

**VAST Board of Directors Meeting
January 25, 2021
Meeting Minutes – FINAL**

OFFICERS PRESENT

President, Tim Mills
Vice President, Jeff Fay
Secretary, Jim Hill
Patty Companik, Treasurer

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Addison: Lewis Barnes
Bennington: Jeffrey Hayes
Caledonia: Kenny Gammell
Chittenden: Pat Poulin
Essex: Mike Daley
Franklin: Mike Burns
Grand Isle: Damien Henry Lamoille:
Carmin Lemery
Orange: Juliann Sherman
Orleans: Roger Gosselin
Rutland: Curt Marechaux
Washington: Mark Reaves
Windham: Drew Fraser
Windsor: Dick Jewett; Ivor Stevens, Alternate Dir.

STAFF PRESENT:

Executive Director: Cindy Locke
Trails Administrator: Matt Tetreault
LVRT/Trails Manager: Ken Brown
VAST Operations: Cyndy Carrier Brown

GUESTS:

Stan Choiniere

President Tim Mills called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

Approval of Agenda

MOTION: Curt Marechaux moved and Pat Poulin seconded approval of the agenda as submitted. **Motion carried.**

Approval of Secretary's Report

MOTION: Pat Poulin moved and Curt Marechaux seconded approval of the Secretary's Report, with one correction. Add Patty Companik to the list of attendees.

Also, Roger Gosselin noted that his specific request to contact Polaris was not in the minutes.

Approval of Treasurer's Report

Patty Companik reviewed the financials for the months ending November 2020 and December 2020.

November 16, 2020

MOTION: Mark Reaves moved and Curt Marechaux seconded approval of the November 2021 Treasurer's Report.

December 21, 2020

The December Treasurer's Report could not be voted on as it was not complete at the time of the meeting.

It was noted that to date, 20,055 TMA have been sold, minus the refunds.

Old Business

Trails Policy Manual – Update

I have to check with Matt on what goes here. I think it's the wording that is in the Trails meeting minutes from Jan. 18.

Because all TMA sales are done on line now, the wording in the Manual surrounding the sign off on a Grant in Aid application should read as follows:

In order to avoid the appearance of impropriety, or a conflict of interest, County Trail Coordinators shall not sign off on Grant in Aid applications or corresponding paperwork for the club to which they belong. Paperwork shall be signed by the County director or an authorized agent as outlined in the corresponding counties by-laws, or as approved by the VAST Trails Administrator upon written notice from the county Trail Coordinator.
Recommended changes to the lien waiting period.

8 years of 4,000 hours

MOTION: Curt Marechaux moved and Mark Reaves seconded approval of the co-signer section?

New Business

Long Range Planning Committee Meeting Update

- Mark Reaves noted that the LRPC has a meeting this coming week with several clubs about ice crossings.
- If the trail is leading to a business or a parking lot, then it was recommended not to be closed. 114C and 2001.
- We cannot have a trail that goes across the lake. Once they get on the lake it is considered a state highway.
- VAST cannot provide insurance if those trails are leading down to the lake.
- Close the feeder trails that go to water crossings.
- Our attorney has already submitted a letter to the appropriate clubs about water crossings in their areas.
- Considerable discussion ensued about this matter. It was decided to wait for the outcome at the upcoming LRPC meeting.

TMA Program Update

Cindy Locke noted that TMAs are coming in strong. The postal service is very delayed in getting mail out; so we are having to issue quite a few updated temporary TMA forms.

Helicopter Landing Zones

- Roger Gosselin shared some photos with everyone about ?

- Stan Choiniere noted that they decided to try to standardize a helicopter zone; Geographic location to 911; the pdf shown shows the sign to be used.
- This is basically the same as Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center.
- If the club has a good spot for a landing zone, we have a form they can fill out and then it will be put on the E-911 system.
- VAST / E-911 and local responders – communication between all.
- The area would need to be 100 x 100 clear.
- The signs would be at least 50 feet from the center, surrounding the area.
- The landing zones do not need to be near a road, because local clubs usually have rescue sleds, etc.
- DART is determined by the severity of the injury.

MOTION:

Mark Reaves approved and Curt Marechaux seconded the approval of the signs as shown for the zones. **Motion carried.**

Staff Reports (ED, Trail Administrator, LVRT Manager)

Committee and Other Meeting Reports

Northeast Chapter and USA

- Pat Poulin reported that USA did meet last week. They are dealing with an issue in Washington state with a national forester that just decided to close snowmobiling because others didn't like it there.

Law Enforcement Committee

- Cindy Locke reported that law enforcement has been out quite a bit.
- Morristown has been trained, but they did miss a few things on sled inspections.

LVRT

- Ken Brown noted that the LVRT is looking good.
- The State will be taking over the project administration shortly.
- VAST is still on the hook for maintenance of 11 additional miles.

Awards & Nominating

- Patty Companik noted that March 1st is the deadline for Scholarship applications.

- April 1st and May 1st are deadlines for other nominations
- Would like to get some volunteer photos for the magazine.

ByLaws

- Jeff Fay noted that we need to do a review and make sure things are in line with the new on line TMA system.

Resource

- Perry Ellis and I have a meeting Monday night.
- Hopefully meetings will move along quicker now since?

Trails Committee

- Jeff Fay – We are assigning GPS coordinates to all bridges.
- This is strictly voluntary with the clubs
- Long term project because there are many bridges
- There is a data collection form and we will set up a database.

Governor's Council

- Pat Poulin noted that the exhaust legislation has been placed in the DMV miscellaneous bill.
- The State Police have had 700 safety courses done on-line as of the beginning of January.

MOTION: Curt Marechaux moved and Mark Reaves seconded that the meeting be adjourned. ***Motion carried.***

The meeting was adjourned at 7:33 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Hill
Secretary