

## PRAIRIE TRAILS CLUB, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2024-

### Name, location & email

### Background/Expertise

Stephen Lucas, Chair  
North Judson, IN  
[skadad2008@gmail.com](mailto:skadad2008@gmail.com)

Former Chief Administrative Law Judge, Indiana Natural Resources Commission; former Deputy Attorney General; former partner, Donovan & Lucas Law Firm  
*(Expertise in laws affecting public waters and lands)*

Peggy Stalbrink, Vice Chair  
LaCrosse IN  
[richnpeg@csinet.net](mailto:richnpeg@csinet.net)

Board of Directors, LaCrosse Public Library; Active in community organizations; Retired Airline Flight Attendant  
*(Expertise in Board membership for nonprofit entities)*

Diane Blais, Secretary  
Knox, IN  
[dianeblais@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dianeblais@sbcglobal.net)

Retired floral designer, Active in numerous community organizations; former board member, Bass Lake Property Owners Ass'n  
*(Expertise in charitable organization leadership and small business operations)*

Larry Wickert, Knox IN  
[lwickert@hotmail.com](mailto:lwickert@hotmail.com)

Former Executive Director, Starke County Economic Development Foundation; former Starke County Commissioner; former owner, Wickert Agricultural Services  
*(Expertise in local government, economic development & plant species/control)*

Kirt Verhagen, Zionsville IN  
[VERHAGENX@msn.com](mailto:VERHAGENX@msn.com)

Sr. Director of Property Quality Improvement, Liberty Mutual Insurance Company  
*(Expertise in liability insurance & corporate Issues)*

Charlotte Liss, Crown Point IN  
[Chess1020@gmail.com](mailto:Chess1020@gmail.com)

Owner, CARSTAR Liss Auto Body in Crown Point & Schererville; Property & Casualty licensed insurance agent; Founder, Caring About Military Personnel; Board Member & Secretary for Open Hearts Therapeutic Riding Center  
*(Expertise in small business, insurance, philanthropy)*

Rich Vallicelli, Knox, IN  
[revallic@hotmail.com](mailto:revallic@hotmail.com)

Retired secondary educator from the Chicago area; Collegiate runner at Notre Dame; decades of track and field coaching  
*(Expertise in strength, fitness training)*

Kathleen Lucas, Treasurer (Nonvoting)  
North Judson, IN  
[Kathleenlucas216@gmail.com](mailto:Kathleenlucas216@gmail.com)

Former Partner & Chair, Environmental Section,  
Bose McKinney & Evans LLP, Indianapolis;  
Former Director of Legal Affairs, IN Dept. of  
Health; Former IN Deputy Attorney General  
*(Experience in administrative & environmental law  
and state government)*

## PRAIRIE TRAILS CLUB, INC. OFFICERS 2024-

Name/Contact Info

Employer/Expertise

Rhonda Milner, President  
Knox, IN  
[rhonda.milner@wtgis.com](mailto:rhonda.milner@wtgis.com)

Service Consultant, WTH Technology, Inc.;  
Former Starke County Clerk, 1999-2006;  
Former Starke County Assessor, 2007-17;  
*(Expertise in GIS mapping, finance, gov.affairs)*

Russ Blais, Vice President  
Knox, IN  
[rdblais@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rdblais@sbcglobal.net)

Director, Naylor Pipe Co; Director, Starke County  
Historical Society; Director, Bass Lake  
Conservancy District; Member, Bass Lake  
Neighborhood Watch  
*(Expertise in business, conservancy district  
Management, nonprofits)*

Steve Lucas, Secretary

*(See Board of Directors list above)*

Kathy Lucas, Treasurer

*(See Board of Directors list above)*

Linda Byer, Liaison to HVRM<sup>1</sup>  
Monterey, IN  
[lkbyer@gmail.com](mailto:lkbyer@gmail.com)

Former wildlife biologist at Indiana Department  
of Natural Resources  
*(Expertise in natural resources, DNR issues)*

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<sup>1</sup> Hoosier Valley Railroad Museum (HVRM) is owner of The Erie Trail, subject to the National Trails Systems Act, 16 USC 1247(d).