



NORTHWEST VERMONT RAIL TRAIL COUNCIL

c/o Northwest Regional Planning Commission
75 Fairfield Street
St. Albans, VT 05478
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APPOINTED

Berkshire-MVRT
Angel Larose
Enosburg Falls-MVRT
Ellen Stanley
Enosburgh 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
Vacant

Swanton-MVRT/LVRT
Joel Clark

Bakersfield-LVRT
Vacant

Fletcher-LVRT
Aimee Tinker

Highgate-LVRT
Vacant

VAST
Mark Bushey

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

Minutes of Council Meeting held Monday, September 15, 2025

Present/Introduction: Dave Stanley, Mark Bushey, Ellen Stanley, Jane Williams, Angel Larose, Richard Stahl, Joel Clark, Diane Leary, Andy Crossman, Bill Gray (VTrans), Jackie Cassino (VTrans), Matt Walker, Amy Adams, Don McFeeters and Bryan Derry (Sheldon Historic Society).

Chair Dave Stanley called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Adjustment to the Agenda: None

Meeting Minutes

R. Stahl moved to accept the minutes of May 12, 2025; seconded by M. Bushey. Motion passed.

Financial Report-

E. Stanley presented the 2nd quarter 2025 financial report (Apr-Jun 2025). R. Stahl moved to accept the 2nd quarter report as presented; seconded by D. Stanley. Motion passed.

Potential RT Donations— A. Adams updated the Council on an individual who was looking to make a donation specifically to the LVRT for a certain section outside the NW region. The Council agreed that it would be best to stay within our region when accepting donations in order to maintain items that are along the NW trails.

Updates

- **Sheldon Junction Trailhead –** J. Cassino updated that the next steps are Design and Engineering, planned for this fall. Chris Hunt will be managing the project with the Council as Stakeholders.
- **St. Albans City Trailhead –** J. Cassino updated on the progress as the City is managing the project. Vtrans will be meeting with the City to discuss designs for the project, planned for next construction season.
- **Swanton Trailhead Community Grant (LVRT) –** J. Clark said the project is going well. The Wayfinding is about 75% done, Kiosks about 60% done and the metal roof is going on the pavilion and the port-o-let is being installed. Early October they will be planning a ribbon cutting.
- **Highgate- LVRT Level 2 Trailhead –** no update
- **Franklin County Trails Alliance VOREC Grant –** A. Crossman stated the group received a \$4k grant from Kelly Brush Foundation/ Vermont Adaptive to convert 3 miles of St Albans Town Forest Trails to adaptive ready. On September 27th they will be hosting the Franklin Forty Gravel Ride, catered by Phoenix House and highlighting the

Choiniere Farm in Highgate.

- **LVRT/MVRT** – B. Gray, resurfacing is well underway, SD Ireland is making progress, currently in Enosburg Falls. Pace will increase in opening up sections, there has been some unforeseen issues in Berkshire/Richford along one of the side banks, which needs to be reinforced. J. Cassino updated that there are 2 trail counters in the north that have been installed. D. Stanley commented that the bridge in Berkshire needs some maintenance, some nails have surfaced on the east side down the centerline and Dave also asked about a solution for poison ivy in Berkshire, J. Cassino suggested we take inventory of these areas and find a solution for next season. J. Cassino has been working on assessing areas/intersections for the Wayfinding Scoping Study, hoping to have this wrapped up by late fall or early winter.
- **VAST**- M. Bushey said the Club has been working on getting landowner permission and they have been working on getting bridges inspected. B. Gray asked to be notified when the Clubs get ready to put up the signs for the season.

Other Business – Don McFeeters and Bryan Derry from the Sheldon Historic Society were present to share their interest in the Sheldon Junction project as well as looking for support and input on a possible project at the Historic Society location in Sheldon. They may have a benefactor to supply funding for a project to support riders and trail users. J. Cassino and B. Gray will meet on September 29th to discuss options and review potential plan ideas, as well as share the process since it would be on state owned property.

NEXT MEETING- November 17, 2025

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Minutes Approved: _____ November 17, 2025

