

# MICHIGAN TRUCK SAFETY COMMISSION **MTSC**

**January 10, 2018**  
**Meeting Minutes**

## **Commissioners Present**

Dr. Dan Blower, Chair  
James Fackler  
Sharon Conklin  
Jill Skutar  
Capt. Mike Krumm  
Michael Prince  
Amanda Williams  
Michelle Taylor

## **Commissioners Absent**

Dave Goller  
Tim Yungfer, Vice Chair  
Charles Moser

## **Guests**

Lawrence Archer  
MC Lt. Susan Fries  
John Wallace  
Michelle Zemla  
Joel Gordon  
Carissa McQuiston  
Brandon Cannon  
Fred Bueter  
Walter Heinritzi  
Cheryl Llano

## **OHSP Staff**

Kara Rueckert  
Spencer Simmons  
Heidi Ruis  
Anne Readett

## **ROLL CALL**

The Michigan Truck Safety Commission meeting was called to order by Dr. Dan Blower, Chair, at 9:06 a.m.

## **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Self-introductions were made by those present.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Capt. Krumm made a motion to approve the November 1, 2017, meeting minutes. The motion was supported by Ms. Sharon Conklin. The motion carries.

## **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

Presentations in recognition of their years of service given to Mr. Fred Bueter and Mr. Walter Heinritzi, whose time on the commission has come to an end.

## **STANDING REPORTS**

### A. Chair's Report – Dr. Dan Blower

Dr. Blower discussed the research arm of the ATA and a recent annual survey of the top priorities recently produced in regards to issues concerned with the trucking industry. The issues are:

- Driver shortage; graduated CDL to attract more drivers
- Electronic EDL and what the roll out and window of compliance will be; research on the productivity hit
- Impact of customer detention on hours of service compliance
- Truck parking; evaluation was favorable
- Driver retention—reducing the amount of turnover
- CSA; monitor how well the FMCSA is rolling out CSA
- Cumulative impact of trucking regulations (economic and otherwise) reduced; develop improved metrics and possibly a new impact analysis model

- Driver distraction for CMV and non-CMV drivers; impact of technology now in trucks
- Infrastructure congestions and funding
- Driver health and wellness to encourage more exercise and healthier food at truck stops; research on return on investment

#### B. Commissioners Perspectives

Jill Skutar - Michigan Trucking Association. Safety Awards banquet evening of March 20.

James Fackler - Michigan Department of State. Anti-Human trafficking law: disqualification for life for CDL. MDOS involved in a law suit related to suspending licenses for non-payment, more focused on non-CDL—will see updates in the next 30 days.

Capt. Mike Krumm - Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division, Michigan State Police. House of Promise shelter was just purchased to house victims of human trafficking is supported by CVED. January is human trafficking awareness month; will be out January 20-26 handing out information to truckers MCOs come in contact with.

Michael Prince - Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning. Recently worked with UMTRI to do a repeat of a study for a Crash and Crime Cost Analysis:

- In general, traffic crashes cost the state of Michigan \$4.6 billion in monetary costs and \$19.3 billion in total costs (for 2015)
- For CMV, medium and large truck crashes, cost on average \$75,000; total cost of all fatal, serious injury, moderate injury, minor injury and property damage crashes for medium/large truck crashes in 2015 was \$1.3 billion.
- Full report and breakdowns available on OHSP website

971 fatalities processed as of December 31; will likely be over 1000 fatalities for the second year in a row; 5292 serious injuries

The Annual Evaluation Report for OHSP grants is in the process of being finalized; provided over 5000 car seats to families in need; over 66,000 hours of enforcement; over 1800 impaired drivers removed from the roadways; OHSP will continue to be heavily involved in training every law enforcement person in the middle level of Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement; Implemented vulnerable roadway users program; work with DOS on ignition interlock program

OHSP is still trying to get staffing levels back up to speed and will be funding a bicycle safety conference in June in Grand Rapids. The next traffic enforcement campaign is April 9-22 and will focus on distracted driving; localized traffic enforcement between now and then, as well.

Sharon Conklin - Representing Private Motor Carriers. Safety departments of many truck companies are a part of the MTA west Michigan safety council; next Tuesday's meeting will include a speaker from the Menasha project who will speak on the topic of sex trafficking. Last month's meeting was on sleep apnea; Feb. 20 meeting will be an awards dinner; the council meets the third Tuesday of every month.

#### C. Financial Report - Mr. Spencer Simmons - Office of Highway Safety Planning

The transition to SIGMA has caused many problems and has actually intermixed data from different fiscal years. Several calls have been made to the SIGMA help desk to get the current, correct information. Once accurate information can be accessed in SIGMA, it will be sent out to the commissioners.

Both grants have reports due for the first quarter, then monthly report submission will take over after that. Neither grant has amounts that have been liquidated at this point due to the issues with SIGMA. As far as we know, nothing alarming is going on with finances.

#### D. Enforcement Grant Activity Report

For the first quarter, inspections and stops are lower due to weather, which is reflected in the numbers report.

- Drive to zero overtime hours usually take place over the holidays
- CMV related crashes - 22, percentage is 10.9%, which is about average
- CMV related injuries - 580
- Actively recruiting MCOs

#### E. Education Grant Activity - Ms. Michelle Zemla - Michigan Center for Truck Safety

Numbers for some goals are slightly lower than normal due to weather and safety issues related to the weather. Ms. Zemla ensured commissioners goals are not reflective of being short staffed.

- Goal #1 – Provide new entrant safety management to 75 motor carriers; 17%
- Goal #2 – Provide driver performance measurement (DPM) evaluations to 100 drivers; 6%
- Goal #3 – Provide national safety council defensive driving for professional truck drivers (PTD) to 300 individuals; 10%
- Goal #4 – Provide simulator training to 500 drivers and provide demonstrations to 1,200 individuals; 28% / 27%
- Goal #5 – Provide online fatigue training to 300 individuals; 5%
- Goal #6 – Provide various safety seminars to 2,000 individuals; 27%
- Goal #7 – Provide phone technical assistance (incoming/outgoing calls); 36%
- Goal #8 – Distribute truck drivers guidebook (TDG); 2975 for quarter (no numerical goal set)
- Goal # 9 – Increase social media and outreach; increased by 48; almost all of last year's totals (no numerical goal set)

Hiring process is still ongoing and several interviews have taken place. Anyone offered a position has turned it down, but there will be more interviews this week. Finding that candidates do have trucking industry background, but the specifications for simulator especially are extremely particular. Ms. Zemla is still optimistic the position will be filled soon with someone qualified. Currently, staff is working together to get all of the duties covered. Research in salary shows \$62k is the median salary; this position offers \$58k with full benefits.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### A. TACT Project Update

Dr. Blower gave an overview of what the TACT project is and has done in the past. This will be the second project in Michigan. Committee is in the final steps of putting details together necessary to go forward with requesting funding.

Capt. Krumm has worked on getting information together as far as when to do the project, etc. At this time, looking at October (FY19); if money is received in FY18, it could still be spent in FY19. Notice of funding would need to come out in January, 60-90 days to review applications. Could be awarded the money between August and September. Dr. Blower confirmed we have February/March to get the

application in. Because this project is not as large of a priority as the first, it is difficult to know how quickly this will be moved forward.

Capt. Krumm is in full support because many truckers think the CVED campaigns are only focused on truckers, not the actual issues at hand. The TACT project addresses aggressive driving for cars and trucks. Looks at tailgating, aggressive lane changes, etc. of passenger cars. Officers given a list of violations they were looking for. Mr. Prince went over the details of the last TACT project and financial figures; available upon request. Question regarding how much money will be requested; Dr. Blower said the commission will request as much funding as they can get and then commission will cover the rest. This project would include a more compact evaluation approach than the first project.

Would like to complete project over ten days, two weeks, five days each; 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily; location discussion has included the I-94 corridor (Indiana to Jackson), from 275 corridor in eastern part of the state; this does depend on internal availability for personnel (troopers, not CVED); District lieutenant or sergeant would spearhead project from CVED side

Application process will be completed by OHSP and funding will be sorted out in the form of grants. Committee established with representatives from all sides/agencies involved to coordinate the entire process.

B. FY18 Project Update - Mr. Michael Prince - OHSP

Two projects that are funded by the MTSC for a total of \$3.4 million; additional exploration projects also discussed an include the Skid Pad and TACT projects; projects on hold include a records management system for MCTS, CMV seat belt and hand-held device use rate study, and truck safety road team.

C. 30th Anniversary for MTSC - Mr. Michael Prince - OHSP

Possibility of putting out a news release, a way to recognize the contributions the commission has made to truck safety in the state.

D. Skid Pad Project - Mr. Joel Gordon - DTMB

Received proposals and sat down as a committee to review and score them. Novak and Kraus was selected (engineering firm; local architectural firm will be present).

Committee found process and proposal meeting reassuring because there was a range of proposals and process was unfamiliar. Also reassuring that price range was not that great.

Meeting this afternoon will be used to set a time frame and schedule for the project.

Establishing and refining cost estimates. Will take time to put money together to move forward with project; most appropriate time to put out bids is end of February/beginning of March due to pricing increases in summer.

Site has been identified at the secondary complex by VTS.

Currently there is a work order/MOP that has money for current steps of project. Before bid can be finalized, there must be a revision to the work order with the total amount of money. Money must be in place, based on best estimate, before moving forward. Previous skid pad was supported on a scholarship model.

Commission has been looking for the last couple of years for a new location for a skid pad and has finally identified a location on state land with guaranteed access for a considerable amount of time. Project would entail fundraising to move forward with the process.

Construction would include the skid pad, a storage building for vehicles, and a place of assembly. Blueprint available for the new site location next to VTS.

Will need to know the amount of equipment that will be stored on-site so an accurate storage building size can be determined. Will also need to look to the future and what the facility may need to entail 10 or even 20 years from now.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Prince gave a reminder on the Michigan Traffic Safety Summit; March 20-22, 2018. OHSP sponsors the MTSC commissioners. Please contact Kara with any questions. GTSAC awards luncheon on March 21.

Dr. Blower requested presentation topic ideas from commissioners; please send to Kara for compilation.

Dr. Blower would also like commissioners to think about possible research topics moving forward.

Dr. Blower would like to figure out a way to introduce truck related questions into the driver licensing exam. People teach to the test, which presents a problem in this industry.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the MTSC is scheduled for Wednesday, March 14, 2018, at the Center for Truck Safety.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:58 a.m.