

MICHIGAN TRUCK SAFETY COMMISSION **MTSC**

November 6, 2013

Meeting Minutes

Commissioners Present

Fred Bueter, Chair
Tom O'Brien, Vice Chair
Sharon Conklin
Walter Heinritzi
Dr. Dan Blower
Charles Moser
Mike Prince
Robert Ramels
Tim Yungfer
Capt. Mike Krumm

Commissioners Absent

Dave Goller

Guests

Kim Lariviere - MDOT
Gary Fennell
Chuck Flanagan
Carol Heinowski - Meijer
Paul Saline
Gary Miles
Lt. Susan Fries - MSP
Brad Banks – MTSC
Dave Fowler
Jan Charles
Don Wilcott
Jill Skutar- Center for Truck Safety

OHSP Staff

Kathy Farnum
Janet Hengesbach
Charlotte Kilvington
Julie Roth
Heidi Ruis
Spencer Simmons

ROLL CALL

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 September 18, 2013 minutes was made by Mr. Moser and supported by Mr. Ramels. The **MOTION** carries.

STANDING REPORTS

A. Chair's Report – Mr. Fred Bueter

Chair Bueter reminded those present of the requirement that CDL drivers must provide medical information (DOT card) whether they drive interstate or intrastate. On May 21, 2014, all CDL drivers will need to use a doctor from the National Registry. They must provide the Department of State a valid medical evaluation from a doctor listed on the federal National Registry to obtain a CDL. The Department of State is planning to send letters to doctors to educate and remind them of this new requirement and for them to sign up on the registry. They will also be sending out letters to CDL drivers to remind them to register the type of commerce they drive before January 30, 2014.

Regarding the CDL drivers, Chair Bueter inquired if only CDL drivers who drive interstate must use the specific doctors on the registry? Lieutenant Fries indicated that MSP has adopted federal regulations regarding this requirement. The vehicle code does not currently require this, but legislation is pending.

Mr. Bueter briefly mentioned the laws which speak of Department of State removing drivers from the road if they have too many violations including crashes or too many points on their record. Currently the only tool available for this action is a re-examination which can take up to two weeks to schedule. Meanwhile, the drivers with violations could be back on the road.

The two legislative bills introduced earlier this year seeking revisions to the MTSC funding and format have not moved through the house or senate. No further information is available currently.

B. Financial Report – Mr. Spencer Simmons

Mr. Simmons reviewed most recent report ending October 31, 2013 noting there are some outstanding issues to resolve regarding year-end accounts and the Center for Truck Safety grant. Once he has received the additional documentation regarding the Center for Truck Safety grant and final numbers for the year-end accounts, they will be finalized.

C. Enforcement Grant Activity Report – Lt. Susan Fries

Lieutenant Fries reviewed the FY 13 grant objectives and noted that all objectives have been met. She will have a report on the TACT grant enforcement during the next meeting. Information for the FY 14 grant has been submitted.

ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of the 2013 MTSC Annual Report – Mr. Prince explained recent changes in the MSP command structure made the approval process longer than usual. The report is due to the legislature on November 15. If current financial numbers are not available by the 15th, a draft report will be sent to the legislature, then a final report will follow when the numbers are finalized.

Members discussed CDL mandatory breaks and available parking facilities when the drivers need to take those breaks. Earlier in 2013, MDOT made a presentation to the MTSC regarding a project they are working on for this type of need. Currently, they are collecting data which would include identifying open spaces. Shippers and receivers do not want the trucks on their property due to other cargo coming in and the legal issues of having the truckers parked on their property for long periods of time. Updates on this will be provided in the future.

Mr. Ramels made a **MOTION** to approve the 2013 MTSC Annual Report as written, Mr. O'Brien supported. The **MOTION** carries.

B. Rebid of Education Grant – Because of the recent challenges with the Education Grant, Chair Bueter recommended that a subcommittee take a look at re-bidding this grant. Chair Bueter, Mr. Ramels, Mr. Moser, Dr. Blower, and Mr. O'Brien volunteered to participate on this subcommittee.

There was in-depth conversation including comments from the commissioners and public attendees describing the effectiveness and challenges they have experienced with the Center for Truck Safety regarding training of CDL drivers. There were also discussions regarding the current status of the Truck Safety Grant. Mr. Prince explained that OHSP is responsible for the fiduciary aspects of this grant. Documentation needs to be submitted and accounts need to be reconciled. Because documentation requested has not been submitted, FY13 has not been reconciled and closed.

Mr. Heinritzi inquired if the re-bid process could be put aside for now while they work to get the issues settled. He is in hopes that the Center for Truck Safety can re-open and conduct business as usual.

Following discussions, a **MOTION** by Mr. Yungfer, supported by Mr. Ramels, to start up a committee in order to set standards for the future.

PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS

A. TACT Grant Update – Ms. Kilvington updated the members regarding the TACT enforcement effort. The first week of the enforcement has been completed with the 2nd week going on currently. An onsite press conference on November 2 took place at Walmart in Comstock Park. The 3rd and final week of the effort is scheduled for December 2-13 in the West Michigan area only.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the MTSC is scheduled for Wednesday, March 12, 2014.

ADJOURNMENT

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