

Governor's Snowmobile Council
December 1, 2021
Draft Minutes

Present:

Pat Poulin, Chairman
Trevor Carbo, Vermont State Police
Jenna Reed, Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department
Cindy Locke, VAST Executive Director
Gary Nolan, VAST Law Enforcement Committee
Star Poulin, Governor Appointee
Brian Smith, Vermont State Representative
Paul Doucette, Southern Vermont Wilderness Search and Rescue
Dick Jewett, Governor Appointee

VAST Staff Present:

Ken Brown, VAST Trails Manager
Matt Tetreault, VAST Trails Administrator

Guests:

Stan Choiniere, VAST Safety Committee Chairman
Mike Mustachio (in for Ken Gammell)

The meeting was convened at 3:06 PM via Zoom.

Approval of Minutes

Motion:

Gary moved that the minutes of the November 2021 be approved as circulated, motion seconded by Paul. **Motion carried.**

SSTP Financial Report

Mat to email out. Have one invoice from October.

Motion:

Star moved that the SSTP report be accepted, motion seconded by Brian. **Motion carried.**

Agency Reports

Vermont State Police

They had a training today. No safety class totals. But we have had a slight increase of online classes over last year.

Fish & Wildlife

Jenna reported that they have been working on a refresher training that will be on Saturday in Franklin County at 9:30am at the VS barracks in St. Albans.

Sheriff's Association

Not present.

Southern Vermont Wilderness Search & Rescue

Scheduling preseason training. Had 15" of snow in Woodford and some sleds were out before the season has opened. Questions arose about riding on Federal lands prior to our states open date of Dec 15. Matt said he would look into it, but he was fairly certain they were not open. He will follow up. Paul mentioned that ATVs are not allowed on federal lands once the Vermont ATV season is not active.

Department of Motor Vehicles

Not present.

Forest, Parks & Recreation

Not present.

VAST

TMA Report

As of today, we have sold 6,945 TMAs.

Law Enforcement Committee

Gary reported that contracts have all been sent with the exception of F&W. Rutland County Sheriff will not be contracting this winter due to lack of available staff.

Mike asked if snowmobilers had to stop at safety check points. Both Cindy and Trevor Carbo said yes. It is similar to any DMV auto safety check.

VAST Safety Committee

Stan said that safety signs are being developed for clubs if they want to put them out.

Safety videos are still being discussed

Dispatch notification info has been given out to all VAST BOD members to share with their counties.

SSTP Trail Report

Some areas have had some snow. This has kicked things into gear. The office has gotten busier. Grooming can begin on Dec 13 if there is adequate snow.

Legislative Report

Nothing to report. Brian is anxious to help VAST in any way he can. Cindy to put him in touch with our lobbyist Frank Stanley.

Appointee Reports

Northwest

Star Poulin reported that most of the signs are done. Snowed again today. Some trail clean-up was needed for downed trees and limbs.

Northeast

Mike Mustachio did not report. Was on call.

South

Dick said, basically it's the same as Star's report

Motion:

Star moved to close the meeting at 3:59pm; motion seconded by Pat. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Locke