

VASA Board of Director Minutes
October 13, 2025
VASA HQ

Doug Stone calls the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

Roll Call

BOD Present: Steve Mosher, Ray Blakeney, Bob Cruickshank, Brian Benoit, Tom Nazzewski, George Barton, Steve Bean, Mike Small, Fred Elliott

BOD Present Online:

Curt Girard, Ken Wetherell, Robbie (& Judy) Perdue, Chris Hill, Russell Stone

E-Board Present: Doug Stone, Bill Huff, Melissa LaBounty, Bartholomew Howes (online)

Staff (Non-voting) present: Jeremy Sneed, Erik Moreau, Gordon Pirie (online), Ethan Hill (online)

Secretary's Report:

Are there any additions or corrections to the secretaries report?

-motion is made to approve the report by George Barton, seconded by Fred Elliott, approved by all, none opposed, motion carries

Treasurer's Report:

-Bill mentions that we are in the 3rd month of the fiscal year which is the time of year where we have more expenses than revenue so the report will reflect that by being in the negative. This is normal for this time of year. We are expecting grant money to be coming in soon. He also mentions that we have an expense for law enforcement of \$1,008.00. The Insurance bill has arrived at \$114,000 and will be reflective in next month's report.

Our auditors are currently in the middle of our current audit. They have presented the E-board with a questionnaire about what the E-board does to prevent fraud. One of the recent things the E-board has started to do is have Jeremy prepare a report to be reviewed which details where all money goes for expenses. One detail that recently stuck out is how Clubs get paid shows up as an expense paid to the name of the treasurer or representative of the club (i.e) Bill Huff, or Melissa LaBounty, etc. We think that this doesn't look good should an auditor review it. The plan for the future is to change how this is set up in VASA's bill pay system within the checking account. This will take a bit to complete the change. It will require all clubs to provide Jeremy with their routing number & account number for future TAD deposits.

Doug mentions that the current audit is being done with our new audit company and they are much more thorough & detailed.

Jeremy is looking into potentially changing from a fiscal year to a calendar year which will make things a little easier.

-A motion to accept the report by Tom Nazzewski, seconded by Steve Mosher, approved by all, none opposed, motion carries.

Staff Reports:

Office Manager - Erik Moreau:

- **Year to date membership numbers (thru 10/6/25):**
 - 5,325 memberships as of last Monday (we are using a more extensive search counting transactions and identified many more memberships than before), the realistic goal for 2025 may be 5,350.
 - Still roughly 350 memberships short of last year (total of 5705 for 2024)
- **Additional discussion:**
 - Extensive recent meeting with Jason Batchelder and Colonel Justin Stedman from Fish & Wildlife
- **Grant Updates:**
 - Submitting reimbursement of LNAC work from VOREC grant roughly \$26K for LNAC, trailer reimbursement RTP \$14,300 and Wright Farm Road \$49,000
- **Sign Store:**
 - All caught up with orders & all invoices are believe to be out & in the process of being paid
- Bill added some information that we received from the meeting with Fish & Wildlife was that we may have more law enforcement available to us if we are willing to designate Overtime pay so that they can set aside specific times to dedicate time for VASA. The issue they are having is they are going to monitor on behalf of VASA but then if a F&W call comes in they have to leave as that takes precedence in their time. The overtime rate is potentially \$87.00 per hour versus the normal rate is \$72.00 per hour.
 - Fred Elliot comments that if we are going to agree to pay over time, we should have a discussion with wardens that they are going to ticket more, not just give out warnings
 - Motion by Judy Perdue of Central VT ATV Club that VASA pay up to \$100.00 per hour for Overtime pay for Wardens, seconded by Tom Nazzewski, approved by all.
- Questions or comments?

Trails Coordinator - Ethan Hill:

- He first mentions that the TAD sale decline is a norm for all over the US based on info received from a presentation at the NOVAC conference in Oregon.

- **VTMP:** 2 projects were completed in Wheelock which included installing culverts, whole sections of trails update as well as mowing & adding material to the trail surface along with the installation of trail hazard signs & replacing a bridge railing system. The VOREC project that was scheduled for the Wheelock area is being pushed off to next year as there is active logging on it. Started working in Stamford for the National Forest Grant, almost half done with that project. Moved to Central VT ATV club to complete a project

while waiting for more material to be delivered to Stamford. Returning to Stamford tomorrow. They then will move to Jack Pines after that.

- **Equipment:** Freightliner had a fuel leak at the tank straps, fuel tank was replaced & it is back in service. There was a bearing failure in the idler of the skid loader which has been fixed & is back in rotation.
- Gordon & Ethan recently went out to Oregon for a NOVAC conference participating in many activities with a lot of beneficial info & experiences.
- Bill asked if we are still planning the NOVAC Workshop next year. Ethan says yes we are potentially looking to have one in the Fall of 2026 (September / October).

Additional Business:

→ Yankee Sportsman Classic (January 16 thru 18th, 2026)- Jeremy Sneed

- ◆ Anyone able to volunteer? Fred Elliot, Doug Wheeler & Melissa LaBounty offered to volunteer

→ Free Weekend - Doug Stone

- ◆ This was mentioned to the F&W wardens & they said they would back it if we wanted to do it. Do we want to do it?
- ◆ Motion made by Steve Bean to discuss the possibility of a free riding weekend with the State, seconded by Brian Benoit, approved by all.

→ TAD Stickers - Erik Moreau

- ◆ Included in the packet is a breakdown of TAD cost breakdowns with sequential numbers versus the year which include potential colors to be used.
- ◆ The F&W Wardens perspective is that the numbers on the stickers were irrelevant as they are more concerned with the official paperwork part of the TAD along with registration docs & insurance proof
- ◆ Erik & Jeremy are currently involved in the finding of a new CRM program. Potentials are Neon or Wild Apricot.
- ◆ Ethan requested that Erik send him info on what we need in a system to discuss with NOVAC to get info on the system that other States use to process their TAD's
- ◆ Erik added that if we postpone the ordering of stickers to November that we won't be able to do TAD's in December as the time frame to receive them will be too tight as it could take 10 to 12 weeks to receive them.
- ◆ Ethan also adds that he believes there is also a 4 color rotation listed in the policy / by laws (red, blue, yellow & green)
 - George Barton makes a motion to order Red stickers with the year 2026 on them, seconded by Brian Benoit, approved by all

→ Any New or Old Business? – none

A motion was made to adjourn by Steve Mosher, seconded by Steve Bean, meeting was adjourned at 7:29 pm.