

**VAST Board of Directors Meeting
February 22, 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: Bruce Carlson
Chittenden: Pat Poulin
Essex: Mike Daley
Franklin: Mike Burns
Grand Isle: Damien Henry
Lamoille: Carmin Lemery
Orange: Juliann Sherman
Orleans: Roger Gosselin; Milo Day, Alternate Director
Rutland: Curt Marechaux
Washington: Mark Reaves
Windham: Drew Fraser; Ivor Stevens, Alternate Director
Windsor: Dick Jewett; Doug Jacobs, Alternate Director

STAFF PRESENT:

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

GUESTS: James Sugden, Ron Merrill, Country Riders; Pat Gorman, Canaan Border Riders; Mike Mutascio, Lunenburg P.B.'s; Sean Selby, Drift Dusters; Ed Hebebrand, St. J Sno Blazers; Stan Choiniere, Chester Snow. Club.

President Tim Mills called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM.

Approval of Agenda

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

Cindy Locke – Add an item under New Business
e. Cash to Accrual Accounting

Approval of Secretary's Report

MOTION: Dick Jewett moved and Mark Reaves seconded to approve the Secretary's Report with corrections. **Motion carried.**

Correction – 1st page, Ivor Stevens is the Alternate Director for Windham County, not Windsor.

Approval of Treasurer's Report

Patty Companik gave an overview of the financials for the period ended January 21, 2021.

MOTION: Curt Marechaux moved to approve; Dick Jewett seconded the approval of the Treasurer's Report as submitted: **Motion carried.**

New Business

Free Weekend Discussion

- Cindy Locke – This was a good weekend.
- Snow pretty much everywhere in Vermont; lots of riders.
- Mike Burns – Derby / Island Pond area – Need to get information out there for this weekend event that they need a current registration and insurance; met some on the trail that had neither.
- Possibly change the name so it doesn't sound like "all" free.
- There are people that still think this event is still the Reciprocal Weekend.
- Cindy Locke – We advertise what folks need to ride in Vermont on this weekend on the website, the magazine and on social media.

TMA Program Update

- Cindy Locke gave an update on the number of TMAs sold thus far; 23,415, includes transfers.

Troy Bridge

- Cindy Locke – still waiting for police report
- Being investigated by the State Police / Arson Division
- We had a meeting with our attorney, insurance person, LRPC

- The person has insurance
- Town would like us to promote/help with a fundraiser
- Go Fund me page would be a good way for them to get monies; snowmobilers across the country have heard about the loss of the historic bridge.

Map Sharing

- Cindy Locke – We met with Polaris and viewed their mapping and viewed the BRP mapping also
- Polaris was not up to date as the BRP map
- We have decided to give them our base layer map for safety reasons
- Polaris Ride Command is not nearly as comprehensive as ours
- Polaris will only turn them on from Dec. 16 through April 15
- Every time we do an update, we will send it to them
- I have talked to them briefly about possible compensation; i.e., a sled to raffle, more advertising in our magazine, etc.

Cash to Accrual Accounting

- Cindy Locke – There is still a lot more that has to be done before the end of the year for this new system.
- It is conflicting with the time of the audit
- Cash to accrual will resume in August 2021

MOTION: Pat Poulin moved to approve that the Accrual system will stay in place until August 2021; Curt Marechaux seconded. **Motion carried.**

Staff Reports (ED, Trail Administrator, LVRT Manager)

Committee and Other Meeting Reports

Northeast Chapter and USA

- Pat Poulin – USA did meet recently
- The Ride Command had a special meeting with Polaris; I think people are much more comfortable now than initially.
- No one has heard from BRP.

Congress

- Pat Poulin – No one from VAST is planning to go
- IASA will plan to go
- Nebraska was looking for some financial assistance

Law Enforcement Committee

- Cindy Locke - They are out; different types of patrols, going out at night
- Committee has started to think about different ways to make this program better and grow it
- We are ordering some cameras for clubs to post in problem areas
- Ken Brown – Would welcome some ideas on what to use for trail cameras
- Roger Gosselin – I would like to see some trail counters/cameras in the Derby/Holland/Morgan area. Cindy, I will get these to you
- Cindy Locke – We have had cameras in Caledonia County for 4+ years, so we have good data
- Mike Daley – Would like some in Essex area also
- Curt Marechaux – Corridor 7 also (Ken put one up in Mt. Holly on 7).
- Check with landowners when we put the cameras up
- Southern VT Task Force has a very good program for monitoring corners

Awards and Nominating Committee

- March 1st – Scholarship applications are due
- May 1st – Awards and Nominations are due
- Reaching out to all counties to get volunteer photos for the magazine

Annual Meeting

- Jeff Fay – We put a deposit down on Farr's Field for Sept. 11.
- Working on food ideas, etc.

Long Range Planning & Organization Committee

- Mark Reaves – We are working on the ice crossings; meeting Wed. night at 5PM
- Looking at the insurance issue

Resource Committee

- Ivor Stevens – We are working our way through different counties; it's going well.
- Compiling info at this point
- Looking for a resolution for next season for the grooming situation?

Trails Committee

- Jeff Fay – We will be meeting next month.

Safety Committee

- Stan Choiniere – The last couple of months the meetings have been lightly attended.
- Roger Gosselin does have the first helicopter zone sign done
- Roger Gosselin – The Drift Duster's bought two signs for zone 1 in Norton.
- How are we going to advertise to clubs about this?
- Cindy Locke – We have special funding available to help the clubs purchase landing zone signs.
- Tim Mills – Once this is up and running with signs up, I think we should do a story in the VAST magazine, the Traveler's Guidebook, maybe a VAST blast

Governor's Council

- Pat Poulin – No one likes the online safety classes, but 1,500 so far this year
- Last year total 1,300 on-line.
- S.86 – DMV bill that has the new exhaust bill in it.
(get wording from Cindy).
- Jim Sugden - Noise level?

Patty Companik – DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT SUBMISSION of the magazine is March 12th, mails April 19th.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Hill
Secretary