

Minutes
West Rutland Selectboard Meeting
Monday, August 10th, 2026
5:30 pm

Present: John Harvey, Chet Brown, John Center (zoom), Dave Webster and Bob Bach.

Others Present: Mary Ann Goulette, Carmen Zwack, Eric DePhillips (zoom), Seth Pietryka, Mike Moser, Peter Kulig, Shelley Lutz, Claudia Broza (zoom) and Mike Miller (zoom)

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:30pm by John Harvey with the pledge of allegiance.

Agenda Approval: Motion made by Bob seconded by Dave to approve the agenda as presented. All in Favor. Motion approved.

Minutes Approval: Motion made by Bob seconded by Chet to approve the minutes of the meeting of July 13th, 2026 with a correction that Chet was not present. Motion approved.

Public Concerns: Peter Kulig noted there is no speed limit sign on Slason and the road sign on the corner of Slason/Harrison is missing.

Discussion Items:

- a) **Asset Management Plan Closeout** – Carmen Zwack from Water Vermont Agency of Natural Resources | Public Drinking Water Program said the Division has reviewed and approved West Rutland's (WSID VT0005244) Asset Management Plan. The plan complies with all their guidelines and should be a living document that we need to keep up to date. Our loan is now forgiven, and we receive 72 priority points for the drinking loan fund. Mary Ann thanked Eric DePhillips from Otter Creek Engineering for his assistance.
- b) **Clark Hill Trail Design** – Mary Ann introduced Claudia Broza and Shelly Lutz. The group is hoping to establish a trail system on the Town Forest and a portion of the Broza property. The area is currently used for hunting and ATV riding on existing logging roads. The scenic views are lovely, and it would be wonderful to open access to residents and visitors for hiking, biking, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing. A trailhead and parking area could be established at the corner of Clark Hill Road and Five Birches. The next step would be to develop a formal concept plan, which could include connectivity to the Velomont Trail. Bob made a motion, seconded by Chet, to commit up to \$5,000 for a concept design plan. The motion was approved unanimously.
- c) **Town Manager Report** – The soil test conducted at 839 Clarendon Avenue came back negative. Marble Village questioned their tax bill, but they missed the deadline to grieve so they will need to wait until next year. Mary Ann reviewed an example for a panhandling ordinance. If the panhandling is on private property, the landowner can remove them. The group agreed we should have something in place. Mary Ann will

have a draft for the next meeting. Seth gave an update on the Main Street pump station repairs and the recreation building sewer issue.

Action Items:

- a. **Award Fuel Bid** – We receive 4 bids from Proctor Gas, Irving, Johnson Energy and Gecha Fuels. Mary Ann suggested propane at \$1.29 from Irving. After discussion, the board suggested a variable price instead of a high fixed price. Motion by Chet to award the propane to Irving at \$1.29, and fuel oil and diesel at \$.25 over rack with Gecha Fuels. Seconded by Bob. Motion passed.
- b. **Review Salt Quote** – We received one quote from Cargill at \$119.75 vs \$112.50 last year. We will reduce the quantity from 1,000 to 700 tons. Motion made by Chet seconded by Dave to purchase 700 tons of deicer salt from Cargill at a price of \$119.75. We will take the full delivery this fall. Motion approved unanimously.
- c. **Resolution for VCDP Grant** – This resolution is to accept the terms of the VCDP grant agreement with Cornerstone. Motion made by Bob seconded by Dave to approve the resolution to accept the VCDP grant with Cornerstone. Motion approved.
- d. **Review Tractor Repairs** – The John Deere tractor needs repairs to the hydraulic pump. The quote is \$10,413.86. Motion by Dave seconded by Bob to approve the repairs for the John Deere Tractor at a price of \$10,413.86. Motion approved unanimously.

Board Member Concerns:

John Center – Would like to see the completion of widening Pleasant Street with new pavement.

He will call Fidium to get their wires moved. Two culverts also need to be replaced.

Bob Bach – Good job with mowing despite the trouble with the tractor.

Dave Webster – Can we trim back the bushes at the end of Clarendon Avenue that are interfering with drivers' sight distance?

Approve Orders: Orders were approved as presented.

Executive Session: Motion made by Bob seconded by Dave to enter executive session for 1 V.S.A. § 313 - Real Estate at 6:17 pm. Motion approved. Motion by Chet seconded by Bob to exit executive session at 6:30 pm. Motion approved. No action taken.

Adjournment: John made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:32pm and Dave seconded. Motion approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ann Goulette