

**VAST BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING**  
**December 27, 2004**

**DIRECTORS, ALTERNATES & STAFF PRESENT:** Lisa Viau-Addison; Norm Roark-Bennington; Ken Gammell-Caledonia, Jim Hill-Chittenden; Dave Page -Essex; John Ross-Franklin; Bill Oakes-Grand Isle; ~~Brian Wells-Lamoille~~; Larry Trottier-Orange; ~~Brian Cook-Orleans~~; Barry Bradley-Rutland; Scott Stone-Washington; Roone Gibbs-Windham; Bruce Murray-Windsor; Ann Shangraw-President; Pat Poulin-Vice-President; David LaBelle-Treasurer; Bryant Watson-Executive Director, Alexis Nowalk-SSTP Trails Administrator; Bonnie Holbrook-Recording Secretary  
**GUESTS:** Mitzi Oakes, Betty Roark, Conrad Stewart, Bill Benham, Howard Smith, John Lynds, Ransom Baker, Sue Trottier, Greg Rouleau

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 pm by President Ann Shangraw.

**AGENDA:** **Jim Hill moved and Norm Roark seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.**

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** **Barry Bradley moved and Larry Trottier seconded to approve the minutes of November 22, 2004 Motion carried.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** **Jim Hill moved and Roone Gibbs seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried.**

**CONSENT CALENDAR-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT and TRAIL ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:** **Dave LaBelle moved and Barry Bradley seconded to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. The motion carried.** Alexis Nowalk reported that we've hired a temporary assistant to help GPS the trails.

**COUNTY DIRECTORS REPORTS:** **Grand Isle** reported that they are pretty much up to snuff. They had some problems with one of the farmer's but they have been resolved. The County has permission to run the trail on the Fish & Wildlife land that butts her land. **Caledonia County** is in pretty good shape. They got paid for the piston bully they sold. Ken Gammell reported that buying their Piston Bully at the end of their lease and then selling it worked well for them. They even made money on the deal. Lyndonville and Burke area have each purchased a groomer and a drag. None of their trails are open yet due to a lot of mud and rain. **Rutland County** is waiting for snow. **Windsor County** has an on-going problem in Bridgewater with a former snowmobiler. The trail will continue but there have been a lot of problems and reroutes. **Washington County** is transferring ownership of the sleds to the sheriff's department. **Addison County** has a trail closure due to four-wheelers in New Haven having ruttled up some land. Alexis Nowalk and Conrad Stewart met with a landowner and got permission to access a 20-foot right-of-way to a bridge in the Route 7 area. **Franklin County** does not have any issues. They rode a couple of days last week before the rain. Then they got another 8 inches of snow yesterday. **Orange County** is in good shape. They have a new west side trails coordinator from Bethel, Tim Mills. **Chittenden County** has a groomer that says he will not be grooming. The County will have a meeting tomorrow night to address grooming coverage of in that area. **Windham County** north end has snow although not much though. They need more signs to be put up as soon as they get enough snow. Bennington County has people riding on the roads. They are ready to go as soon as they get snow. **Orleans County** reported that a motel is advertising that trails are open and being groomed but in reality, they are not out grooming. Troy and Jay have some trails groomed.

**IRIQUOIS SNO-BEAVERS – TRIAL DRAG – PAT POULIN:** Pat Poulin has met with the club. At this point, we can arrange to pick the groomer up. The groomer operator does not have any use for it as he said that he is not going to groom this year and the club said they do not have a use for it. The County is still working on the issue.

**LEGISLATIVE SNOWMOBILE RIDE:** Some of the responses that we have received so far are from new representatives.

**LEGISLATIVE BANQUET:** The banquet will be from 6-8. We will be hosting a coffee in the Card Room in the morning. There is a new video that is being produced for the banquet and will be available for clubs use after the banquet.

**START DATE FOR THE SEASON:** Bryant Watson has been contacted by the legislative council and they have requested a specific date for opening trails. **Norm Roark moved and Pat Poulin seconded that the start date to be December 15. Motion carried.**

**WHAT'S A PAC:** Chittenden County is strongly against forming a PAC. We will revisit this at a later date.

**MARCH OF DIMES:** Bryant Watson and Ann Shangraw met with Lucy Ford, President of NHSA and a representative of March of Dimes. They asked VAST to joining them in fundraising for the March of Dimes. NHSA does a ride every year and this year it is being held in Lancaster. Ann and Bryant told them that we have our special charities but they would pass the information about their ride on to our members.

Ann Shangraw has spoken with a gentleman that does a charity ride for homeless children in Vermont. He lives in New York but he does his charity ride in Vermont and raises the money for homeless children in his area.

**ANNUAL MEETING WORK SHOPS:** Ann Shangraw has received an email from a gentleman that was interesting in teaching a GPS course or participating in one. Some counties were very interested in some of the workshops and other counties were not very interested.

**PAL:** Please get your list of email contacts in to Ann Shangraw if you haven't already.

**BOARD MEETING:** January's Board meeting will be Saturday night, January 22 at the Seyon Ranch in Groton. We will have breakfast, ride for the day and return for dinner about 5 and then hold the Board meeting at about 6 pm after dinner.

**GOVERNOR'S SNOWMOBILE COUNCIL:** Minutes were included in the Board packet for the Board's information.

**ACSA WILDERNESS SUMMIT – DECEMBER 11, 2004, PORTLAND, OREGON:** The committee will not look at a bill for new wilderness if even one member of the legislature votes does not support it.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**2006 ISC Committee:** Bonnie Holbrook and Bryant Watson are working on a timeline for the committee.

**Trails Committee** had a Christmas party and they fed them first. Nothing drastic to report but they are working on a policy for parking lots.

**3-day TMA Pass:** The committee has investigated the request for a 3-day pass. Maine is the only state that offers a 3-day pass. Quebec offers a 1-day pass and a 7-day pass. After reviewing the costs involved and other factors, the committee has decided that it is not in the best interest of VAST to instigate a 3-day pass. The committee has decided that it would be a good idea to publish a list of persons that sell TMAs. All directors are asked to send a list of persons and/or businesses that sell TMAs. We need the name of the person or business, hours of operation, phone number and exact address to Lisa Viau.

**TRAIL LIABILITY INSURANCE:** Bryant Watson distributed copies of the certificate of liability insurance for clubs to the Directors to distribute. Clubs that are having events need to notify the office 30 days in the advance.

Caledonia County will provide refreshments for the February Board meeting. The next Director's Meeting is January 22, 2004 at 6:00 PM at the Seyon Ranch. **Lisa Viau moved and Bruce Murray seconded to adjourn at 8:10 PM. Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Bonnie Holbrook  
Recording Secretary