

VASA Board of Director Minutes
July 13, 2026
VASA HQ

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

Douglas Stone begins the meeting with everyone standing for the Pledge of Alliance.

Roll Call

BOD Present:

Steve Mosher, Lloyd Maccormack, Bob Cruickshank, Jay Potvin, Mike Smith, George Barton, Mike Small, Fred Elliott, Russell Stone

BOD Present Online:

Kurt Girard, Judy Perdue, Brent Labree, Bartholomew Howes, James Sullivan, Chris Hill, Laura Champagne, William Faford, Chris Putney

E-Board Present: Douglas Stone, Doug Wheeler (online), Tom Nazzewski, Melissa LaBounty, Bartholomew Howes (online)

Staff (Non-voting) present: Dani Luce, Jeremy Sneed, Ethan Hill, Gordon Pirie

Secretary's Report:

Are there any additions or corrections to the secretaries report?

-Steve Mosher made a motion to accept the report, seconded by George Barton approved by all, none opposed, motion carries

Treasurer's Report:

-Tom reviews the 3 pages of statements included, as of June month end we were still in the negative, but for the year end we are in the positive. Dani comments that this was possible because of multiple things: the wonderful response with sponsorship income, the cutting of the spending which included eliminating mileage / food provided at the meeting, etc. She originally thought we would end the year in the negative \$10K.

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

Staff Reports:

Trails Coordinator - Ethan Hill:

VTMP:

-NEKW Sugarhouse VOREC trail is wrapped up. It was a great Project and we were able to add an additional mile of trail on that system because of the logging operation that initially

postponed the project. We are working to repair 2 more sections of trail in the area in collaboration with the snowmobile club while we are in the area.

-Green Mountain ATV is going to be our next stop to open a new section of trail adding roughly $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile of trail.

-Billtown wetland delineation for that VOREC project went well and we are in the wetland project impact phase, we are working with Chase and Chase in Barre for this portion of the project pre- wetlands permit application.

EQUIPMENT:

-This season has been a bit of a battle for the trails crew, battling electrical gremlins on both the yellow track truck (had an oil leak then a fuse issue amongst issues) and dump truck. We seem to have fixed the dump truck (had battery issues which have been resolved) just in time to blow a rear tire.

-Also Christopher from Northeast Kingdom Wheelers helped with some welding on the Dump Truck. Thank you Chris!!

-Everything is functional as of the meeting date

Executive Director - Dani Luce:

-Mike Smith deserves a huge THANK YOU for spending many hours & his own money to help with fixing equipment.

- **Financial Stabilization:**

- We have finalized and executed our "Big Grant" with FPR. There are some harsh new reporting stipulations that go into effect for any grant executed with the state on or after July 1. I am happy to report that we were able to execute our grant early, thus avoiding the new reporting rules until next year, which will give us plenty of time to prepare.
- We are now in the process of closing out our 2026 Big Grant. We are allowed to invoice for one more month (June of 2026) but due to the state's black out period will not be able to receive payment until August. This is normal and happens every year. In addition, we will need to provide an official report which I will prepare, as well as our finalized audit which we are currently working on.
- We have received the Yamaha grant. It is our biggest grant from Yamaha to date. Planning and preparations for the project are underway.

- **Partnerships:**

- Our final amount for partnership sponsors is \$22,500 as of the annual meeting. My goal was \$6000- and thanks to the generosity of many clubs and local businesses, we were able to more than triple that goal. These funds will be used for the annual meeting, professional fees, and the Great Trails Workshop and will go a long way in helping us overcome our budget deficit.
- We are awaiting further instruction on receiving funds for a National Forest Foundation Grant to perform maintenance and repair on the

Sucker Pond Trail. The package has been completed, and NFF is happy but we still have not received final confirmation.

- **Personnel & Efficiency:**

- Each staff member is going above and beyond the normal call of duty to meet goals, overcome inefficiencies and increase productivity.

- **Program Operations:**

- **Membership-** As of the meeting date, we currently have 4110 human members and 4829 TADs sold.
- **Annual Meeting:** TONIGHT is the last night to RSVP & get a meal! Please understand that if you do not RSVP and purchase a meal ticket, you will not have the option to eat at the annual meeting. The venue has extended the date for the final number for meals to July 14th. Please do NOT delay in RSVPing. Please ask your members to attend- the goal is a minimum representation of two people from each club. We can do it! Suggestions welcome! Candidate information is now available on the website including a write up from Bart and a video from George. Please take the time to read/watch the provided material so you can make the best possible choice when voting.
 - Douglas Stone asked if the Billtown Wheelers needed any extra help with the annual meeting? Gordon said no they are set, thank you.
- **The Great Trails workshop** deadline has also been extended. One person from every club should be signing up. It is important that even if you had someone sign up for a previous workshop (which was 7 years ago) that you send someone to this one as there have been updates since the last one held by VASA. The Workshop date is October 10th & 11th (the weekend before the monthly BOD meeting). We are willing to be flexible with the requirement of attendance at October's BOD meeting if necessary.
- **TAD Prices:** I'd like to go into the annual meeting with a solid plan of what we would like to suggest to the membership and I'd like us to agree on that at the July 13 BOD meeting. I think a solid starting point would be to raise TAD prices by \$10 and remove the multi-machine discount. We could safely settle on an increase of \$5 and no multi-machine discount. This is a starting point for the discussion but I would like to be at a unified decision before the end of the July 13th BOD meeting. The Plan is to come to the annual meeting with at least 4 options to choose from. Please come prepared for this.
 - Lots of information was discussed by the BOD as to the pros and cons of raising the TAD's and increasing membership. VASA is currently in a position where they are barely breaking even with rising costs and needs more income to be able to afford more advertising to accomplish more membership.

- **Newsletter:** We are putting the final touches on a newsletter at the time of this report. By the time of the Monday meeting, it should already be posted. It will serve as a last invitation to the annual meeting as well as serve as meeting further deliverables for our sponsors.
- **Law Enforcement-** 4th of July weekend should be a high priority for the wardens- hoping to receive an official report of their activity to share. May was not as productive as they had promised it would be.
- **Donation Program (stickers):** Please make sure to check this out- the decal is very cool!

Old / New Business:

-Douglas Stone reminds that if your club is having any special events to let VASA know so they can help promote it too.

-Steve Mosher asked about parking at the annual meeting. Park at Poulin Lumber & follow the signs to get to the Den,

-how many RSVP's to date? 94 total which includes people that have RSVP'd without a meal.

A motion was made to adjourn by Fred Elliott, seconded by Steve Mosher, meeting was adjourned at 7:11 pm.