

# MICHIGAN TRUCK SAFETY COMMISSION **MTSC**

Michigan Center for Truck Safety, 1131 Centennial Way, Lansing, Michigan  
Wednesday, July 12, 2023

## Meeting Minutes

### Commissioners Present

Capt. Rick Arnold  
Ms. Katie Bower  
Mr. Randy Coplin  
Mr. John Harris  
Ms. Carol Heinowski  
Mr. Brian Hitchcock  
Ms. Kim Kelly  
Mr. Jeff Lee  
Dr. Jeremy Worm

### Commissioners Absent

Mr. Jeremy Burleson

### Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP) Staff

Ms. Charlotte Kilvington  
Ms. Katelyn Mullin  
Ms. Zada Schriener

### Guests

Lt. George Bracco  
Mr. Jon Crippen  
Mr. Matt Fabry  
Ms. Marilynne Fattal  
Mr. Glen Merkel  
Ms. Robbin Sims  
Ms. Jill Sokacz  
Mr. Evan Stouten  
Ms. Madelaine Thorburn  
Ms. Michelle Zemla

## ROLL CALL

The Michigan Truck Safety Commission (MTSC) meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m.

The MTSC is considered an open meeting. Due to the Open Meeting Act, the MTSC meetings will be recorded via Microsoft Teams moving forth with recordings retained for one year.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA** – Captain Arnold motioned to approve only the minutes at opening of the meeting; Ms. Katie Bower supported the motion. All Ayes. Motion passed.

- a. Meeting Minutes – May 10, 2023 – Captain Arnold motioned to approve the minutes; Ms. Katie Bower supported the motion. All Ayes. Motion passed.
- b. Financial Report
- c. Enforcement Grant Activity Update
- d. Education Grant Activity Update
- e. FY2023 Project Updates

## B. Financial Report – Ms. Zada Schriener – OHSP

The financial report as of June 30, 2023, located below.

The Preliminary FY24 carryforward amounts are also located below. Ms. Schriener will be following up with the Michigan Department of State (MDOS) at the end of July 2023.

<b>Truck Safety Fund (PA 348 of 1988)</b> <b>Statement of Changes in Fund Balance</b> <b>For Fiscal Year 2023</b> <b>As of June 30, 2023</b>
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	Annual Budget	Received/ Expended Year to Date	Remaining Budget	% Received/ Expended Year to Date
<b>Revenues:</b>				
CarryForward Fund Balance	3,404,118	0	\$3,404,118	0.00%
Truck Registration Fees (SOS)(1)	\$2,200,000	\$1,835,719	\$364,281	83.44%
Uniform Carrier Fees (CIS) (2)	750,000	580,500	169,500	77.40%
Fund Balance Reserve	200,000	0	200,000	0.00%
Total Revenues	\$6,554,118	\$2,416,219	\$4,137,899	36.87%
<b>Expenditures</b>				
Administration (3)	\$100,000	\$30,552	\$69,448	30.55%
Commissioner Expenses (4)	5,000	0	\$5,000	0.00%
Education (3)(5) *	1,000,000	393,167	\$606,833	39.32%
Education (3)(7) *	1,512,971	219,388	\$1,293,584	
Enforcement-MSP (3)(6)	2,000,000	232,965	\$1,767,035	11.65%
Total Expenses	4,617,971	\$876,072	\$3,741,900	18.97%
<b>Excess of Revenues over Expenditures</b>	\$1,936,147	\$1,540,148	\$396,000	
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<b>Fund Balance</b>				
Beginning Fund Balance	\$3,604,118	\$3,604,118		
Payable Write-Off	0	\$0		
Total Beginning Fund Balance	\$3,604,118	\$3,604,118		
Excess of Revenues over Expenditures	1,936,147	1,540,148		
Ending Fund Balance	\$5,540,265	\$5,144,266		

**\*2023 Beginning Balance subject to change after State of Michigan closeout is completed.**

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- (1) Authority: PA 346 of 1988; MCL 257.801
  - (2) Authority: PA 347 of 1988; MCL 478.7
  - (3) Per PA 348 of 1988; MCL 247.675- Administration is not to exceed 5% of total revenues, up to \$100,000;  
 Education must be not less than 30% of total revenues, but not less than \$1,000,000;  
 Enforcement must be not less than \$750,000 of the balance of funds.
  - (4) Not considered an Administration expenditure, per 10/95 MTSC meeting
  - (5) Michigan Center for Truck Safety
  - (6) Michigan State Police Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division

Truck Safety Fund (PA 348 of 1988)  
 Statement of Changes in Fund Balance  
 Fiscal Year 2024 (Preliminary)

	Annual Budget
<b>Revenues:</b>	
FY23 Carryforward Fund Balance	\$3,404,118
Truck Registration Fees (SOS)(1)	2,200,000
Uniform Carrier Fees (CIS) (2)	750,000
Fund Balance Reserve	200,000
Total Revenues	\$6,554,118
<b>Expenditures</b>	
Administration (3)	\$100,000
Commissioner Expenses (4)	5,000
Education (3)(5) *	250,000
Enforcement-MSP (3)(6)	2,000,000
Total Expenses	2,355,000
<b>Excess of Revenues over Expenditures</b>	<b>\$4,199,118</b>
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<b>Fund Balance</b>	
Beginning Fund Balance (FY23)	\$6,554,118
Payable Write-Off	50
Total Beginning Fund Balance	\$6,554,118
Excess of Revenues over Expenditures (June 20, 2023)	-2,355,000
Ending Fund Balance June 30, 2023	\$4,199,118
June FY23 Carryforward Balance	\$4,199,118
<b>* 75% carryforward available for projects</b>	<b>\$3,149,338.50</b>

\*2024 Beginning Balance subject to change after State of Michigan closeout is completed.

-1 Authority: PA 346 of 1988; MCL 257.801

-2 Authority: PA 347 of 1988; MCL 478.7

-3 Per PA 348 of 1988; MCL 247.675- Administration is not to exceed 5% of total revenues, up to \$100,000;  
 Education must be not less than 30% of total revenues, but not less than \$1,000,000;  
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-4 Not considered an Administration expenditure, per 10/95 MTSC meeting

-5 Michigan Center for Truck Safety

-6 Michigan State Police Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division

**C. Enforcement Grant Activity – Lt. George Bracco – Michigan State Police (MSP) Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division (CVED)**

**Goal 1:** Reduce commercial motor vehicle (CMV) involved fatal crashes through high visibility patrols. Use a Data Driven Approach to Crime and Traffic Safety (DDACTS) in accordance with the CVED Action Plan by September 30, 2023.

**Activity:** The CVED will dedicate approximately 15,000 hours, divided among all districts to conduct STET operations, as mandated by MCL 247.675(4)(c), for the purposes of reducing CMV-related crashes and fatalities. These operations will focus on unsafe driving behaviors and defective equipment violations.

**Toward Zero Deaths:** The CVED will utilize an additional 3,300 hours of overtime for patrol and enforcement activities. This will occur during peak times, locations when and where CMV-related crashes occur, and other periods of peak traffic density, such as summer and holiday weekends. These patrols will occur in areas identified by each district’s safety plan.

**First - Fourth Quarters:** The CVED will submit quarterly reports identifying the results of the STET operations and use the data to plan future operations. See the STET Activity Table and STET Hours Worked table in this report for quarterly and Year to Date (YTD) activity.

**Quarterly/Progress Report**

***STET Activity – Quarterly and Year To Date Totals***

ACTIVITY	Q1 TSF	Q2 TSF	Q3 TSF	Q4 TSF	FY23 TSF YTD	Q1 TZD	Q2 TZD	Q3 TZD	Q4 TZD	FY23 TZD YTD
<b>Stops</b>	1353	1799	1984		5136	598	398	546		1542
<b>Inspections</b>	1121	1572	1705		4398	531	345	453		1329
<b>Verbal Warnings</b>	1040	1496	1615		4151	467	336	447		1250
<b>Citations</b>	396	559	621		1549	174	88	163		425
<b>TOTAL HOURS</b>	2331	3153	3716		9200	831	576	792		2199

***Non CMV vs CMV-Related Non-Fatal and Fatal Crashes – FY 2023 Year To Date***

Evaluation period	Total Number of crashes	Total number of Truck/Bus crashes	Total number of fatal crashes	Truck/Bus fatal crashes	Percentage CMV related crash/fatal
<b>FY23 to date</b>	217216	10872	632	66	5.01/10.4
<b>FY22 to date</b>	227580	11641	759	72	5.12/9.49
<b>Change</b>	- 4.4%	- 6.3%	-17%	-8.5%	
<b>FY19 to date</b>	243647	11265	626	70	4.62/11.41

Crash data source: TCRS/Numetric on 6-26-23.

MSP-CVED started our Motor Carrier Officer Recruit School (MCORS) on January 22, 2023. We currently have eight officers in the FTO program.

*Note:* While not an objective to this grant, a portion of the grant award is appropriated to support various Michigan State Police divisions as legislated under Public Act 207 of 2018. This appropriation will be indicated in the FY23 grant budget.

**D. Education Grant Activity – Ms. Michelle Zemla – Michigan Center for Truck Safety (MCTS)**

As of June 28, 2023, not all June programs have been completed.

**Goal #1 – Provide CMV safety training to CMV drivers and industry personnel**

The stated ambition for this goal is to provide CMV safety training to up to 1500 CMV drivers and industry personnel during the 2023 fiscal year.

The Center has provided safety training to 867 CMV drivers and industry personnel. Training included New Entrant, Simulator Training, Defensive Driving Course, Reasonable Suspicion Training for Supervisors – UP Only, and Driver Performance Management from October 1, 2022, through June 20, 2023.

**Goal #2 – Strengthen CDL Programs by providing outreach to include seminars and community events**

The stated ambition for this goal is to strengthen CDL Programs by providing outreach to include seminars and community events to up to 5000 individuals during the 2023 fiscal year.

2483 individuals have attended safety related seminars, 65 individuals attended zoom training programs, and 2507 individuals viewed Facebook Live safety videos. In addition, 874 individuals participated in demonstrations with the Mobile Simulator and 825 individuals were reached through events such as conferences, Welcome Centers, etc. from October 1, 2022, through June 20, 2023.

**Goal #3 – Additional CMV Safety Activities**

The stated ambition for this goal is to provide additional CMV safety activities during FY23.

The Center has provided additional CMV safety activities that included:

- Distributing over 22,688 Truck Drivers Guidebooks as well as other resources.
- Assisting with 2452 phone calls to the Centers two hotlines.

**Goal #4 – Develop or Expand at least one training deliverable**

The stated ambition for this goal is to develop new or expand and improve, at least one training-related deliverable for the CMV drivers and industry during FY2023.

Currently, there are additional training scenarios being created for additional offerings through the simulator program.

The MCTS has awarded Virage Simulation, Inc. for the purchase of 2 simulators and 1 classroom trailer. The MCTS has put paid ½ deposit in June to start the purchase, in order for Virage to start the classroom trailer build.

**Goal #5 – PI&E Campaign**

The stated ambition for this goal is to develop or expand and improve public information and education campaigns during the 2023 fiscal year.

There are PI&E campaigns to targeting Detroit, Grand Rapids, and the Upper Peninsula geographical areas. The digital and radio campaigns will run Mid-May through Mid-July.

**E. PROJECT UPDATES**

**FY23 PROJECTS**

<b>Project Name</b>	Truck Driver Safety Education Project
<b>Recipient</b>	Michigan Center for Truck Safety (MCTS)
<b>Grant Award</b>	\$1,512,971
<b>Description</b>	Fund staffing and administration for training programs.
<b>Status</b>	Grant approved.
<b>Project Name</b>	Commercial Motor Vehicle (CMV) Enforcement and Outreach
<b>Recipient</b>	Michigan State Police Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division (MSP-CVED)
<b>Grant Award</b>	\$2,000,000
<b>Description</b>	Fund overtime CMV traffic enforcement.
<b>Status</b>	Grant approved.

**Project Name** Michigan Center for Defensive Driving (MCDD)  
**Recipient** Michigan Trucking Association (MTA)  
**Grant Award** \$1,040,000  
**Project Description** Provides the CMV operators with significant skills not offered anywhere in the state of Michigan. The training shall provide classroom instruction and real-life exercises utilizing a variety of the CMV combinations. This unique training experience will allow the CMV operators to sharpen their skills of crash avoidance, especially while driving in adverse weather conditions.  
**Status** Grant approved.

### FY2023 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

**Project Name** CMV Strategic Plan 2023-2026  
**Project Description** The Truck Safety Strategic Plan serves as the Strategic Highway Safety Plan for commercial motor vehicles action plan  
**Status** Approve the FY23-26 plans

### FUTURE PROJECT CONSIDERATIONS

**Project Name** Frost Law Repository and App  
**Project Description** Unknown currently  
**Status** Added to list per MTSC Chair. See transcript or minutes for May 11, 2022, for details

**Project Name** Legal Counsel and Representation  
**Project Description** Unknown currently  
**Status** Added to list per MTSC Chair. See transcript or minutes for May 11, 2022, for details

**Project Name** Records Management System for MCTS  
**Project Description** Based on the recommendations made by the 2015 UMTRI report, the MCTS may consider obtaining a records management system for all training records for trucking companies, safety managers, and CMV drivers if funding becomes available.  
**Status** The MCTS put this project on hold in FY2016. The costs continued to be explored in FY23-24.

**Project Name** CMV Seat Belt and Hand-Held Device Use Rate Study  
**Project Description** This research project conducts direct observation surveys regarding CMV drivers' seat belt and hand-held device use rates. This project was completed in 2015 and is updated every 2-3 years.  
**Status** This project has been tabled for future consideration.

**Project Name** Truck Safety Road Team  
**Project Description** The Road Team had been a MCTS-sponsored event in the past. Various members supported resurrecting this educational program that involves taking a truck to various locations to educate drivers on how to share the road safely with large vehicles.  
**Status** This project has been tabled for future consideration.

**Project Name** Commercial Motor Vehicle Project Solicitation Based on the Strategic Plan 2020-2024.  
**Project Description** The purpose of these projects is to provide suitable solutions based on any of the emphasis areas that are detailed in the Michigan Truck Safety Strategic Safety Plan 2020-2024.  
**Dates** Due before FY23.  
**Received** Understanding the Injury and Fatality Risks Among Michigan Commercial Motor Vehicle Drivers: Michigan State University. \$233,321

Evaluation of the Effectiveness of the Professional Truck Driver Training Course on Unsafe Driving Outcomes: University of Michigan Traffic Research Institute (UMTRI). \$299,992

**Status**

These projects have been tabled for future consideration.

**STANDING REPORT/UPDATES:**

- A. Chair's Report – Capt. Rick Arnold** – Thank you to all who were able to attend the open house on July 11, 2023, for the I-96 westbound Fowlerville weigh station hosted by the MSP CVED. Working to finalize the purchase of a display and the programming for a 24/7 scale by year-end. Idea to host a future MTSC meeting at the Fowlerville or Ionia weigh station with a tour to follow the meeting. Commissioners are also interested in a tour of the skid pad once available.

Captain Arnold has connected with Dr. Jeremy Worm regarding the MTSC Project Committee. An update will be provided at a future MTSC.

**B. Commissioners Perspectives**

**Ms. Carol Heinowski** – Thank you for hosting the open house on July 11, 2023 – Ms. Heinowski brought several members from a safety committee she participates on who were very impressed.

It has been 365 days of no loss time injuries. Excited to see the hands-free legislation was approved as this will only assist.

Ms. Heinowski will be facilitating the MTSC Budget Committee to finalize budget recommendations – seeking volunteers to join. Mr. Brian Hitchcock, and Ms. Katie Bower are interested in joining this committee with Ms. Zada Schriener involved as well. An update will be provided at a future MTSC.

**Ms. Kim Kelly** – This marks her fourth year as a commissioner, and she has decided to resign with today's meeting being her last MTSC. On behalf of the MTSC, Captain Arnold thanked Ms. Kelly for her commitment to the commission.

**Ms. Katie Bower** – The 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Michigan Traffic Safety Summit drew 343 attendees – thank you for the support of this event. The 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Michigan Traffic Safety Summit is planned for March 12-13, 2024, at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing. Please let the OHSP know if you have presentation or speaker recommendations as we are seeking submissions through September 29, 2023.

2022 traffic crash statistics were released June 28, 2023:

- Commercial motor vehicles increased by 2%
- Work zone crashes increased by 28%
- Fatalities in work zones increased by 15%
- Crash related fatalities decreased slightly

The OHSP grant project proposal process was open to anyone who had interest in applying. Overall, 124 proposals were submitted, with only three of those not moving forth as they did not meet criteria.

The Triennial Highway Safety Plan (3HSP) was submitted to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) which includes part of the Highway Safety Planning (HSP). The OHSP is currently awaiting feedback ahead of final review and approval.

With the new hands-free law, the OHSP worked quickly on creating information to share with the public, including advertisements and social media blasts. Ms. Bower is interested in hearing how this has been shared with school bus and commercial motor vehicle drivers as the fines have increased.

- Captain Arnold shared that the CVED has not publicly shared detail outside of what the MSP has created.
- The OHSP can assist with some social media posts to target these audiences with support from others.

- The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) was working to install 37 signs at entry to the state of Michigan.
- The OHSP is also working with MDOS to have details added to branch offices.
- Mr. John Harris was going to follow-up with a committee through MDOS to see what work they have completed to share this message.

**Mr. Jeremy Burleson** – Commissioner was not present at today's meeting.

**Mr. John Harris** – Completed an online fatigue workshop through the truck center which he found informative and engaging.

MDOS has additional Road to Restoration clinics taking place throughout the state with several currently taking place in the Upper Peninsula. Additional details located online: [Road to Restoration \(michigan.gov\)](https://www.michigan.gov/road-to-restoration)

**Mr. Randy Coplin** – The 2023 Michigan Traffic Safety Summit was nicely done and enjoyed having the event in Grand Rapids as the space was beautiful.

After 42 years of involvement with commercial motor vehicle related projects, Mr. Coplin is resigning from his commissioner role. On behalf of the MTSC, Captain Arnold thanked Mr. Coplin for her commitment to the commission. Mr. Coplin mentioned he could attempt to participate in future MTSC meetings until an official reappointment has been made.

**Mr. Jeffrey Lee** – Kudos to the OHSP on the 2023 Michigan Traffic Safety Summit as the event was nicely executed.

**Mr. Brian Hitchcock** – The Bluewater Bridge, an international bridge across the St. Clair River that links Port Huron to Ontario, is closed on one-side which is creating traffic hazards and traffic backups.

**Dr. Jeremy Worm** – Will follow-up up with those interested in participating in the MTSC Project Committee over the next couple of weeks to establish a virtual meeting.

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

### A. MTSC Commissioner terms –

There are seven commissioners who have a term end-date of August 8, 2023. The State of Michigan Appointments Office is aware of the following:

- Mr. Jeremy Burleson, South Haven, Represents Michigan community colleges.
- Mr. Randy Coplin, Litchfield, Represents the general public – resigning.
- Ms. Carol Heinowski, Grand Ledge, Represents private motor carriers.
- Mr. Brian Hitchcock, Williamston, Represents the Michigan Trucking Association.
- Ms. Kim Kelly, Dimondale, Represents the general public – resigning.
- Mr. Jeffrey Lee, Canton, Represents organized labor.
- Dr. Jeremy Worm, Ahmeek, Represents four-year colleges and universities.

### Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson –

The MTSC requires a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson who shall each serve a two-year term. Any member shall serve no more than two consecutive, two-year terms of office as Chairperson or Vice-chairperson. Both Captain Arnold (chair) and Ms. Carol Heinowski (vice chair) were voted into their positions on March 21, 2021.

Chairperson – Motion for Captain Arnold to stay in this position for an additional two years. Motion carried by Mr. Randy Coplin to nominate for the Chairperson seconded by Mr. Jeff Lee and Dr. Jeremy Worm, all ayes, motion carried.



COMMISSIONER		Yay	Nay	Abstain	Absent
1.	Capt. Rick Arnold, Chair			x	
2.	Katie Bower	x			
3.	Jeremy Bureson				x
4.	Randy Coplin	x			
5.	John Harris	x			
6.	Carol Heinowski	x			
7.	Brian Hitchcock	x			
8.	Kim Kelly	x			
9.	Jeff Lee	x			
10.	Jeremy Worm	x			
11.	Vacant				x

Vice-Chairperson: Motion for Ms. Carol Heinowski to stay in this position for an additional two years. Motion carried by Captain Arnold to nominate for the Vice-Chairperson seconded by Mr. Jeff Lee and Dr. Jeremy Worm, all ayes, motion carried.

COMMISSIONER		Yay	Nay	Abstain	Absent
1.	Capt. Rick Arnold, Chair	x			
2.	Katie Bower	x			
3.	Jeremy Bureson				x
4.	Randy Coplin	x			
5.	John Harris	x			
6.	Carol Heinowski			x	
7.	Brian Hitchcock	x			
8.	Kim Kelly	x			
9.	Jeff Lee	x			
10.	Jeremy Worm	x			
11.	Vacant				x

**B. 2024 MTSC Meeting Schedule** – In following the pattern of meetings held bi-monthly on the second Wednesday of the month (unless otherwise noted), here are the proposed 2024 MTSC meeting dates:

- January 10, 2024
- March 20, 2024 (due to the Michigan Traffic Safety Summit the week prior)
- May 8, 2024
- July 10, 2024
- September 11, 2024
- October 23, 2023 (Truck Safety Annual Report due November 15, 2024)

Motion for 2024 MTSC Meeting Schedule by Mr. John Harris to nominate for the vice-chair, seconded by Ms. Katie Bower, all ayes, motion carried.

Ms. Katelyn Mullin will create the meeting appointments for 2024 and share with the MTSC commissioners and supporting persons.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **A. FY24 Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Divisions (CVED) Project Proposal**

Lt. Bracco is awaiting further clarification from the OHSP on the template to utilize within Michigan Grants System (MGX).

This project proposal will be discussed at a future MTSC

### **B. FY24 Michigan Center for Truck Safety (MCTS) Project Proposal**

This is a three-year proposal with the grant application in one-year dollar amounts. This would require a change notice at the beginning of each year due to being above the contract amount of one million per year.

Discussion took place regarding the original contract for three million dollars prior to COVID – are we able to amend the education center contract? Captain Arnold and Ms. Katie Bower will review the verbiage within the contract. Additional discussion will then take place Ms. Jill Sokacz and Ms. Michelle Zemla.

This project proposal will be discussed at a future MTSC.

### **C. FY24 Michigan Center for Decision Driving (MCDD) Skid Pad Project Proposal**

This project proposal will be discussed at a future MTSC.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Welcome to Mr. Matt Fabry our new Division Administrator for the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA).

Ms. Jill Sokacz shared additional information regarding Wreaths Across America which collects contributions from across the country to purchase a wreath to be added to graves at Arlington National Cemetery. Goal to have virtual truckload fill by December 2023. Additional information can be located here: [Overview - Wreaths Across America](#).

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Captain Arnold motioned to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Randy Coplin supported the motion. All ayes. Meeting adjourned at 11 a.m.

### **NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday, September 13, 2023, at 9 a.m. – Fowlerville Weigh Station *\*\*updated location\*\**