

Minutes of the Motor Carrier Advisory Board Meeting

September 22, 2016

Members Present

Brian Hitchcock
Al DeMeestor
Joshua Rhodes
Joe Ballor
William Kotynski
James Burg
Paul Behmlander
Don Beerens
Carol Heinowski
Randy Whitaker
Don Lahring
Nichole Gavriloski
Don Lahring

Members Absent

Karol Pawlos
Glen Merkel
Sarah Stewart

MSP-CVED Staff Present

Captain Krumm
Nicholas Nwabueze
Joe Austin
Beth Schafer

Ex Officio Members Present

Aarne Frobom
Alfred Newell
Dawn VanAken
Seth Martin
John Wallace

Others in Attendance

Amy Havens
Doug Childs

Meeting Called to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

May 19, 2016 Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes from May 19, 2016, were approved. Motioned by Mr. James Burg and seconded by Mr. William Kotynski.

Agency Reports

Michigan Center for Truck Safety (MCTS)

Alfred Newell reported that at the MCTS commission meeting the proposal for next year was approved. In August a new trailer for the truck driver simulator was purchased and sometime in October they will purchase a truck to match.

MCTS met all of their goals for this year.

Beginning Oct 1 you will be able to log on to the website, click on a tab for Fatigue Training / Program, take the class about Fatigued driving and get certified. This class is open to everyone.

Michigan Department of Treasury

Seth Martin reported about the IFTA online center. They expected they would see a decrease of carriers being licensed. Carriers being licensed is down by 8%, decal issuance is down 5% and new carrier application is down 19% compared to last year. The biggest reason for that is because credential review checks the legitimacy of the companies as the IFTA programs keeps all the carriers honest.

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA)

John Wallace reported that FMCSA has amended the annual inspection rule, they removed the exception that permitted the use of a state roadside inspection that was violation free as an equivalent. The State of MI doesn't have a mandatory state inspection program so that's the only exception to the exception. FMCSA position on crash preventability, they are proposing to develop and implement a demonstration program to determine the efficacy of a program to conduct preventability determinations of certain types of crashes. Basically FMCSA is proposing that carriers can submit a data que request to have an accident determination made, if its determined that an accident was non-preventable then it can be removed from the SMS calculation process. The testing period will be for 2 years.

Unified Registrations provisions: Full implementation will be delayed due to difficulties encountered migrating to a new cloud environment and transferring millions of records. The December 12, 2015 deadline date has not changed. The September 30, 2016 effective date has been pushed back to January 14, 2017. The December 31, 2016 effective date has been pushed back to April 14, 2017.

The board would like Mr. Wallace to come back with a little bit more definitive responses to the questions and concerns that the board expressed. There is a great deal of non-clarity to FMCSA's actions that Mr. Wallace needs to explain.

Michigan Department of Transportation

Aarne Frobom reported that MDOT may comment on the proposed federal rulemaking regarding speed limiters, following a meeting of department staff to discuss issues affecting highway operations. The USDOT is requesting comment on three questions: whether to equip new trucks or all trucks; to limit speeds to 68, 65, or 60 mph; and whether to mandate a system that will require trucks to obey all posted limits on local roads.

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

Captain Krumm reported that last year, 2015 we had a 20% reduction of CMV fatal accidents from 2014. Currently we are on pace to have another decrease this year.

We have signed MOU's with HELP Inc. for Pre-Pass which is currently running at Monroe, Niles, and Coldwater. We are finalizing the MOU for Grass Lake to be up and running within the next 6 months, for both east & west bound. Down the road we are looking at getting Ionia, Fowlerville and Pontiac set up with PrePass. At the same time CVED signed an MOU with Drivewyze. We have done a Drivewyze pilot at Monroe, Grass Lake and Fowlerville. These have been successful. In addition, we are going to allow Drivewyze to operate in Ionia, New Buffalo and Coldwater.

Facility updates, the static scales in Fowlerville are being replaced and we expect them to be completed in December. West bound New Buffalo will be getting 500 feet of new pavement, the ramps will be redone next year. The State of Michigan is looking for a location to build a backup facility for the radio system and a discussion has taken place to explore the possibility to incorporate its existence within a new Ionia Weigh Station.

The recruit school is up and running, we have 15 recruits attending. We also have tentative plans to run another class next year. We have two new sergeants with-in the division, one at Brighton and the second one at St. Ignace.

Eyes on 94 will be active again the week of December 5 – 9, 2016. We are partnering with Indiana & Ohio for that week. This is tied in with the Towards Zero Deaths campaign that is geared towards reducing traffic accidents. The MSP is still very active with Truckers against Trafficking.

We have changed our inspection program which is called inSPECT. The Commercial Vehicle Information Exchange Window (CVIEW), is linked with several data bases for real time information. The next phase will be to link MDOT's permitting process so all officers can utilize CVIEW to electronically check oversize / overweight permits.

The MSP-CVED is looking to do an award or recognition for a driver that comes to the aide of someone and this is not limited to the MTA.

Nick reported that the new MSP-CVED electronic registration platform is up and running. Letters were sent out to every interstate & intrastate carrier in Michigan asking them to link their accounts. The go live date is October 1, 2016. We have made two presentations regarding this program, one was on September 15, 2016 with the MMA and there will be a second one on September 27, 2016. The renewals for UCR's start October 1, 2016. Postcard reminders will be mailed out for both Intrastate & UCR renewal.

Secretary of State

Dawn VanAken reported that they have 1 ½ weeks left of their biggest renewal period. The Prism programming will start this fall which will allow them to collect and report USDOT at the vehicle level. After programming they will be able to move forward with the legislation to authorize suspension and retrieval of IRP plates for Out-of-Service carries for safety violations. When the Motor Carriers start the renewal process, they will be asked "if you think the Motor Carrier Responsibility for Safety on you is going to change sometime in the next 12 months". How you answer the question will determine what is added to the barcode of your IRP registration cover so a roadside officer can scan that and see if the USDOT matches what's on the side of the truck. The ultimate point of Prism is to remove carriers, who are based on service, from the road way inspection. The deadline for all states participation with Prism, level 6 is 2020.

Legislation Update

- Speed-Limit Package
- Automated Vehicles
- Passing Bicyclist – keeping a 5 foot distance
- Auto Repair Regulation
- Toll Roads
- Hand-Held Devices – Prohibit use of all hand-held devices in all vehicles on roads.

Future Meeting Topics

Invite someone from Canada to get their input regarding trucking and CMV laws. Maybe incorporate someone knowledgeable with Customs / crossings. If you have anyone you think may be willing to come and present, please e-mail Dr. Nwabueze.

New Plates – fading – rusting – replacement.

Public Comment

None

New Business

Federal law states 18 year old drivers are not allowed for interstate commerce move.

Old Business

None

Next Meeting Date and Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made and carried by the board. The meeting was adjourned at 11:14 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for 9:30 am on Thursday November 17, 2016. The location will be in the Centennial conference room located at the MSP Headquarters, 7150 Harris Drive, Dimondale, MI 48821.

Respectfully submitted,

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