \$10 increase) - Income activity represents ~12k in Membership and
~13k in Contracted Services/SSTP mgmt services

We are at 80% of budget expectations (WITH \$10 increase)
compared to 86% last year at this time.

We are at 75% year over year comparison (w/o the \$10 included) -
or 10% less than last season at this time

Expense - April 2024

Monthly Expenses of ~\$144k of which ~\$76k in Trails Expenses (~21k in Trail Signs - ~29k in Grooming and ~19k in Commercial
TMA reimbursement to city)
~45k in Salaries/Benefits

We are at 58% of our fiscal year and 54% of Expense Budget has been utilized

GF: Equipment/Computers we are at 313% of line item - over ~1281

VAST promo items we are at 200% - over ~3k, Office supplies is at 97%

Safety Program we are at 152% - over ~1037 - Under Profession Technical is at 95% and Internet/Website is 78%

TF: Signs we are at ~95%

Grooming we are at 54% ~655k remaining and GPS we are at 73%

ACCT NO	DESCRIPTION	BUDGET	MONTH	YEAR TO DATE	BUDGET BALAN	%REC'D
8300/2011	Grooming	1,418,000.00	29,150.64	763,041.85	654,958.15	53.81
8300/2015	GPS Equip & Contracts	65,000.00	0.00	47,559.22	17,440.78	73.17
	8100/1004 VAST Promo Items	3,000.00	0.00	6,010.20	(3,010.20)	200.34
	8100/1013 Safety Program	2,000.00	0.00	3,037.96	(1,037.96)	151.90
	7300/1005 Equipment - Computers	600.00	1,120.77	1,881.43	(1,281.43)	313.57
	OFFICE SUPPLIES					
	7400/1001 Supplies Expenses	5,000.00	30.70	4,859.97	140.03	97.20
	PROFESSIONAL					
	7600/1003 Technical	24,000.00	14,951.34	22,855.34	1,144.66	95.23
	7600/1009 Internet/Website Datbase/S	11,000.00	727.04	8,534.66	2,465.34	77.59

Trails Encumbered	2020 Season Final	2021 Season Final	2022 Season Final	2023 Season Final	Apr-24
Budget	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$550,000	\$554,170	\$554,170
MONTHLY ACTIVITY					\$10,054
Season so far	\$363,721	\$434,560	\$501,293	\$583,721	\$328,589
8310/2010 Trail Construction		\$100,764	\$157,804	\$223,860	\$11
8310/2010a Trail Maintenance		\$283,450	\$268,248	\$303,654	\$4,146
8310/2021 Trails Emergency Fund		\$24,895	\$45,556	\$26,499	\$2,898
8310/2027 Trail Debrushing		\$26,942	\$29,686	\$29,708	\$3,000
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
Budget	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$750,000
MONTHLY Project Expenses	\$16,044	\$91,518	\$150,784	\$109,968	\$9,003	\$6,725	\$14,040.82
Season So Far	\$16,044	\$107,563	\$258,348	\$368,316	\$377,319	\$379,406	\$393,446.00
Percentage of Budget Utilized	2.14%	14.34%	34.45%	49.11%	50.31%	50.59%	52.46%
BALANCE	\$733,956	\$642,437	\$491,652	\$381,684	\$372,681	\$370,594	\$356,554

Trail Projects - April 2024

Regular Season Projects for April: \$10,054
Regular Season Projects for the Season so far: \$328,589

Flood Relief Projects for April: \$6,725
Flood Relief Projects for the Season so far: \$393,446

TOTAL: \$722,035 paid for Reg & Flood projects (\$328k + \$393k) for the Season so far

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

Secretary's Report

Windsor County: Motion to approve, Lamoille County seconded to approve Secretary's Report. MOTION CARRIED.

TABLED ITEMS

Nothing new to report.

Old Business

Waterbury Suspension Bridge: Cindy

Green Mountain Roamers had success connecting with a tree service. The plan is to get an arborist. The club was sent a copy of a bid, estimated cost \$1500.00 to \$3000.00 to remove trees. The club has also requested a copy of insurance and a W-9 that will be provided by the arborist. The club has reached out to Stowe Mtn Rescue to set a date. They are thinking the tree removal will be on a Saturday. We are requesting no volunteers on the bridge, only the insured company will be doing the work.

Discussion on if this needs a vote from the board to continue, it was verified it does.
Update, Cindy has emailed VHB engineering firm in VT, asked how much the cost is, to provide an analysis of the bridge and to put together a proposal so it can be review everything, as well as the bridge.
VAST is creating a database of historical documents relative to the bridge so the working group can review them.

Windsor County: Motion to approve, Chittenden County seconded to allow bid for up to \$3,000 for tree removal for the Waterbury suspension bridge. MOTION CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS

Partnership Award; Patty

Board Members - I am sending to you as well - so you can take your time and review the nomination I have written and reach out if you have any questions in advance of the May meeting.
This nomination is from me - as a member of the association - not as chair of the awards committee.
I feel strongly about this nomination and hope that once you have the time to review it - you feel the same way.

The world is changing - and the next generation definitely has a different way of spreading the word about their experiences. Social Media influencers are the latest and greatest way to market. This is our opportunity to embrace and celebrate the positive side of that change.

Awards

Discussion on if there has ever been a club out of VT that won this award, it was said there have not.

Windsor County: Motion to approve, Orleans County seconded to approve request to award Mario from 860203. MOTION CARRIED.

End of year Projections; Cindy

Finishing up report then will send to everyone.

Trails Committee Recommendations -Trails Committee

Equipment Grants-In-Aid policy

Discussion on suggestion for Trails Committee to create a subcommittee to draft potential policy changes and then can bring back to the board. This will be added to Old Business so we can discuss progress.

Consumer Price Index

The motion originally was to split it and bring it to the board with this year's price index increase of 9.3% total. Talk of splitting between 6.5% or somewhere in the middle.

Washington County: Motion to approve, Orleans County seconded to approve request to accept request of 4.65% for CPI increase to effect maximum grant amounts. MOTION CARRIED.

Financial Analysis

Because of higher starting payments clubs have received money, but no additional money.
Discussion on holding start up payment to get data collected from financial analysis. 23 clubs did not submit the Financial Analysis this year, which puts them as non-compliant.
Discussion on how this should be sent back to the Trails Committee to further discuss.
Discussion on turning link back on to have the reports filled out to the 23 clubs to fill out financial analysis. The clubs that did not fill out the Financial Analysis missed the deadlines and are non-compliant. Trails Committee to discuss in the next meeting in August. Cindy will be creating an email stating they are in non-compliance.

Trail changes submitted to the Trails Committee

Orleans County: Motion to approve, Lamoille County seconded, to accept the Trails Committee recommendation for West Windsor Moonlighters addition. MOTION CARRIED.

Windsor County: Motion to approve, Orleans County seconded, to accept the Trail Committee's recommendation for the new 30.8 Class 4 grooming contract for Woodford Snow-Busters. MOTION CARRIED.

Trails Administrator's / ED Report – Cindy

Discussion about GPS units, more information to come.

Committee and Other Meeting Reports

American Outdoor Risk Retention Group (AORRG) Insurance – Mark

Got audit back and passed. Paid taxes. Looking for a new board member still.

Northeast Chapter and USA – Pat Poulin, Jeff Fay as VT Representatives

USA: Nothing new to report.

Northeast Chapter: Nothing new to report.

Both USA and Northeast Chapter are meeting in June in Wisconsin, for snowmobile congress.

VT Snow Trails Conservancy (VSTC) – Cindy

Nothing new to report

Law Enforcement (LE) Committee – Cindy

Nothing new to report.

Awards & Nominating – Patty Companik, Chair

We received 37 individual award nominations - plus multiple nominations for some of the 37 Committee members are reviewing independently, and we will meet as a committee in a few weeks to discuss and finalize the award selections.

Not as many nominations as last year - but still a lot more than we would get in the earlier years when I started on this committee.

Scholarship

We received a Thank You card from scholarship recipient Lydia Gillespie.

By-Laws & Policy – Mark Reaves, Chair

Nothing new to report.

Annual Meeting – Ivor Stevens

Planning is going well. Location confirmed at the Grafton Trails & Outdoor Center.

Executive Committee – Jeff Fay, President

Meeting this week to work on the proposed budget.

Finance - Patty Companik, Chair

Cindy, Sheila, Jeff and Patty are meeting this week to begin working on the 2025 proposed budget.

Long Range Planning & Organizational Committee – Mark Reaves, Chair
Finalizing agenda for July BOD retreat meeting.

Resource Committee
Not active.

Trails Committee – Curt Marechaux & John Hull, Co-Chairs
Previously discussed.

Safety Committee – Stan Choiniere
Did not meet this month. Taking a couple months off. Reconvening in July and will be focusing on reviewing the online snowmobile course to make improvements.

Governor's Council – Pat Poulin
Council met; Law Enforcement not represented.
Main topic of discussion was that the council will be working with Safety Committee on reviewing the online safety course.
The biggest report was from Southern VT Search and Rescue. One of the members took a safety LE class in NY and will bring back what they learned.

Personnel Committee – Juliann Sherman:
Personnel committee evaluation for ED will come out in June. Will have a required response time when it comes out.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruth Halpin, Secretary

Prepared by Tina Bedard, VAST Office & Programs Assistant