

MICHIGAN TRUCK SAFETY COMMISSION **MTSC**

March 9, 2016
Meeting Minutes

Commissioners Present

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

Commissioners Absent

Dave Goller
Tim Yungfer, Vice Chair

Guests

Al Newell
Chuck Simmons
Michelle Zemla
Don Willcutt
Doug Childs
Larry Fennell
Lawrence Archer
Valerian Kwigizile
Marie Barrett
Marilynne Fattal
Sgt. Scott Carlson
Vance Saunders
Tammy Werner
Ron Edwards
John Wallace

OHSP Staff

Janet Hengesbach
Julie Roth
Heidi Ruis
Spencer Simmons
Alicia Sledge

ROLL CALL

The Michigan Truck Safety Commission meeting was called to order by Dr. Dan Blower, Chair, at 9:00 a.m.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Self-introductions were made by those present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A **MOTION** to accept the November 4, 2015 minutes was made by Captain Krumm and supported by Mr. O'Brien. The **MOTION** carries.

STANDING REPORTS

A.Chair's Report – Dr. Dan Blower

Dr. Blower discussed the National Academy of Science's study on Data and Methods looking at truck driver fatigue, health, and wellness. A panel of researchers is looking at understanding the hours of service with fatigue vs. hours of service with safety. This would bring better methods into the study of driver fatigue, etc. The Hours of Service requirement is a blunt instrument relating to fatigue. It is difficult to regulate rest which is the critical factor for drivers. In the future there may be a test which is easily administered where the driver demonstrates that he is fit for duty.

The 34-hour Restart Study is still incomplete. The restart provision requires 34 consecutive hours off duty, including two periods between 1:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. on consecutive nights, to restart a driver's hours of service clock. The time schedule for completing the study was very ambitious. It will be of great interest when it is complete, but it could be a couple more months before release.

The rulemaking on regarding mandatory training for new drivers is getting closer. Information could be released yet this year.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS

Walt Heinritzi, Michigan Trucking Association – No report

Capt. Mike Krumm, Michigan State Police – Captain Krumm discussed the recent Truckers Against Trafficking initiative in Ohio and Indiana. Michigan is one of the top three states in the nation to adopt the Iowa model. There is an uptick in calls to the center which says this is having an impact on drivers.

Fred Bueter, Michigan Department of State – Minimum training requirements is becoming expensive for the CDL community. The trainers will electronically submit the results to MDOS but this takes programming. This new ruling will cost \$5 billion dollars. Current CDL drivers are grandfathered in unless they drive hazmat trucks, school buses, etc. They will have to go through refreshers training.

CDL drivers need to prove their legal presence either with a passport, birth certificate or other compliant document. This is a requirement for all CDL drivers. A reminder is now placed on the renewal applications mailed out for CDL drivers.

The Motorcycle Assessment going on now at the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center. Mr. Chad Teachout from OHSP is facilitating the assessment with representation from NHTSA.

Bob Ramels, General Public – No report.

Mike Prince, Office of Highway Safety Planning – The annual Michigan Traffic Safety Summit is scheduled for March 22 – 24 at the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center. Thus far, 561 have registered with 20 vendors, 35 workshops including demonstration of the MCTS Truck Simulator among others. April is Distracted Driving Awareness month. This is a national campaign with posters and other assets available along with additional patrols to be on duty. The Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) training just wrapped up. There are currently 99 DRE's in the state of Michigan. A CVED officer was also in this training.

Mr. Tom O'Brien, Michigan Community Colleges – No report.

Ms. Sharon Conklin, Private Motor Carriers – Next Tuesday the MTA Safety Symposium will be held featuring several speakers and an evening dinner with Captain Krumm as the keynote speaker. On June 5 & 6, the truck driver championship will be held in the Lansing area.

Charles Moser, Transportation Commission – Concerned about the increase in crashes due to speed especially with speed bills which were recently discussed in the legislature.

B. Financial Report – Mr. Spencer Simmons

Mr. Simmons reviewed the most recent financial report through January 31, 2016 including revenue and expenditure projections, UCR and carryforward monies.

C. Enforcement Grant Activity Report – Captain Krumm, MSP, Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division

Captain Krumm reported that CVED recently hosted a one week operation along with Indiana and Ohio in December. All CVED officers were involved in the enforcement along the I-94 corridor and the turnpikes through Indiana and Ohio. When they combined their numbers, Ohio is the leader in inspections – 23 per officer while MSP registered 19 per officer and Indiana noted 14. The focus of this initiative was traffic safety – speed, following too close, etc.

In the last quarter, MSP averaged 16 citations and 16 verbal warnings compared with Ohio who had 2.3 and Indiana who had 2.1. MSP total contacts were 31 per officer while Indiana was 15 and Ohio 6.2. The

procurement process for additional equipment is waiting to be finalized. Once approved, 32 new radar units will be ordered.

Thirteen recruits recently graduated from Motor Carrier School. They have been assigned to various locations throughout the state. Another Motor Carrier school is to begin in August 2016.

The CVED technology bid was awarded to ITERIS with March 24 scheduled as the kick-off meeting. The CVIEW and INSPECT programs should be up and running in all cars and scales by mid-summer.

Western Michigan did a study on the efficiencies of the weigh stations. Fowlerville, Ionia, and Pontiac were noted as inefficient because they lacked some of the upgraded technologies. Captain Krumm is going to submit a proposal for upgraded safety features/technology to be installed in these stations.

D. Education Grant Activity Report – Mr. Al Newell, Michigan Center for Truck Safety (MCTS)

Mr. Newell reported on the last quarter of activity for the MCTS which included 429 drivers from 19 companies completed the training course, 1,029 people received training from the MCTS, 99 individuals participated in new entrant/safety audits, outreach was provided through Facebook and the MCTS website and all MCTS specialists have been trained in the Driver Performance Measurement.

PRESENTATIONS

A.UD-10 Revisions – Sgt. Scott Carlson, MSP, Traffic Crash Unit

Sergeant Carlson reviewed and explained basic changes and updates to the UD-10 form/guide. This undertaking was kicked off in 2012 and rolled out this past January. It is federally compliant and cleans up some fields which were outdated. It has the same look and feel as the previous versions but is now using color values. Some new fields were added including Contributing Circumstances, Work Zone, Driver Distracted by, Extent of Damage, and Vehicle Configuration.

ACTION ITEMS

A.TSF Revised (UCR Funds) – Captain Krumm

CVED proposes to use this funding to increase the STET hours from 10,500 to 11,800 regular hours. Also, they will purchase and deploy 80 digital in-car cameras to replace the current obsolete cameras in the patrol fleet. CVED is also requesting funds to cover the CVIEW-plus technology start-up and maintenance.

Mr. Ramels made a **MOTION** to approve CVED's request of \$776,605 in UCR fees, Mr. Moser supported. The **MOTION** carries

Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Blower		Krumm	Goller
Bueter			
Conklin			
Heinritzi			
Moser			
O'Brien			
Prince			
Ramels			

B. MCDD Proposal – Dr. Blower (Mr. Heinritzi recused himself from this discussion and left the meeting at this time as he is the Executive Director of the MTA and the applicant for this project proposal.)

Prior to Mr. Heinritzi's departure from the meeting, he commented to the commissioners that the most recent proposal submitted is a response to a recent RFP posting from OHSP and that this is a more detailed response. The industry is very interested in this proposal and are willing to put up money for this proposal should it be accepted.

Dr. Blower began the discussion by posing the questions - is it a good idea and should we do it? Can it be done financially and legally? His sense is yes and all interested parties are in agreement that it should be done. It is useful and an appropriate addition to truck driver training.

Mr. Ramels believes there is no question that it is useful but is wondering about review and approval from Admin Board, AG office, etc. Dr. Blower reminded everyone that the Commission would be committing for 10 years. They would incur a debt that will bind future commissioners along with purchasing property for the Skid Pad training.

Mr. Prince agreed that yes, any grant over \$100,000 has to go to Admin Board. Some questions initially are: Can the commission award a state restricted fund grant to construct buildings on property which the state does not own and what are those legal issues and any ramifications? Also what kinds of legal protections for contracts need to be put in place? Who can authorize other than the state ad board?

Mr. Moser is a proponent of this project and is interested in getting it up and running as soon as possible.

Mr. Simmons reviewed the financial piece of this proposed project. There are many variables that need to be taken into consideration before committing to this project. If the commissioners were to commit to this project, according to statute, the commission has to distribute \$750,000 for enforcement and \$1,000,000 for education however, funding for other truck safety/education projects would be limited due to the remaining funds available.

Captain Krumm likes the proposal, but does not like the location suggestion as he believes it too rural. One option would be to find a group who would buy/lease a location for us to facilitate the training. Perhaps the Commission as a whole could approach the legislature for a one-time request. Another option would be to approach the state to see if there is any land available and develop a partnership to build the skid pad on a site they suggest. Mr. Prince will check in to this option.

Following discussions, Mr. Prince made a **MOTION** to table the proposal pending exploration of 1.) the impact of the proposal on current and future grant awards and 2.) initiate the creation of a committee headed by the Chair to explore funding sources. Dr. Blower supported. The **MOTION** carries by voice vote.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Prince announced that Ms. Kathy Farnum retired effective January 29. Ms. Alicia Sledge has been appointed as acting Planning and Administration Section Chief.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Representatives from Michigan Packing reported they send their employees to training regularly. They suggested that companies may want to consider using another facility such as National Guard for training purposes.

Captain Krumm noted that only 5% of training for MSP recruits, troopers and others is done on the drive track. He also discussed initiative where CVED will be looking for individuals who drive erratically around trucks.

Mr. Newell reminded all present that MCTS has a DVD specifically for teen drivers to show them the safe way to drive around trucks on highways.

NEXT MEETING

3-9-16 MTSC Meeting Minutes

The next meeting of the MTSC is scheduled for Wednesday, May 11, 2016.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.