

# *Minutes of the Motor Carrier Advisory Board Meeting*

November 19, 2015

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## **Members Present**

Don Beerens  
Joe Ballor  
Nichole Gavriloski  
William Kotynski  
Randy Whitaker  
Paul Behmlander  
Carol Heinowski

## **MSP-CVED Staff Present**

Captain Krumm  
Inspector Coplin  
Nicholas Nwabueze  
Herb Fields  
Vicky Acker  
Michelle Briggs  
Beth Schafer

## **Members Absent**

James Burg  
Joshua Rhodes  
Glen Merkel  
Sarah Stewart  
Al DeMeester  
Brian Hitchcock

## **Ex Officio Members Present**

Seth Martin  
Dawn Wilson  
Alfred Newell, Jr  
Aarne Frobom

## **Others in Attendance**

Pat Muinch  
Chuck Simmons  
Peggy Johnson  
Elisha DeFrain  
Brad Horn

## **Meeting Called to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. Dr. Nicholas Nwabueze expressed his condolences for the passing of Mr. Rob Whaley. Ms. Lori Olsen is currently acting in his place. He also stated that Mr. Jim Smullen resigned. If you know of a replacement, contact Dr. Nwabueze.

## **September 17, 2015 Meeting Minutes**

The meeting minutes from the September 17, 2015, were approved. Motioned by Mr. Dan Beerens and seconded by Mr. William Kotynski.

## **Agency Reports**

### **Michigan Center for Truck Safety**

Mr. Alfred Newell reported the Michigan Center for Truck Safety (MCTS) presented the end of the fiscal year report to the Michigan Truck Safety Commission. The MCTS missed one goal and that was the number of drivers trained in the simulator. The simulator was broken the first three months of the fiscal year.

- The center had over 6,400 calls last fiscal year.
- All MCTS specialists have been trained in the driver performance measurement and the new Defensive Driving Course for Professional Truck Drivers that the National Safety Council came out with last month.

### **Michigan State Police, Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division (MSP/CVED)**

Captain Krumm reported that the Motor Carrier group has been fully transferred from the Public Service to the State Police. There are 14 new recruits in the 20<sup>th</sup> Motor Carrier recruit School. Motor Carrier Advisory Board attendees are invited to the graduation ceremony to be held on February 26, 2016, at 1 p.m. at the Lansing Center.

- CVED is heavily involved in the Drive to Zero campaign. Drive to Zero is a nationwide enforcement program to reduce the number of traffic crashes.
- A Tri-State traffic enforcement initiative with Ohio and Indiana was held November 3-4, 2015.
- December 7-11, 2015, CVED will be kicking off "Eyes on I-94." Every MCO that is available in that area will be focusing on speed reduction and level III inspections. Our HST members will also be involved. We are trying to change the behavior on that stretch of highway. Hoping to impact the interstate carriers in that area to see if there is going to be a presence on that freeway. The push is to keep fatalities down.

Inspector Coplin reported on draft/proposed legislation.

- One is to remove the limits on wrecker companies for towing disabled vehicles.
- Amend the Motor Carrier Safety Act making it consistent with the federal regulations and exempt government vehicles in their entirety.

### **Transportation**

Mr. Arne Frobohm reported the progress of the Gordie Howe Bridge is on schedule, property is being acquired, and they are beginning the surveying.

- Transportation has received a grant from the USDOT for the truck parking information system and combining it with seven other states to extend the truck parking notification signs to Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Kentucky, Indiana, and Ohio to replicate Michigan's program with other states.
- Mr. Arne Frobohm spoke about the creation of the Horatio S. Earle Center.

### **Secretary of State**

Ms. Dawn Wilson reviewed the WisDOT Electronic Motor Carrier Credentials Pilot Project Team Charter document. If you know of anyone operating in Wisconsin that might be interested in joining this pilot project contact Ms. Dawn Wilson. There is nothing that IRP will be doing differently. The people participating in the pilot can offer to present their credentials to the officer electronically.

### **Department of Treasury**

Mr. Seth Martin stated that the IFTA renewal season started and so far 25 percent have renewed and 36,000 decals have been issued for 2016. Customer service has increased dramatically and phone calls have dropped. Second part of the new IFTA system is being rolled out in December.

### **Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration**

Mr. John Wallace reported that the Unified Registration System (URS) will begin its phased launch on December 12, 2015. The first phase will only impact new registration applicants, they will be required to use the online registration application starting on this date. All renewals will continue using the agency forms CS-150. After the launch of the second phase on September 30, 2016, all new & existing entities will use the online registration application and we will not be accepting any paper or faxed applications. The USDOT number will be the sole identifier and the use of all other numbers will be discontinued. After September 30, 2016, there will also be a \$300 fee for new applicants.

### **Legislation Update**

Mr. Arne Frobohm reported that the government passed an increase of the fuel and registration tax. The new tax begins on January 1, 2017.

- Registration will increase about 20 percent for cars, light trucks and licensed GVW trucks. Trailers, motorcycles and buses are not affected.
- Also on January 1, 2017, the Diesel Fuel Tax will go from 15 cents to 26.3 cents per gallon. This was required to meet the total user fee increase of \$600 million a year.

- The fuel tax will be applied to the CNG for the first time. CNG, LNG and gas will be collected thru IFTA starting the first quarter of 2017.
- Income tax revenue to road funds. This will be a three way roads formula that will increase to \$600 million a year in FY2021.
- Deal with the vehicle code – speed limit reform package was withdrawn from the agenda and they will get back to it in December. At this time they are not sure what the bill will look like but guessing it won't look any different. This is still being negotiated with legislators.
- A couple minor vehicle code bills – electronic display of car insurance records is attracting attention amongst legislature.

#### **Future Meeting Topics**

- Ms. Carol Heinowski would like a status update on the skid pad.
- Mr. William Kotynski would like to hear about the most recent UMTRI studies. There are several people at U of M that currently do studies. Mr. Arne Frobom will email the name of the professor that chairs the transportation research board.

#### **Public Comment**

A request was made to find an old proclamation for future use.

#### **Miscellaneous**

Dr. Nicholas Nwabueze thanked everyone for coming to these meetings. If you have anyone that should be on this board contact Dr. Nwabueze. Ms. Beth Schafer will email meeting dates for next year.

#### **Next Meeting Date and Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Bill Kotynski, and seconded by Ms. Heinowski.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 21, 2016, at 9:30 a.m. in a conference room located at the MSP Training Academy, 7426 N. Canal Road, Lansing, MI 48913.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicholas I. Nwabueze Ph.D., Chairman  
Motor Carrier Advisory Board