

# VHSA Meeting Agenda - Draft

## ***VHSA Board Meeting***

***October 7, 2020 Wednesday 9:00 – 10:00 am***

***Present:*** *Aleigh Jerome <Aleigh.jerome@dot.gov>; Baraw, James <James.Baraw@vermont.gov>; Bradley, Sidney <sidney.bradley@vermont.gov>; Burgess, Brian <brianlb51@gmail.com>; Busch, Stephanie <Stephanie.Busch@vermont.gov>; Conway, Christopher <Christopher.Conway@vermont.gov>; Dupigny-Giroux Mario <Mario.Dupigny-Giroux@vermont.gov>; Fortin, Allen <Allen.Fortin@vermont.gov>; Jenkins, Bill <Bill.Jenkins@partner.vermont.gov>; Jim Lockridge <jim@yscvt.org>; John Flannigan <john@flannigansafety.com>; Laflamme, Allison <Allison.Laflamme@vermont.gov>; Norma Griffiths from DOT Rail <Norma.Griffiths@dot.gov>; Pat Murray <pat.murray@vermont.gov>; Richard Wobby <rjw@agcvt.org>; White, Mandy <Mandy.White@vermont.gov>; White, Paul <Paul.White@vermont.gov>; Daniel Goodman <goodman.daniel@nne.aaa.com>; Gammell, Ann <Ann.Gammell@vermont.gov>; Geno, Kevin <Kevin.Geno@vermont.gov>; Karen Yacos <karen@localmotion.org>; Masson Doug <douglasmasson@myfairpoint.net>; Merkel, George <George.Merkel@vermont.gov>; Ted Minall (tedbb@aol.com); Thomas, Tara L <Tara.L.Thomas@vermont.gov>; Thompson, Roger (FHWA) <Roger.Thompson@dot.gov>; William Bohnyak, wbohnyak@orangecountysheriff.com minallted@gmail.com; Noyes, Rachel <Rachel.Noyes@vermont.gov>*

**William Bohnyak – Chair**

**Vacancy – Vice Chair**

**Barbara Brody – Secretary**

**Al Fortin – Interim Treasurer**

**Notes: Evelyn McFarlane**

### **Action Items:**

**Please consider nominating new highway safety advocates to join the board. Currently we have 10 members. Bylaws below for guidance:**

Section 1: The business, affairs and property of the Alliance shall be managed by a Board of Directors of no fewer than eight (8), nor more than fifteen (15). The number of Directors may be increased or decreased by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. No such resolution may impair the rights of a sitting Board member. Six of the Board of Director positions shall be considered "Core" positions and shall be reserved for one representative from each of the following six State Agencies and/or Units as determined by the Board and those entities:

Transportation Highway Division: Ann Gammell

Department of Public Safety: Lt. Tara Thomas

Department of Health: Dan Batsie

State Highway Safety Office: Allison Laflamme

Department of Motor Vehicles:

Vermont Driver Safety Education: Barb Brody

**Please consider nominations for each of the leadership positions below:**

Section 4: The **Chair** shall preside at all Alliance meetings. The Chair, in consultation with the Board of Directors shall:

- Authorize task force group leaders and subcommittees as needed to carry out the activities of the Alliance
- Supervise the activities of the membership
- Prepare descriptions for all officer positions
- Ensure Alliance Bylaws are complete and updated.
- Perform the duties inherent in the office of Chair subject to the direction of the Board

Section 5: The **Vice Chair** shall act for the Chair and preside at meetings in the absence of the Chair. The Vice Chair shall perform the duties inherent in the office of Vice Chair subject to the direction of the Board.

Section 6: The **Secretary**, or designee, subject to the approval of the officers, shall:

- Keep minutes of all meetings.
- Ensure all required notices are sent, including agendas
- Ensure that the Alliance website is up to date with minutes, agendas and related documentation of the Alliance Board and Focus Groups.
- Perform the duties inherent in the office of the Secretary subject to the direction of the Chair or the Alliance.

Section 7: The **Treasurer**, or designee subject to the approval of the officers, shall:

- See to the custody of all funds, securities, books of account and financial records of the Alliance. Provide for receiving monies.
- See to the deposit of these moneys in such banks, trust companies, and other depositories as shall be selected by the officers.
- See to such payments and other financial obligations of the Alliance as may be determined necessary, convenient or proper to be made on behalf of the Alliance,
- Exhibit the books of the Alliance at all reasonable times to any member of the Alliance.
- Make regular written reports to the Chair and officers at each scheduled meeting.
- Perform the duties inherent in the office of the Treasurer subject to the direction of the Chair or the Alliance.

## **9:00 Welcome/Chair Updates William Bohnyak**

- Vote to accept VHSA Board minutes for August 2020  
Motion to approve: Al Fortin  
Second: Dan Goodman  
Unanimous: Motion to accept August meetings passed.

Discussion of election for a new executive board. All positions are open. The board should also work to recruit more members on the board. The SHSO Highway Safety grant has a *notice to*

*proceed.* Activity will begin when grant executed. Financials are in the hands of the CPA for 2019, and the deadline to file is Nov15th 2020. Tax Documents will be posted on the Website.

**9:10 VHSA Coordinator Updates:** Evelyn McFarlane

Discussion of amounts for each line item in the SHSO NHTS grant

- Executive Director VHSA - \$42,518.00
- Champlain Valley Fair - \$7,500.00
- Tabling at Public Events and Conferences - \$2,000.00
- Facebook Media Buys - \$3,000.00
- Lake Monsters - \$3,000.00
- VHSA Conference Venue Contract - \$5,000.00

Shout out to the Chittenden SHARP group for CPS event in Shelburne.

Call for people in the VHSA to help with pushing out CPS information. Information Cards have been printed for distribution to elementary schools. Send an email to Evelyn or Sid if you can help this effort.

SHSP Evaluation Workshop on Oct 20 and 22. Please Accept or Decline if you received a calendar invite. Roger notes that the workshop is not the full evaluation, but a pre assessment before the official update starts Jan. 1, 2021

Review of NHTSA calendar (see attachment)

Social media resource: Ford Foundation hosting the “Daily Drive” for highway safety on social media. Great for teens. <https://www.facebook.com/FordDrivingSkillsForLife/>

NHTSA Website – Pedestrian and Cyclist Dashboards.

<https://cdan.dot.gov/DataVisualization/DataVisualization.htm>

Crash Data – Mandy. There have been a few interviews with Mandy and Law Enforcement on the problem of rising numbers of fatalities. Unfortunately, there is no one explanation for the rise in fatalities. Discussion on speed.

**9:20 Treasurer Report:** Lt. Al Fortin

Current Balance: \$3485.89

Expenses projected for 2021 – \$900 and \$1500 for CPA and Insurance

Still holding \$24,591, for the NETSC

\$500 of current balance is restricted donation for #802phonesdown!heads up! contest from the Youth Safety Council

**9:25 Partner Updates:** VHSA Members

**Richard Wobby**, Associated General Contractors: Presented the 3 -D Platform from Event Farm. Creation of a Virtual Campus for training, conferences, and classes. The platform allows them to

connect with members, and is especially good for the newer, younger crowd. Partners note that the platform may be available for use.

For more information contact Richard: [rjw@agcvt.org](mailto:rjw@agcvt.org) (802) 223-2374

<https://www.eventfarm.com/>

**DEC Program update:** John Flannigan, Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council, Vermont Drug Evaluation & Classification Program, State Coordinator

### **VT DECP Summary**

1. We currently have 53 DREs statewide. We were fortunate to get a class and field certifications done in Jan / Feb before the pandemic hit. This added 11 new DREs to the field across the state.
2. With COVID-19, we thought our calls may decrease, but we had a slight slowdown in March-April and since May calls have been up. The VT DEC program has logged approximately 330 enforcement evaluations to date, that is about 14% higher than this time last year.
3. We've had 215 DRE Alerts that requested a response for a DRE. 85% of those requests a DRE was available to respond to.
4. Re-certification training was cancelled in June, but we have provided webinar options and we currently are planning a December virtual recertification training class.
5. We continue to see Cannabis, Narcotic Analgesic and CNS Depressant drugs as our top three drug categories that are confirmed in toxicology. However, we are seeing substantial increases in the CNS Stimulant category, especially in Cocaine and Methamphetamine.
6. 25% of the DREs done are cases that involved a crash.
7. We are tentatively planning our next DRE school in the Spring of 2021.
8. ARIDE – There were some earlier classes cancelled this year, but we have just had a few classes done lately, including an ARIDE refresher class being offered today at Colchester PD, that was filled to capacity. We will continue to offer these in person classes with protective measures regionally into 2021.
9. We are sending (2) DREs to DRE Instructor training in January to the Maine Police Academy.
10. We are replacing approximately 35 aging android tablets to the field for DREs to do their DIE electronically. Thanks to the HSO for making that possible.
11. Finally, it appears that S.54 went into law without the governor's signature at midnight. Sadly, this contains no provision for roadside drug testing and really doesn't do much to improve highway safety.

**SHSO Update:** Allison Laflamme, Administrator, State Highway Safety Office (see attached PP for more details)

Compliments to NHSTA for help and understanding of challenges due to COVID  
Vt. HSP submitted July 2020 and approved in August. Advanced notices to proceed have gone out for FY2021 grants. Noted that VT has been lucky (diligent) about COVID, so the State has been able to continue and implement important initiatives. There is a new project for distracted driving signage. The LEL's will work with schools for getting the signs distributed and installed. Impaired driving summit planned for the spring. Another new two year project, Shift Vermont, is planned for advertising with positive messaging. Highway Safety Award nominations are being solicited. These are due October 16<sup>th</sup>. Please submit a nomination and contact [rachel.noyes@vermont.gov](mailto:rachel.noyes@vermont.gov) for more information. The SHSO was a part of 9 bill reviews.

**Dan Goodman**, AAA New England, DD Campaign News Coverage

Monday there was a virtual press conference, Lt. Thomas, Bill Jenkins, and Sharon Huntley (Victim advocate) participated. 3 news channels participated and ran a story of the news. Virtual press conferences seem to be the new norm and work well. Thank you from Dan to those who attended and participated, and thank you to those who contacted the Governor's office re: the marijuana legislation.

<https://www.wcax.com/2020/10/05/study-40-of-those-surveyed-text-behind-the-wheel/>

<https://www.mynbc5.com/article/distracted-driving-awareness-month-kicks-off-as-vermont-sees-increase-in-road-deaths/34276054>

<https://www.mychamplainvalley.com/news/distracted-driving-partly-to-blame-for-rise-in-fatal-crashes/>

Roger Thompson, FHWA reported on the continuing resolution for the next few months.

Ted Minall, NHTSA, reported on the initiative of "Hearts Behind the Badge". Recognition of LEO's who do community outreach. Looking for positive stories. Ask for it to be included on VHSA Website. CIOT will be from Nov 9 to 29 for the holiday season. <https://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/get-materials/law-enforcement-appreciation/hearts-behind-badge>

Norma Griffiths RA: October 6 was the kick-off event for new emergency notification video for public and EMS personnel. Video is on Website for train crew extrication. Working on award for suicide grant. Another round of Grants for LE agencies as been distributed. Rail Safety week was last week of September. Used social media to promote the week. <https://oli.org/>

Karen Yacos, Executive Director Local Motion:

Presentation for Law Enforcement Officers Workshop. There is a recording of the workshop on the Local Motion Website. Pass with care posters produced and ready to share. Social media and print posters available for free. Contact [karen@localmotion.org](mailto:karen@localmotion.org) or See Website for details <https://www.localmotion.org>

### **Additional Partner Updates**

**The Red Ribbon Ceremony (virtual event) is scheduled for Tuesday December 1, 2020 at 4:30.**

**10:35 Adjourn**

**NHTSA:**

**National Teen Driver Safety Week  
October 18-24, 2020**

This week - and every week, parents should have conversations with their teens about the important rules they need to follow to stay safe behind the wheel of a motor vehicle.



These rules address the greatest dangers for teen drivers:

- distracted driving (texting while driving)
- impaired driving (alcohol and drugs)
- inconsistent or no seat belt use
- number of passengers
- speeding

Even if you think they aren't listening, they are. So, remember, **set the rules before they hit the road.**

» Click [here](#) and get your campaign materials now.

On behalf of the NHTSA team, thanks for your proactive support in teen driver safety.



**National Pedestrian Safety Month: NHTSA shared a new toolkit on 9/29/2020**

<https://cdan.dot.gov/DataVisualization/DataVisualization.htm#>

**GHSA**

**Governors Highway Safety Association**

**Virtual Workshop on SHSOs and Employer Safety:** GHSA Associate Member, The Network of Employers for Traffic Safety (NETS,) is hosting a free, virtual workshop for SHSOs on October 19 from Noon-2:30 p.m. ET, highlighting the value and importance of working with employers to educate their workforce about safe driving behaviors both on and off the job. Representatives from SHSOs in Kansas, Maine and North Dakota will discuss how they're using the [NETS SHSO Employer Outreach Portal](#) to effectively engage with employers. The session will also include a portal demonstration along with an interactive discussion with company representatives. Register [here](#).

**CDC Resources:** The Centers for Disease Control have released new resources of interest to the highway safety community:

- [Preparing the Public Health Community for Autonomous Vehicles: A Resource Guide](#)
- In coordination with Child Passenger Safety Week 2020, [state-based fact sheets](#) on restraint use
- New [state-based fact sheets](#) that provide a snapshot of alcohol-impaired driving deaths