

Town of Westmore
Select Board Special Meeting - VTrans Annual
Meeting minutes April 6, 2026, 9:30 AM

In attendance: David Stevens, William Perkins, Miriam Simonds, Isaiah Casey, Jason Petrarca, Eric Pope (VTrans District 9)

CALL TO ORDER: David called the meeting to order at 9:30AM.
No additions were made to the agenda.

Annual Vermont Agency of Transportation Meeting for Town Roads/Highways

Annual Financial Plan

Eric Pope explained that this annual form establishes the town's eligibility for emergency grant funding when infrastructure damage exceeds 10% of the non-winter maintenance budget. The form documented state aid totaling \$7,180 for Class 2 roads (1.5 miles) and \$44,260 for Class 3 roads (24.82 miles). The town's highway tax contribution was established at \$358,650, creating a total budget of \$410,090. The non-winter maintenance portion was calculated at \$205,045. This form enables access to VTrans emergency repair grants for localized damage events that don't qualify for FEMA assistance.

**Motion: Bill moved to sign the 2026 annual financial plan for the town. Isaiah
Seconded. Motion passed.**

Town Road and Bridge Standards

Eric presented the new 2026 Town Road and Bridge Standards for adoption, replacing the previously adopted 2019 standards. The primary change involves a new Section 5 addressing drainage crossings, which requires undersized culverts to be upsized by 6-12 inches upon replacement when road geometry allows. This change was implemented to eliminate disputes with FEMA regarding culvert sizing during disaster recovery projects. Eric recommended adopting all eight sections, noting that the standards represent best management practices already being followed by the town.

**Motion: Jason moved to accept the 2026 Town Road and Bridge Standards for the
municipality of Westmore. Isaiah seconded. Motion passed.**

Grant Program Updates

Eric confirmed the town's eligibility for a \$150,000 paving grant, pending submission of road surface photographs. For the Big Valley Lane structures grant, VTrans offered a combination engineering and construction grant, contingent upon receiving cost estimates from the town's engineer for the culvert replacement project.

Road Maintenance Issues

Eric addressed a recent complaint about slope stability on Long Pond Road, concluding that no immediate action was required. The slopes, while visually concerning, appeared stable and had been that way for decades. Any formal remediation would require engineering consultation. Eric noted significant improvements to the road's overall condition in recent years.

State Highway Paving

Route 5A through Westmore was confirmed to be on the district's paving project list but would likely not be funded in the current year due to higher priority projects elsewhere in the district. The project would involve mill and fill reconstruction rather than simple overlay.

Possible Executive Session

No executive session was held.

ADJOURN

Motion: Jason moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 AM. Isaiah seconded. Motion passed.

Minutes prepared by Elaine Cashin/Hey.gov.

David Stevens 

Isaiah Casey 

William Perkins 

Jason Petrarca 

Miriam Simonds 