

**Board of Directors  
September 10, 2022  
Meeting Minutes**

**Members Present:**

**OFFICERS PRESENT**

President, Jeff Fay  
Vice President, Mark Reaves  
Secretary, Jim Hill  
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: Damien Henry (Absent)  
Lamoille: Carmin Lemery  
Orange: Juliann Sherman  
Orleans: Roger Gosselin  
Rutland: Curt Marechaux  
Washington: Jeff Haplin  
Windham: Michael Garber  
Windsor: Doug Jacobs

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Executive Director: Cindy Locke  
Trails Administrator: Matthew Tetreault  
Office & Programs Manager: Mandy Dwinell

**GUESTS:**

Dustin Turner, Lamoille County Alt. Director; Mike Koehler, Orleans County Alt. Director; Ivor Stevens, Windham County Alt. Director

President Jeff Fay called the meeting to order at 2:17pm

**Approval of Agenda**

Addison County moved and Rutland County seconded, to approve the Agenda as presented. **MOTION CARRIED**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Grooming Contract Changes**

Discussion regarding updates with grooming contracts. The BOD has reviewed the proposal from last month's meeting and made an update with the contract minimums to be 35% across the board as opposed to 50% from the prior year's contract, and either 30%, 35% or 40% from last season. As an example, if the club didn't groom for the season, they would still receive 35% of their contract. The minimum would be considered the club's start-up. After 35% groomed, the next payment would be processed. Mileage quotas for grooming contracts are based on 60, 85, 100 or 115% of the club/contractor's previous contract depending upon the highest percentage of the contract they groomed in the last 6 years. This will be reviewed after the season. This amount is above the payments from the reserve account for fuel supplement funds discussed at Annual Meeting. This would include the trails policy manual changes. Grooming contract payment minimums would be reviewed on an annual basis.

**Lamoille County moved to make a motion to accept the grooming contract changes and trails policy manual changes as presented and Rutland County seconded. Orleans County Opposed. Motion Carried.**

### **Free Weekend**

- Discussion at the premeeting regarding discontinuing Free Weekend.
- Discussion of an idea of \$25 for first 3-day weekend, then for the next 3-day weekend pass would be at the current standard amount (\$90).
- Discussion of flexible dates for Free weekend
- Discussion on trail conditions and various areas throughout VT during Free Weekend.
- Cindy mentioned an option of setting a set weekend at \$25 and dividing the money back to the county where the riders have selected to ride.
- Jim Hill mentioned weekend passes are helpful as a discussion tool at Trade Shows.
- Discussion of \$ 25-weekend pass in lieu of Free Weekend
- Discussion on mindfulness if a set weekend for increased LE presence and Safety Ambassadors on trails. Suggestion to connect with Governor's Council for awareness on changes for the weekend for presence of law enforcement.
- Discussion on 2 different weekends to choose from, with a limit to 1 weekend at the reduced amount at the \$25 fee.
- Discussion on the process for riders to complete online pass for weekend and the possibility for potential duplicate entries in Salesforce.
- Discussion on mindfulness of date selection as last year it conflicted with LE training
- Discussion on the option for multiple weekends to choose from for the reduced \$ 25-weekend fee
- Discussion on possibly choosing weekend dates to match NH and ME

**Orleans County moved and Addison County seconded to keep a set weekend at \$25 to go to the club where the rider has selected. Motion Carried. Windham county Opposed.**

- Discussion on the possible option of dividing the collection of the \$25 funds divided among the clubs within a county.

Free Weekend to be added to the agenda for the October BOD meeting.

### **TMA Rates for 2022**

- **Rutland County moved and Addison County seconded to leave the TMA rates as it stands for the 2023 season. Motion Carried.**

### **Reserve Accounts, Cindy**

- Discussion on the EOY recap on the General fund and Trails Fund
- New account added called VAST Club Equipment Account membership voted to now be called Fuel Account Expenditure
- Discussion on voting on the percentage breakdown on the percentages for the \$693k, as the projected amount as of October 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - 22% to grooming
  - 0% to VAST equipment – Toyota is paid off and keeping it for a few years
  - 2% in VAST building funds – office flooring
  - 14% Emergency Fund
  - 15% Insurance AARROG
  - 9.5% Disaster Relief
  - 9% Special Projects
  - 22% Fuel Emergency / Club Equipment
  - 6.45% Snow Trails Conservancy – BOD prior vote for \$2/TMA

**Orleans County moved and Rutland County seconded to move forward to approve the proposed percentages by Cindy Locke for the Reserve Accounts with the change with the one line for fuel emergency account expenditure.**

**Addison County moved and Rutland County seconded to adjourn the meeting, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:57pm**

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Hill  
Secretary

## **Board of Directors Special Vote via Email on September 27, 2022**

Email from Cindy Locke to Jeff Fay, Mark Reaves, Jill Hill, Patty Companik, Addison – Lewis Barnes, Bennington – Carol DeJohn, Caledonia – Bruce Carlson, Chittenden – Pat Poulin, Essex – John Hull, Franklin – Mike Burns, Lamoille – Carmin Lemery, Orange – Juliann Sherman, Orleans – Roger Gosselin, Rutland – Curt Marechaux, Washington – Jeff Haplin, Windham – Michael Garber, Windsor – Doug Jacobs.

Discussion via email on September 27, 2022 to the Board of Directors regarding the dates for the Vermont \$25 weekend. Cindy Locked made a proposal for February 3,4, and 5, 2023. Stating that New Hampshire has not yet set a date for the reciprocal weekend in 2023 and was the first weekend in March 2022. Maine's is in March as well.

**Orleans County: Motion to set the date for the \$25 weekend on February 3,4,5, 2023. Lamoille County seconded.**

- Essex County votes Yes.
- Windsor County votes "yes" to having February 3rd, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> 2023 be the promotional weekend for VAST.
- Bennington County votes Yes.
- Rutland County votes Yes.

### Update via email on September 28, 2022

An updated email from Cindy Locke to the BOD and Officers regarding a proposed revised date for the Vermont \$25 weekend to be January 27, 28 and 29, 2023 due to a scheduling conflict with Fish & Wildlife. **Why not other weekends:** Jan 20, 21, 22 is Presidents Weekend, Feb 3-6 is F&W out of the state, Feb 9-11 is NE Chapter Meeting and Ride and Feb 17-19 and 24-26 are school breaks.

**Chittenden County moves to set the January 27, 28 and 29 as the reduced rate three day TMA. Orange County seconded.**

Orleans County votes Yes.

Lamoille County retracts its original motion for to set the date for the \$25 weekend on February 3,4,5, 2023. Orleans County seconds their retraction.

Cindy replied all to BOD and officers that VAST is keeping all motions and votes and it will be in the BOD packet for Oct. We do not need an official vote really though since we do not need DMV to make any decisions. An official vote isn't needed, but a record will be kept of the discussion.

- Lamoille County votes Yes.
- Caledonia County vote January dates are fine.
- Bennington County votes Yes.
- Franklin County votes Yes for Jan 27, 28 and 29.
- Windham County abstains from voting.