

VERMONT TRANSPORTATION BOARD MEETING SEPTEMBER 19, 2013

Board Members Present:

Maurice Germain, Chairman; term expires 2/28/2014
Tom Dailey, term expires 2/28/2016
Robin Stern, term expires 2/28/2015
Vanessa Kittell, term expires 2/28/2016
Nick Marro, term expires 2/28/2016
James Fitzgerald, term expires 2/28/2015
Wesley Hrydziusko, term expires 2/28/2015

Board Members Absent:

None

Others Present:

John Zicconi, Board Executive Secretary
Scott Mills, Barnard Fire Chief
David Zimmerman, Barnard resident
Tom Morse, Chair Barnard Select Board
Kevin Lessard, Monsalvat Farm
Ralph Lessard, Monsalvat Farm
Thomas Anderson, VTrans Aviation Division
Benjamin Avery, Blackrock Construction
Janet Andersen, Barnard resident
Stephen Anderson, Barnard resident
David Marshall, Civil Engineering Associates

Call to Order:

Chairman Maurice Germain called the Thursday, September 19, 2013 meeting to order at 10:40 a.m., which was held at the Barnard Town Hall and was preceded by a site visit to the proposed Monsalvat Farm helipad location.

1. NEW BUSINESS

1.1 TB-406 Monsalvat Farm Private Helicopter Landing Area

The Board conducted a hearing to take testimony on TB-406, Monsalvat Farm helipad application. The hearing lasted until 11:50 p.m. A full, written transcript of the proceedings is available for review by contacting the Transportation Board's office. **The hearing was recessed on Motion by Mr. Marro seconded by Ms. Stern** to allow Monsalvat Farm to consider making changes to its proposed flight patterns as requested by neighbors, and submit those updated plans to the Board. Mr. Marshall said that should Monsalvat Farm agree to alter its proposed flight paths, that he likely could get updated plans to the Board by the end of September.

1.2 Review/Approve the Minutes of July 31, 2013 meeting

On a motion by Ms. Kittell seconded by Mr. Marro, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Minutes of the July 31, 2013 Board meeting as submitted.

1.3 Executive Secretary's Report

Executive Secretary John Zicconi told the Board that Miller Construction President Roger Gilman wrote the Board a letter explaining why he thought the Board's decision in TB-386 regarding Sheet Piling was incorrect.

Mr. Zicconi said that in a phone conversation, Mr. Gilman said Miller Construction would not be appealing the Board's decision, but that he simply wanted Board members to understand his position. Mr. Zicconi passed the letter around so Board members could read it.

Mr. Zicconi informed the Board that VTrans contacted him and told him that it soon would file a request to have the Board consider granting a height variance for a proposed railroad tunnel in Middlebury. While the Agency has not yet submitted any paperwork, Mr. Zicconi said he fully expects a complete application in the coming days and advised the Board that the Agency is hoping the Board could act quickly. Mr. Zicconi said that assuming an application is filed, the Board could hold a site visit and hearing on the matter as part of its October meeting. To prepare, Mr. Zicconi suggested that the Board allow him to warn and schedule the October meeting to take place in Middlebury. The Board agreed.

1.4 Fall Public Hearing Discussion and Schedule

Mr. Zicconi told the Board that he has consulted with the Agency of Transportation and the State's various Regional Planning Commissions and that everyone agreed on this year's suggested topics for discussion at the Board's annual fall hearings. The topics are:

- Transportation Revenues and Energy
- Bike & Pedestrian Issues
- The Future of Both Freight and Passenger Rail Services Park & Ride Expansion
- Roadway Safety
- Public Transit – Intercity Service and Service for the Elderly

Like last year, at each hearing Mr. Zicconi will provide a 3-5 minute primer on each subject (including PowerPoint slides) to set the stage for discussion and comment. And aside from these six topics, each hearing will provide ample time for the public to provide comment on any additional transportation-related subject they wish.

Together with the RPCs, the Board identified six locations to hold this year's hearings. Mr. Zicconi said that he geographically assigned Board members to attend specific hearings to ensure at least two Board members are present at each hearing, but that all Board members are free to attend as many hearings as they wish. Board members confirmed that they could attend their assigned meetings.

This year's hearing locations and the Board members assigned to them are as follows:

1. **October 16** in Springfield at 6 p.m. at the Springfield Town Hall, Third Floor Selectman's Meeting Room, 96 Main Street, Springfield, VT. (Wes, Tom and Robin)
2. **October 22** in Bennington at 6 p.m. at the Bennington Fire House, Second Floor Meeting Room, 130 River Street, Bennington, VT. (Robin and Tom)
3. **October 23** in Morristown at 6 p.m. in the Community Meeting Room at the Morrisville Town Office Building, 43 Portland Street, Morrisville, VT. (Jim, Nick and Vanessa)
4. **October 30** in Newport at 6 p.m. at the Gateway Center, 84 Fyfe Drive in Newport, VT. (Nick and Wes)
5. **November 14** in St. Albans at 6 p.m. at the Green Mountain Room of the LaQuinta Inn & Suites, 813 Fairfax Road, St. Albans, VT. (Jim, Moe and Vanessa)
6. **November 20** in Middlebury at 6 p.m. at the Addison County Regional Planning Commission Offices at 14 Seminary Street in Middlebury, VT. (Tom, Moe and Nick)

2. OLD BUSINESS

2.1 TB-383 Winterset (deliberation)

At 12:10 p.m. the Board on a motion by Mr. Fitzgerald seconded by Ms. Stern entered into deliberative session, pursuant to Title 1 § 313, to deliberate on TB-383 Winterset Construction.

Mr. Zicconi was invited to attend the deliberative session.

At 1:30 p.m. the Board exited deliberative session.

On a motion by Mr. Marro seconded by Mr. Kittell, the Board unanimously voted to approve the latest draft of the Winterset Decision and Order as final, and instructed Mr. Zicconi to issue the Decision and Order once Chairman Germain signed it.

3. OTHER BUSINESS

3.1 Round Table

No Board members had anything to discuss.

4. ADJOURN

On a motion by Mr. Marro seconded by Ms. Kittell, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 1:32 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John Zicconi
Executive Secretary

**Next Board Meeting:
October 17, 2013 at 9:30 a.m.
Municipal Conference Room, Middlebury Town Office Building, Middlebury, VT**