

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



Passenger Tramway Safety Board



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Mark Petrozzi, Gilford (Chairman)
August 19, 2020 - June 20, 2024
Insurance Industry

Kris Blomback, Henniker
April 1, 2020- June 20, 2022
Ski Industry

Steve Howell, Lincoln
August 19, 2020 - June 20, 2025
Ski Industry

Stanley Judge, Shelburne
September 28, 1999 - June 20, 2023
Public Member

NEW HAMPSHIRE PASSENGER TRAMWAY SAFETY BOARD MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES – 12/1/2021

Announcement by the Chair:

Chairman Mark Petrozzi opened the meeting, introduced himself and welcomed the group. He advised the board members that we have a quorum and read the below statement:

Public Hearing:

Today is December, 1, 2021.

This is a public hearing on Pas 209 and 300, Passenger Tramway Safety Rules.

The authority for this hearing is RSA 541-A:11. This hearing is being tape recorded.

The purpose of this hearing is to gather the public's comments on proposed administrative rules.

I will call speakers in the order in which they signed up. I will call for any additional testimony from new speakers at the end of the hearing.

The written comment period will close today on December 1, 2021, at the end of this meeting.

When you are called to testify, please clearly state your name for the record.

This meeting will adjourn at 10:37am.

Invited members included (*absentees noted in italics*):

- **Mark Petrozzi, Chair, Insurance Industry**
- **Stanley Judge, Public Member**
- **Kris Blomback, Ski Industry**
- **Steve Howell, Ski Industry**

Other Attendees: Members from the Department of Safety - Catherine Goff, Nancy Ettelson, Scot Woolfenden, Briggs Lockwood, Cara Meeker and Marta Modigliani. Also in attendance were members from the industry having an interest in today's meeting – Ashvin Ghurburrun, Joe Gill, Shawn Pelchat, Zack Kennedy, Deirdre Riley and Justin Preisendorfer.

Order of Business: Called to order at 10:07am.

Board Member Packets Included: Agenda for the December 1, 2021 meeting, draft minutes from the October 12, 2021 meeting, copies of the Pas 209 and Pas 300.

On a Motion: Kris Blomback motioned to accept the minutes of October 12, 2021. Steve Howell 2nd the motion. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Old Business:

a.) **Application for Construction, TowPro: Application for the TP10 (10 HP) model to be used as a demo**

William Mayo had addressed the board on October 12, 2021, and advised that he would like to move forward on demoing a portable rope tow system around various locations throughout NH for the 2021-2022 season. At this past meeting, Mr. Mayo identified changes/upgrades incorporated into this portable system. These changes were a result of suggestions provided by tramway board members at a prior demonstration.

During the meeting of October 12, 2021, the board advised TowPro that they could not provide input or take action on their application as the application omitted a sign off by a NH P.E. It was later realized that the application would be acceptable as is and P.E. sign off is not required for this particular application.

In an effort to have this proposal revisited, State Inspector Briggs Lockwood addressed the Board advising of current rules and process that allows the TowPro application to go forward. In NH, and contrary to the Boards initial decision, Inspector Lockwood brought to the Boards attention the fact that fiber rope tow equipment does not require a NH P.E. sign off. In this case, an engineer from another state (UT) has assessed the fiber rope tow equipment, and although a P.E. sign off is not needed this sign off supports the application.

On a Motion: Steve Howell motioned that the Board review and approve TowPro's application. Kris Blomback 2nd the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

b.) **Discussion of Work Carriers for aerial lifts**

Discussion tabled. At this time, the Board is not yet ready to discuss work carrier proposed standards. This agenda item will be revisited at a future meeting.

New Business:

Inspector Lockwood addressed the Board and spoke about an opportunity, recently brought to his attention, for Wildcat Ski Area. This opportunity will allow the ski area to replace chairs on their

detachable quad. In a previous meeting, the Board discussed compatibility of the replacement chairs to this particular lift (particularly – the weight of them) before this could be considered. According to a letter from Doppelmayr the difference in chair weight is approximately 5 lbs. This difference is considered insignificant. It is suggested that this project not be considered as a modification. At a past meeting, this Board had suggested changes be made to this project. With the chair weigh difference deemed insignificant, Inspector Lockwood recommends that the Board not hold the ski area to the past requirements made by the Board.

The Board discussed the recommendation/lift technical data provided by Lockwood. The Chairman asked that the ski area provide a letter to Lockwood with more detail on the matter. This record should reflect that this is not a modification and will contain detailed clarification on the change that will satisfy this Board.

a.) MND Group Presentation

Ashvin Ghurburrun, Engineer and Project Manager for MND Group addressed the Board. Mr. Ghurburrun introduced himself and provided a schedule for a planned construction for Waterville Valley set for 2022. He discussed project deliveries anticipated during the month of December and early next year. This project is currently on track. He talked about foundations and inspections of the project. Once the mechanical design is ready, Mr. Ghurburrun will come back to the Board with a completed application for the Boards review.

The above portion of the meeting adjourned and the Board opened the 2nd portion of the meeting to discuss rules and forms for approval.

Next Scheduled Meeting:

Our next scheduled Board Meeting is planned for January 7th – 10:00am to noon at Stockade Lodge, Gunstock Ski Resort.

The Chair turned the meeting over to DOS Attorney Marta Modigliani who talked about process and adoption of rules. Handouts of rules and forms were provided. She further advised that all of the 309 rules are being repealed.

Attorney Modigliani referred to the final proposal annotated and identified each change recommended for these rules.

On a Motion: Steve Howell motioned to adjourn the meeting. Stanley Judge 2nd the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned 12:22pm

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