

# NOTICE AND AGENDA MEETING

The Rail Trail Council for the Northwest Vermont Rail Trail will be meeting on  
**Monday, March 9, 2026 at 6:00 PM**  
Remote option below, or in person at 75 Fairfield Street, St. Albans

## Information on how to access the remote meeting:

By computer, smartphone, tablet, or other device: Click on the Zoom meeting invite-  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85292685155>

You may be prompted to enter a meeting ID: 852 9268 5155

- Passcode: 687017
- By telephone: Dial +1 646 558 8656. When prompted enter the meeting ID: 852 9268 5155. Regular toll call/cell phone charges may apply.

*All meeting participants will first enter a virtual "waiting room" until the meeting organizer opens the meeting.*

Please review our "Informational Handout for Remote Public Meetings" to understand how these electronic meetings will be managed. If you wish to make a public comment but do not have the ability to comment remotely during the meeting, please email your comment(s) to Amy Adams at [aadams@nrpcvt.com](mailto:aadams@nrpcvt.com)

To ensure smooth access, we recommend that you test your remote meeting software in advance of the meeting. **If you have difficulty accessing the meeting, please email [aadams@nrpcvt.com](mailto:aadams@nrpcvt.com)**

---

## **Agenda:**

1. **Introductions/Potential new members**
2. **Minutes** – January 20, 2026 minutes enclosed
3. **Friends of the Trails** - 2025 season
4. **Green Up Day** – May 2<sup>nd</sup> **Volunteers needed**
5. **Wayfinding Signage Update** – J. Cassino
6. **MVRT Management Plan Draft** – J. Cassino
7. **Updates**
  - **Sheldon Junction Trailhead Study, Swanton Trailhead, Highgate & Other**
  - **Grants & Funding Sources: (check sites for updates/timeframe)**
  - <https://fpr.vermont.gov/recreation/recreation-grants/vorec-community-grant-program>
  - <https://fpr.vermont.gov/recreational-trails-program>
  - **Events**
  - **LVRT/MVRT**
  - **VAST (M. Farmer)**
8. **Other Business**
9. **Next Meeting** – May 18, 2026

**If you cannot attend the meeting, please notify Amy Adams at [aadams@nrpcvt.com](mailto:aadams@nrpcvt.com).**

*In accordance with provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, and Vermont's Open Meeting Law, the NRPC will ensure public meeting sites are accessible to all people or provide an opportunity to request accommodations. Requests for free interpretive or translation services, assistive devices, designation of a physical meeting location, electronic access to a meeting, or other requested accommodations, should be made to Amy Adams, NRPC Title VI Coordinator, at 802- 524-5958 or aadams@nrpcvt.com, no later than 2 business days prior to the meeting for which services are requested.*

## **INFORMATIONAL HANDOUT FOR REMOTE MEETINGS**

### **Remote Public Meetings**

All public body meetings for the Northwest Regional Planning Commission will be conducted remotely via electronic means for the duration of Governor Scott's State of Emergency declaration. Whenever feasible, the public will also be able to access and participate in the remote meetings by dialing in through telephone.

### **Accessing a Meeting**

Please refer to each notice and agenda for information on how to access a remote meeting. Please note that whether you join by telephone, computer, or device, you may be put on hold or in a waiting "room" until granted access to the meeting. You also may be muted or restricted from using any chat function until the public comment portion of the meeting.

### **Participation**

All meetings will be conducted in accordance with the respective "Rules of Procedure" of each public body, to the extent practicable. The public body will follow its agenda and allow public attendees to participate through voice (audio) means where feasible or alternatively using any chat function during the designated public comment periods on the agenda and at other applicable times as needed.

Initially, the meeting's host/organizer will mute all participants that are not members of the public body. This is necessary to control background noise. The host/organizer will then unmute participants or allow participants to unmute themselves when invited to speak by the Chair of the public body.

Please review the following guidelines:

- The Chair will invite comment:
  - during the time designated on the agenda for public comment;
  - after the public body discusses each agenda item;
  - before the public body takes action;
  - during any open public comment period, if applicable; and
  - other times as determined by the public body.
  
- When a participant/attendee is unmuted, they must state their name before commenting.

When the public body adjourns the meeting, the host/organizer will end the electronic meeting by turning off/closing the remote meeting software. Attendees will be automatically disconnected.

Minutes and other public records that were part of the meeting will be made available in accordance with VT's Open Meeting and Public Records Laws.

**To learn more about Remote Public Meetings and the Open Meeting Law, please visit the Secretary of State's Municipal Assistance webpage at <https://sos.vermont.gov/municipal-division/laws-resources/covid-19-response/>.**



# NORTHWEST VERMONT RAIL TRAIL COUNCIL

c/o Northwest Regional Planning Commission  
75 Fairfield Street  
St. Albans, VT 05478  
Phone: 802-524-5958 • Fax: 802-527-2948



## Minutes of Council Meeting held Monday, January 20, 2026

### APPOINTED

**Bakersfield-LVRT**

Vacant

**Berkshire-MVRT**

Angel Larose

**Enosburg Falls-MVRT**

Ellen Stanley

**Enosburg Town-MVRT**

Vacant

**Richford-MVRT**

Vacant

**St. Albans City-MVRT**

Richard Stahl

**St. Albans Town-MVRT**

Robert Bessette

**Fairfield-MVRT/LVRT**

Jane Williams

**Sheldon-MVRT/LVRT**

Bryan Derry

**Swanton-MVRT/LVRT**

Joel Clark

**Bakersfield-LVRT**

Vacant

**Fletcher-LVRT**

Aimee Tinker

**Highgate-LVRT**

Vacant

**VAST**

Mike Farmer

**At Large**

Alisha Sawyer

David Stanley

Randy Chadburn

Diane Leary

**Ex-Officio**

\* VT Agency of

Transportation

\*Northwest Regional  
Planning Commission

\*VT Dept. of Forests,  
Parks, & Recreation

\*Franklin County Industrial  
Development Corporation

**Present/Introduction:** Ellen Stanley, Jane Williams, Richard Stahl, Randy Chadburn, Bryan Derry, Jackie Cassino (VTrans), Dave Stanley, Mike Farmer, Angel Larose and Amy Adams.

Chair Dave Stanley called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Adjustment to the Agenda: None

### Meeting Minutes

R. Stahl moved to accept the minutes of November 17, 2025; seconded by A. Larose. Motion passed.

### Financial Report-

E. Stanley presented the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2025 financial report (Oct-Dec 2025). D. Stanley moved to accept the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter report as presented; seconded by R. Chadburn. Motion passed.

### ANNUAL MEETING

Election of Officers for 2026

R. Stahl nominated D. Stanley for the office of Chair. No other nominations were made.

R. Stahl moved to elect D. Stanley as Chair; seconded by R. Chadburn.

D. Stanley conducted the election of Vice-Chair and Treasurer. D. Stanley nominated R. Stahl for the office of Vice Chair; B. Derry nominated E. Stanley for the office of Treasurer. No other nominations were made for the positions. D. Stanley moved to elect nominees; seconded by R. Chadburn. Motion passed.

D. Stanley was elected as Chair. R. Stahl was elected as Vice Chair. E. Stanley was elected as Treasurer.

Election of members-at-large

D. Stanley nominated a slate of 4 candidates: D. Stanley, R. Chadburn, D. Leary and A. Crossman. There are 4 nominees for 10 member-at-large positions. D. Stanley moved to elect all 4 nominees; seconded by R. Stahl. Motion passed.

**Wayfinding Signage –** J. Cassino reviewed the details for the Wayfinding project sharing the link where Council can provide feedback. J. Cassino reviewed the intersection areas of concern for trail users traveling in high volume roadways. The Council can assess every intersection for safety concerns and give feedback by contacting J. Cassino.

**MVRT Management Plan Draft–** J. Cassino updated the Council she just received a draft from VHB. A. Adams will circulate a copy for the Council to review and add this for a March

agenda item for a more indepth review.

## Updates

- **Sheldon Junction Trailhead** – No updates
- **St. Albans City Trailhead** – A. Adams commented that Chip Sawyer has asked the Council and NRPC provide a letter of support for their application to construct the new trailhead parking area. The City is applying for a Recreational Trails Program grant through VT Forest Parks and Rec. A. Adams will draft a letter and D. Stanley will review and sign as well as NRPC representation.
- **Swanton Trailhead Community Grant (LVRT)** – Joel Clark wanted to pass along that the Swanton trailhead is complete and they are looking to have a formal opening in the Spring!
- **Highgate- LVRT Level 2 Trailhead** – J. Cassino updated that the Highgate Town has a Recreational Trails grant and hope to move forward with some improvements this construction season.
- **Franklin County Trails Alliance VOREC Grant** – No updates
- **LVRT/MVRT** – J. Cassino commented they are working on a plan your trip state page, making it more efficient for visitors.
- **VAST-** M. Farmer updated that the trail opened for 3 days but the snow conditions are limiting the use. A section of trail in the Richford area has now been closed, leaving limited access in the county.

**Other Business** – R. Chadburn addressed his concern from the November meeting regarding the Route 78 crossing in E. Highgate. He said a solution may be signage warning the trail user of a dangerous crossing, leaving it up to the trail user to take action, ie dismount from bike/walk across the intersection.

Walk/Bike Summit – May 8<sup>th</sup> in Bennington.

A. Adams is concerned about the brochure holders at the trail kiosks, they are not weatherproof and the brochures end up getting wet. Asked the Council to consider a new system for the upcoming season.

**NEXT MEETING-** March 9, 2026

## ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:12 pm.

Minutes Approved: \_\_\_\_\_