

# VHSA Board Meeting minutes

**December 4, 2019 Wednesday 9:00 – 11:00 am**  
**Dill BLDG Unit A, 2178 Airport Road**  
**Berlin, VT**

**Present: Chair - Sheriff William Bohnyak, Vice Chair - Mitchell Jay, Treasurer – Col. William Elovirta, Secretary - Barbara Brody, Dan Goodman, Karen Yacos, Lt. Tara Thomas, Lt. Kevin Geno, Joshua Schultz, Roger Thompson, Ted Minall, Mandy White, Paul White, Bill Jenkins, Jim Lockridge, Abby Beerman, Megan Rigoni, Keith Kane, Michael Allen, Michael LaCroix, Lt. Al Fortin, John Lynch, Evelyn McFarlane**

**Notes: Barbara Brody**

**Welcome/Chair Updates William Bohnyak**

William: Welcome and introductions

Thank you to the VDTSEA and Vermont Sheriff's Association for donations to the VHSA

**Vote to approve the October 2019 Meeting notes**

Motion from Kevin, Mitchell Jay seconded. Motion passed

**Red Ribbon Ceremony:**

50-60 people attended in the Cedar Creek Room at the Statehouse. Very powerful ceremony.

**Discussion of By-Laws: revisions, additions, omissions**

Evelyn: By-laws are on website for review. Please review and if there are changes to be made, board will discuss and vote at the Feb. meeting.

**Partner Updates: VHSA Board Members**

**Jake Elovirta, DMV:** Today, hosting I 95 Coalition workshop. Best practices with focus on heavy towing operations. Average crashes are 3-9 a year. 7 crashes this year on large truck vehicles.

Jake attended and reported on the 2019 Commercial Vehicle Safety Summit, Best practices for Industry & Enforcement Partnerships conference organized by umassSafe.

Marijuana was one of topics of conversation. Conference was very good, and he encouraged others to attend the next one.

**Barbara Brody:** spoke about the VDTSEA conference. Their opening session on “Hang Up and Drive with presenters Steve and Jacy received very high marks and many schools signed up to have them speak at their school. However their fee is higher than what schools can afford(1000.00) a presentation. Barb asked the group for help to find funding sources to help offset their costs.

**Karen Yacos, Local Motion:**

Thank you extended to Barb Brody & VDTSEA for participation in conference. Local Motion looking to connect with more constituents around the state. The 2020 Walk Bike Summit (biennial) is scheduled for Friday May 8<sup>th</sup> in Addison County in conjunction with the Department of Health. The call for proposals is available for this Summit. Tabling available to hand out safety material. It is a large event that is very well attended. When the “save the date” comes out, VHSA will share on social media. Discussion of safety resource materials for driver education teachers.

**Federal Partners Updates**

Roger Thompson: Waiting for Congress to pass spending appropriations/resolutions.

Traffic Incident Management Training or TIMS – Vermont currently leads the nation in percentage of first responders who have received the TIMS Training – Nice Job to Lt. Tara Thomas and Sgt. Owen Ballinger!”

**NHTSA Partner Updates**

Ted Minall: Region one has six regional prosecutors. We do not have a JDL in Vermont. Ted reported on a conference in Concord, NH with prosecutors and judges. Overall there were good results from the conference. First of its type in 8 years. They have proposed to stand up an electronic bulletin board to help with communication between groups.

**SHSO Behavioral Unit Update (NETSC)**

There were no representatives from the BSU. Evelyn gave an update on NETSC. There were approximately 200 attendees, 20 speakers, 18-20 vendors. Overall everyone seemed pleased with the outcome. Please help the committee and fill out evaluation survey. Evelyn will sum up the finances and survey results and present at Feb meeting.

**VHSA Coordinator Updates: Evelyn McFarlane**

SHSO BSU FFY2019 Grant – Close Out summary.  
The grant financials and final report will be posted on the VHSA Website.  
SHSO BSU FFY2020 Grant – Budget Summary of approved amounts

Evelyn looking for a committee of three to help with the hiring process for a media marketing firm to develop a FB campaign.

Strategy is to develop CEA's and develop education material that won't expire, to be able to use it for more than one year.

The Executed grant and budget summary will be posted on the VHSA Website.

**Question: Is there a plan for VHSA conference next year conference?**

Yes, the VHSA plans to have the annual conference in Oct 2020. Funds for it will be requested in the grant application for FFY2020.

**VHSA Part time executive director position: Bill Bohnyak - Discussion and vote**

The VHSA has been offered a chance to submit an amendment for an additional \$50,000 for the FFY2020 grant for an executive director position. Details of the position were distributed to the board via email outlining the scope of work.

The group discussed how to proceed with position. Evelyn will coordinate with future director. The director will report to the Board. It is a contract position not an employee position. Ideally the position would start Jan/Feb. The position contract ends 9/30/2020

Discussion of necessity of a director. Discussion of salary amount. Discussion of direct hire vs a public job search.

**Motion:** Kevin Geno - accept grant funding and begin a job search as a public process to fulfill the executive director position. **Seconded:** Lt. Tara Thomas. **Vote:** Unanimous Yes - motion passed.

Board members interested in being on the committee to move this forward are Barbara Brody, Mitchel Jay and Kevin Geno. Karen Yacos willing to assist as needed.

**Upcoming Events:**

Unilever Ben & Jerry Employee Day – Jan 2, 2020. Outreach to up to 400 employees on highway safety. Attending: Evelyn McFarlane, Abby Beerman, Tanya Wells, Lt. Fortin, & Michael LaCroix.

**Treasurer Report: Bill Bohnyak**

**\$59,743.32 account balance | \$2,100.14 available funds**

**Presentations:**

Megan Rigoni, Megan Rigoni, Pedestrian Safety Coordinator, Vermont Department of Health Watch for Me campaign.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Health Dept website <https://www.healthvermont.gov/emergency-preparedness-ems/injury-prevention/road-user-safety>

- Law Enforcement and Vulnerable Road Users Survey  
<https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/Law%20Enforcement%20and%20Vulnerable%20Road%20Users%20Survey%20Report.pdf>
- Ped Data Brief  
[https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/HSVR\\_Injury\\_Pedestrians\\_2017.pdf](https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/HSVR_Injury_Pedestrians_2017.pdf)
- Bike Data Brief  
[https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/HSVR\\_Injury\\_Bicyclists\\_2017.pdf](https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/HSVR_Injury_Bicyclists_2017.pdf)

Watch For Me VT website <https://safestreets.vermont.gov/WatchForMe>

- All posters (2 sizes) [https://safestreets.vermont.gov/sites/safestreets/files/documents/Watch-for-Me\\_VDH-Posters.pdf](https://safestreets.vermont.gov/sites/safestreets/files/documents/Watch-for-Me_VDH-Posters.pdf)
- Tip Sheet [https://safestreets.vermont.gov/sites/safestreets/files/documents/Watch-for-Me\\_Tip%20Sheets.pdf](https://safestreets.vermont.gov/sites/safestreets/files/documents/Watch-for-Me_Tip%20Sheets.pdf)

Michael LaCroix, Project Manager, Vermont Agency of Transportation:

- I-89 Exit 16 DDI Project (Diverging Diamond)

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

[http://www.exit16ddi.vtransprojects.vermont.gov/project\\_overview/](http://www.exit16ddi.vtransprojects.vermont.gov/project_overview/)

<https://vimeo.com/340310761>