

MICHIGAN TRUCK SAFETY COMMISSION **MTSC**

September 12, 2012

Meeting Minutes

Commissioners Present

Fred Bueter, Chair
Dan Blower
Keith Ferris
Ken Houck
Capt. Harold Love
Tom O'Brien
Mike Prince
Robert Ramels

Commissioners Absent

Dave Goller
Walter Heinritzi, Vice Chair
Charles Moser

Guests

Kirk Forbes, MPSC
Dr. Nicholas Nwabueze, MPSC
Jill Skutar, MCTS
Pat Muinch, FMCSA
John Wallace, FMCSA

OHSP Staff

Kathy Farnum
Janet Hengesbach
Kim Kelly
Spencer Simmons

CALL TO ORDER

The MTSC meeting was called to order by Mr. Fred Bueter, Chair, at 9:00 a.m.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Self introductions were made of those present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A **MOTION** to accept the minutes of the July 11, 2012 MTSC meeting was made by Dr. Blower and supported by Captain Love. The **MOTION** carries.

STANDING REPORTS

Chair's Report – Mr. Bueter

Mr. Bueter reported on upcoming federal requirements would require a criminal background test of those who work on the CDL written test process and those who administer the 3rd party road tests. This would be very expensive for Secretary of State, but it looks as though the requirement may be mitigated to reduce costs.

CMV drivers continue to submit their proof of medical information. Approximately 122,000 CMV drivers have completed the certification. Another wave of reminder letters will be sent out in the next few weeks.

He also reported on the truck driving school in Detroit who was falsifying applications for CMV drivers. The privileges of more than 80 drivers were removed. The investigators fined this company several thousand dollars and they are now out of business.

There are upcoming revisions to the commercial learners permit requirements. The hand held cell phone ban for CMV drivers was included in this package, but has since been removed. Legislators will add it to another bill so that it will move faster. They are looking at October 2013 for the cell phone ban to be included in the Michigan Vehicle Code.

Financial Report – Ms. Kim Kelly

Ms. Kelly provided an overview of the financial statement as of July 31, 2012. The receipts have increased. The Secretary of State revenue is up 3% and UCR fees have increased by 2%. She noted the 2012-2013 budget is in draft form, as the final numbers have not been confirmed

Education Grant Activity Report – Ms. Jill Skutar

Ms. Skutar highlighted the recent activities and accomplishments of the Michigan Center for Truck Safety during the time frame of July 2012 and the first two weeks of August 2012. She noted slight increases in their goals during this quarter, but is confident they should make all of their goals during fourth quarter.

Enforcement Grant Activity Report – Insp. Randy Coplin

Inspector Coplin reported that during the last period, Motor Carriers made 2,000 safety stops with 1,500 safety inspections. This also resulted in 1,400 citations and 180 seat belt citations. He noted for overtime enforcement, there were 459 safety stops which resulted in 366 inspections, 321 citations and 59 seat belt citations.

ACTION ITEMS

a. Election of Chair/Vice Chair

Dr. Blower made a MOTION that Mr. Bueter continue as Chair of the MTSC. Captain Love made a MOTION that Mr. Prince is elected Chair. Mr. Prince declined as OHSP facilitates the Enforcement and Education Grants. Mr. Prince made a MOTION that Mr. Brien is elected Chair. Following discussions, Mr. Bueter accepted the motion that he continue as Chair. Following discussions, roll call vote was taken,

Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Bueter			X
Ramels	X		
Houck	X		
O'Brien	X		
Prince	X		
Blower	X		
Love	X		
Ferris	X		

The MOTION that Mr. Bueter continue as MTSC Chair carries by roll call vote.

Mr. Prince changed his MOTION to nominate Mr. O'Brien as Vice Chair.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Bueter	X		
Ramels	X		
Houck	X		
O'Brien			X
Prince	X		
Blower	X		
Love	X		
Ferris	X		

The MOTION carries by roll call vote. Mr. O'Brien accepted the position of Vice Chair for 2012 – 2014.

b. RFP Proposal Selection

Ms. Farnum discussed the proposals which the MTSC Research and Evaluation reviewed and have selected two proposals. The first proposal is to Update and Expand the CMV Crash and Driver History Reports. She reviewed the information for this grant and the costs.

RFP#1

Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Bueter	X		
Ramels	X		
Houck	X		
O'Brien	X		
Prince	X		
Blower			X
Love	X		
Ferris	X		

Members approved by roll call vote.

The second proposal is to evaluate the Effectiveness of the MCTS Educational and Training programs. She also reviewed this grant and its costs.

RFP #2

Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Bueter	X		
Ramels	X		
Houck	X		
O'Brien	X		
Prince	X		
Blower			X
Love	X		
Ferris	X		

Members approved by roll call vote

c. Request for funding the TACT Grant (Ticketing Aggressive Cars and Trucks)

Ms. Farnum reviewed the TACT Implementation Grant Proposal. This particular grant is the one which will actually conduct TACT. She explained what this grant will entail, and costs associated. There was discussion regarding who will be participating and what locations are involved.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Bueter	X		
Ramels	X		
Houck	X		
O'Brien	X		
Prince	X		
Blower			X
Love	X		
Ferris	X		

Members approved by roll call vote.

Ms. Farnum also explained to the members that she is not sure when the project will begin as she has not heard when the funding for this grant will actually be awarded.

d. Approval of the MTSC Strategic Plan

Ms. Farnum reviewed the changes which were suggested for the MTSC Strategic Plan from the last meeting. Mr. Bueter inquired about the number of CDL drivers – the number noted may be higher than how many are actually registered with the Secretary of State. Ms. Farnum will confirm those numbers. There was discussion regarding the objectives noted on page 10. Following discussions with members, Ms. Farnum will make the suggested changes to those objectives.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Bueter	X		
Ramels	X		
Houck	X		
O'Brien	X		
Prince	X		
Blower	X		
Love	X		
Ferris	X		

Members approved the document with the suggested changes by roll call vote.

PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS

a. CMV Seat Belt Rate

Ms. Farnum reported the seat belt rate for CMV has increased. In 2006, it was 73.9%, Wayne State officials have tentatively reported the rate has increased to 84.9%. Wayne State representatives will make a presentation during the November MTSC meeting.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. During the last meeting, Mr. O'Brien discussed the MTSC supporting a resolution that returning veterans be exempt from the skills testing/road tests which are typically administered for CMV drivers. They would still have to take the written test. Mr. O'Brien reported that he spoke to a returning veteran who said that all of the training manuals had been updated and that this kind of training very been very extensive and effective while he was on his tour.

Mr. Prince indicated that both MSP and the Governor's office are ok with the pending bill regarding these waivers.

Mr. Prince made a MOTION that the MTSC supports a resolution using state's option to waiver some of the military CMV road tests/skills driving tests for returning veterans. Mr. Ramel supported. The MOTION carries by voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Prince reminded the members the GTSAC Awards nomination form is posted on the OHSP website. Nominations for individuals or entities who have contributed to traffic safety in 2012 are encouraged and are due on November 2, 2012. The Michigan Traffic Safety Summit will be held March 26-28, 2013.

Ms. Farnum gave an update of the Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) which is currently under review, but is expected to be approved during the December 11 Governor's Traffic Safety Advisory Commission meeting.

Captain Love reminded the members of the next Motor Carrier recruit school, scheduled to begin October 28. Approximately 16-17 individuals will start in the program.

During today's meeting, Mr. Prince received notice that a bill has been introduced to repeal the current seat belt law in Michigan for passengers who ride in the front seat of a vehicle and are 18 years and older. Mr. Prince will keep the members updated.

ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting of the MTSC is scheduled for Wednesday, November 7, 2012.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.