

## **Governor's Snowmobile Council**

**June 5, 2024**

### **Present:**

Pat Poulin, Chairman  
Jenna Reed, Fish & Wildlife  
Jacob Metayer, VSP  
Claire Polfus, Forest Parks & Recreation  
Michael Smith, Vermont DMV  
Mike Mutascio, Governor Appointee  
Jeff Halpin, Governor Appointee  
Stan Choiniere, Governor Appointee  
Gary Nolan, VAST L/E Committee Chair

### **VAST Staff Present:**

Cindy Locke, VAST Executive Director  
Mandy Dwinell, Office & Programs Manager  
Matt Tetreault, VAST Trails Administrator  
Tina Bedard, Office & Programs Assistant

The meeting was convened at 3:02 PM via Zoom by Pat Poulin.

### **Approval of Minutes**

**Cindy Locke moved to approve the May minutes as presented; Mike Mutascio seconded. MOTION CARRIED.**

### **Approval of SSTP Financial Report of April, Matt**

**Stan Choiniere moved to approve the April SSTP Financial Reports as presented; Mike Mutascio seconded. MOTION CARRIED.**

### **Agency Reports**

Vermont State Police (VSP), Jacob Metayer

Nothing to report.

Discussion on in-person safety course instruction manual.

Fish & Wildlife, Jenna Reed

3 trainees graduated from the academy on Monday May 3<sup>rd</sup>. They will be starting Warden School June 10<sup>th</sup>.

Sheriff's Association, Marc Poulin –VT Sheriff Association & Washington County Sheriff

Not Present.

Police Chiefs & Southern VT Wilderness Search & Rescue, Paul Doucette

Not Present.

Department of Motor Vehicles, Michael Smith

DMV Registrations:

From April to June 2024 = 11

Total for 2024 = 18,217

June 2023 = 20,162

Forest, Parks & Recreation, Claire Polfus

FRP announced all the Vorec Community grant recipients last week in a press conference and the list is posted. On the FRP website of all the grantees, including VAST for flood recovery work, FRP is

quite close to signing that grant. The start date is June 1st and then of course with flood recovery, that's since last July. Moving on to our other grants that Pass is also involved with RTP. If we approve the budget for SSTP will get that grant count as well.

## **VAST**

Update, Cindy & Pat

Jane Kitchel has announced her retirement. We will have to get a new senator representation, which we will be starting the process by letting the governor's office know.

Discussion regarding the Waterbury suspension bridge. The flood recovery project was done this past weekend. Stowe Mountain Resue remained in the river to ensure safety of the arborist cutting the trees off the bridge. GMR will be brush hogging the banks by the bridge to allow better access for the engineers to access the next step for the bridge.

Discussion about Nathan LaFont with GMR, he is doing a great job with the club.

Law Enforcement (LE) Committee, Gary

Nothing to report.

VAST Safety Committee, Stan

There will be no meetings until July. Stan plans on taking the safety online course for review purposes closer to the next meeting. A reminder to community members that would like to participate in reviewing the course will be sent out.

## **FY 25 SSTP Budget Review/Approval**

The FY SSTP report was sent via email to council members.

## **Approval of FY 25 SSTP Budget**

**Stan Choiniere moved to approve the FY 25 SSTP Budget as presented; Mike Mutascio seconded. MOTION CARRIED.**

## **Legislative Report**

House Report, Matt Walker

Nothing to report.

Senate Report, Jane Kitchel

Not Present.

## **Appointee Reports**

Northwest, Jim

Not Present.

Northeast, Mike

They are working on removing signs and closing gates.

Central, Jeff

The Waterbury flood recovery project happened last weekend. There are trail projects happening for some clubs.

South, Stan

Clubs are assessing for needed trail work.

They had a landowner appreciation BBQ with the Andover club.

Stan is making sure that paperwork for clubs is done and sent in on time.

Next meeting is Wednesday, September 4, at 3pm via Zoom.

**Motion to Adjourn:**

**Mike Smith moved to close the meeting at 3:37 pm; Mike Mutascio seconded. Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Bedard

VAST Office & Programs Assistant