



Board of Transportation Safety

Meeting Minutes

06/24/10

DRAFT

DMV Headquarters, Richmond, Virginia

Chair: Walter Yeatts

Recording Secretary:

Audrey Odum

Board Members Present: Walter Yeatts, Dave Rhodes, Bruce Wingo, Dee Bowles, Paulette Benson
Melvin Robertson, Rebecca Martin, Allen Muchnick, Richard Baugh,
Tom McGrath,

Board Members Absent: Charles Rosemond, Charles Quillin

DMV Staff: David Mitchell, John Saunders, Audrey Odum, Angelisa Jennings,
Eula Moore-Anderson, Bob Weakley, Bruce Biondo, Monty Mills
MaryAnn Rayment, Steve Goodwin, Dwight Jenkins, Butch Letteer,
Ernestine Barrett, Shuron Booker, Darlene Kelley

Special Guest(s): Richard Holcomb - DMV's Commissioner
Dr. Beth Baker – NHTSA Regional Administrator
Lorraine Novak – NHTSA Regional Program Manager

Chair Walter Yeatts called meeting to order and thanked everyone for attending. He advised the Board and other attendees that today's meeting would be streamed live over the internet along with future meetings.

Commissioner Holcomb mentioned Virginia's current statistics and recognized the Board for the important work they do for the Commonwealth.

Public Comment - None

Board Business

Chair Walter Yeatts asked Secretary to the Board, David Mitchell to call roll. Representation was sufficient for a quorum.

Chair Walter Yeatts asked the Board for approval of the minutes from the February 2010 meeting. (Motion – Dave Rhodes and Richard Baugh) Approved with no amendments.

Secretary Mitchell addressed past action items:

- Grant training and upcoming grant workshops. Board members to be invited to workshops in their districts.

Secretary David Mitchell furnished a brief overview of current legislation.

Commissioner Holcomb mentioned Governor McDonnell's commitment to reform the Commonwealth's transportation programs. He asked the Board to review the initial ideas and provide any comments on potential impact and workability. Information was furnished to Board through prior e-mail.

Dr. Beth Baker provided a NHTSA update and recognized Virginia for the decrease in fatalities, seatbelt usage and grant funded programs and initiatives that have proven successful with reducing crashes, injuries and fatalities in the Commonwealth. Dr. Baker also discussed other areas of concern, i.e., ignition interlock, nighttime belt use and motorcycle statistics, etc. These areas are being focused on in the Region as well as nationwide and will be addressed through partnerships and education and awareness efforts.

Dee Bowles updated the Board on the Awards Committee meeting. In addition to herself, Charles Rosemond along with Bruce Wingo, Chair of the Committee met on April 6th to review and select winners for this year's awards. This year's ceremony will be held on July 14th at the Governor's Mansion.

David Mitchell discussed the recent FOIA request from citizen in reference to highway engineering and grant funded speed enforcement. Board entertained motion to continue speed enforcement on the roads of the Commonwealth which are and have been established in accordance with Virginia code. (Motion – Allen Muchnick and Dave Rhodes) The motion was unanimously approved.

Standing Reports

Angelisa Jennings provided an overview of current crash statistics.
Eula Moore-Anderson updated the Board with the grants financial report.

Presentations

Dave Rhodes, Chair of the Allocations Committee, gave a brief overview of the May 20th grants review meeting and recognized committee members, Rebecca Martin and Richard Baugh. Dave also recognized staff for all their hard work in making the process easy for the Board. He acknowledged the grants process and how far it has progressed.

David Mitchell addressed the Board regarding the 2011 grant process. He discussed how federal funds would be allocated by district and funds distributed based on data, which identified the

specific highway safety related problems for that geographic region. Additionally, it was reiterated that again this year performance measures were in place to determine the effectiveness of those safety projects approved for funding.

Allen Muchnick suggested staff use a line plot chart instead of the bar chart for next year's presentation.

Bob Weakley reviewed a grant increase request for TREDIS of \$402,196.66. These funds were carry-over funds from previous year to increase current grant request. Board Approved

Mr. Weakley began the review of the 2011 grant requests. Grants approved with minor changes. The Board's recommendations for funding will be forwarded to the Secretary of Transportation for final approval. A news release will be generated once grants have been approved through the Secretariat.

John Saunders, Director of the Virginia Highway Safety Office (VAHSO) discussed Smooth Operator, a multi-state safety program which included Virginia, Maryland and District of Columbia. He informed the Board that Virginia would not be participating this year. The VAHSO will be visiting the NHTSA's speed program and will put their focus on Virginia needs.

New Business from Floor

Chair Walter Yeatts asked the Board to consider a resolution for former DMV employee, Vincent Burgess for his many years of dedication to transportation safety. Board agreed and staff was requested to prepare resolution and invite Mr. Burgess to attend the transportation safety awards ceremony in July.

Chair Walter Yeatts asked for volunteers to serve on the Nominating Committee. Paulette Benson volunteered and was ask to Chair this year's committee. Other members selected were Charles Rosemond and Charlie Quillin. The Chair will contact member(s) absent on their appointments.

The Chair asked that any member interested in serving as either Chair or Vice-Chair, should notify one of these committee members by September 1st. At our fall meeting, the Nominating Committee will bring forth a slate of officers to be voted on by the full Board. The new Chair will begin serving at the first meeting of 2011.

Bruce Biondo brought to the Board's attention that Virginia qualified for a grant from NHTSA, strictly to be used for motorcycle safety for approximately \$100,000. The Board would be updated as funds are received.

Bruce Wingo mentioned that Norfolk-Southern would be hosting a train ride on July 28th from Radford to Bristol. Board invited to participate and will be furnished additional information.

Dates of Future Meetings

July 14, 2010 – Governor’s Transportation Safety Awards Ceremony – Governor’s Mansion

September 2010 – Board Meeting – Location TBD

December 8-10, 2010 – Transportation Conference in Roanoke. Board meeting on December 8th.