

# **NEW JERSEY MOTOR VEHICLE COMMISSION**

Minutes by Board Secretary John G. Donnelly of actions taken at the Open Session of the Special Meeting of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC) Board held at Floor 8E, Motor Vehicle Commission Headquarters, 225 East State Street, Trenton, New Jersey on Thursday, June 11, 2015.

## **Present:**

Raymond P. Martinez, Chairman (by speakerphone)  
Stephen S. Scaturro, Vice-Chairman  
Laurette K. Asante, Public Board Member (by speakerphone)  
Scott Kisch, Public Board Member (by speakerphone)  
Walter Orcutt, Public Board Member (by speakerphone)  
Miriam Weeks, Transportation Commissioner Designee (by speakerphone)  
James Fruscione, State Treasurer Designee (by speakerphone)  
Gary Poedubicky, Attorney General Designee

Governor's Authorities Unit Assistant Counsel Christopher Howard and Deputy Attorney General Philip Espinosa participated.

Vice-Chairman Stephen Scaturro convened the Open Session at 2:00 p.m. at the request of Chairman Martinez, who was participating via telephone, in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

**Agenda Approval.** Board Member Kisch moved to accept the proposed agenda, Board Member Asante seconded the motion and it was unanimously adopted.

**Chairman's Report.** Chairman Martinez began by welcoming everyone to the summer season, and updated all attendees on these actions since the April 14 Board Meeting:

## **BUDGET SEASON**

On May 4, I once again joined Transportation Commissioner Jamie Fox and NJ Transit Director Ronnie Hakim, this time before the Assembly Budget Committee, in presenting the MVC's budget for Fiscal 2016. Although the questioning was a bit more involved and direct at this hearing, most particularly regarding the termination of our contract with Hewlett-Packard and the computer upgrade project we called MATRX, I am confident that I was able to communicate the challenges we have overcome, as well as those we face in the future. The MVC has a comprehensive plan to move forward and address the needs of New Jersey motorists. I would like to thank Carol Hollows, our Director of Financial Management, and Steve Beke, our accounting manager, for all of their hard work in preparing me for my testimony.

## SUMMER SAFETY

I know many of you will be spending time in the sun at the Jersey Shore this summer, so I would like to take this opportunity to share with you these important safety messages:

***Share the Road:*** May was Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month. This is when we like to remind all motorists to share the road with motorcycles. In fact, on May 12<sup>th</sup>, the Commission was recognized by Allstate Insurance through its Ride for Awareness campaign to educate drivers about Sharing the Road with motorcycles. We are proud to say that motorcycle fatalities in New Jersey have been on the decline over the past few years, and we would like to see that trend continue. Just because the month is over, it does not mean our work stops. So remember to stay alert and respect those who are enjoying New Jersey's scenic roadways both on four wheels as well as two.

***JustDrive.com:*** We are also continuing to remind motorists to put the phone down and "Just Drive" through our JUSTDRIVE.com campaign. No text message is ever important enough to cost someone their life. We have been actively engaging the public through a marketing and social media campaign to promote JUSTDRIVE.com. Mairin Bellack, our Deputy Director of Communications, will be speaking more about our success and our future efforts later on in the meeting.

***In general:*** We want everyone to have a safe and happy summer. New Jersey is a major tourist destination and we expect millions more to be traveling our roadways over the next several months, and in many forms. Our inspection teams will be out in full force to ensure buses, taxis, jitneys, and limos are ready to safely serve the public.

## CAROL-ANN HOLLOWES

I would like to share some personnel related news with you. This was officially Carol Hollow's last budget season with us as she is retiring at the end of this month. I want to take this opportunity to thank Carol for all of her hard work and dedication to support this Commission, and for sticking it out for just one more year with us, as she had originally planned on retiring last year. We were fortunate to have her a little longer – even though I am sure there were days she second guessed herself! On behalf of the entire Commission, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to Carol and wish her well on her retirement. I also request that she not change her phone number, in the event we need to call her next year during budget season! Carol, I would ask that you please come forward with our Deputy Chief Administrator, Jeanne Ashmore, for a brief presentation. (*Deputy Chief Administrator Ashmore then presented Director Hollows with a THANKS plate, and Communications' Awn Rizvi took a photograph.*)

The following Agenda Items were presented for approval:

**1506-01: ELT Regulation.** This action is to meet the statutory provision of the Motor Vehicle Security and Customer Service Act to promulgate regulations for the proper functioning of the Commission, including this proposed amendment of the Electronic Lien Titling regulation. MVC Board Secretary Jack Donnelly presented the proposed amendment. Director Weeks did not participate in the discussion or vote on this item.

Board Member Orcutt moved the resolution, Director Fruscione seconded it and it was adopted.

**1407-02: School Bus Regulation.** This action is to meet the statutory provision of the Motor Vehicle Security and Customer Service Act to promulgate regulations for the proper functioning of the Commission, including this Final Rule for School Bus regulations regarding "Tour of Duty." Jeff Pistol of the Regulatory and Legislative Affairs Office presented the Final Rule.

Director Weeks moved the resolution, Director Poedubicky seconded it and it was unanimously adopted.

**PRESENTATION: JustDrive.com**

The MVC Deputy Director of Communications Mairin Bellack updated the MVC Board Members on the Commission's legislatively-mandated public awareness effort to help put an end to talking and texting behind the wheel. Chairman Martinez had briefed the Board during their February Board Meeting about his press event with Lt. Governor Guadagno to kickoff the JUSTDRIVE.com campaign, including billboards, print ads, digital media, a highly-interactive website that showcases the dangers and penalties for talking and texting while driving while providing an outlet for New Jersey citizens and others to share their own stories and describe their personal experiences, and MVC's first television commercial on channels such as A&E, AMC, VH1, Bravo, the Discovery Channel, and more, that hits home a message to put the phone down.

Today, the Board viewed a new television commercial in which Chairman Martinez describes students' participation in the campaign. Also, a radio commercial that plays at area professional sports venues including the Major League Baseball Mets' games. Further, the Board was also briefed on new statistics indicating the success of the campaign to date, including:

1. 50,000 unique site visitors to JustDrive.com
2. 65,000 site visits to JustDrive.com
3. 200 story submissions
4. 4,675 Facebook fans
5. 1,000,000 Facebook brand impressions (number of times our ad has been viewed)
6. 100 Rutgers University students sharing at a social event
7. 5 sponsorships with professional baseball teams
8. 200 participants at a Camden Riversharks events
9. 3 summer-themed billboards along shore routes
10. Many summer-themed campaign elements, e.g., boardwalk kiosks and aerial banners

Vice-Chairman Scaturro thanked Ms. Bellack for her presentation.

## **PRESENTATION: New Federal CDL Skills Testing**

The MVC Deputy Director of Agency Support Services Jim Ferguson briefed the MVC Board Members on the Commission's implementation of new federal CDL skills test requirements.

### Current requirements include:

1. Pre-trip inspection
2. Basic control skills
  - a. Straight line backing and 2' stop line
  - b. Alley docking
  - c. Measured right hand turn
3. On road driving demonstration

### New federal requirements include:

1. A more extensive pre-trip inspection
2. Basic Control Skills
  - a. Straight Line Backing
  - b. Parallel parking
  - c. Offset backing
  - d. 90 degree Alley docking
3. Additional on-road driving demonstrations that include mandatory road maneuvers such as railroad crossings and lane changes.

Deputy Director Ferguson directed all attendees' attention to a powerpoint display of new course layouts at various MVC agencies, and explained that they were reconstructed and completed with the help of MVC Facilities Office in coordination with assistance provided by the New Jersey Department of Transportation and the New Jersey Turnpike Authority. The reconstruction and other improvements needed at each site included but were not limited to re-alignment, paving, painting and striping, and signage. Chairman Martinez expressed his appreciation on behalf of the Commission to NJDOT and NJTA.

Vice-Chairman Scaturro thanked Mr. Ferguson for his presentation.

**Legislative Report.** A briefing was provided by Legislative Liaison Paul Rozenberg, including:

### **Signed by the Governor:**

**S-266** (Greenstein D14/Bucco R25/Benson D14/DeAngelo D14/Sumter D35/Wisniewski D19/Garcia D33) requires high school driver education courses, MVC's driver manual and MVC's driver's license written exam to include aggressive driving information. The following MVC divisions will be impacted: IT, Agency Services (Driver Testing), Communications, and Compliance & Safety. This act was signed on May 4, 2015 and takes effect December 1, 2015 as P.L.2015, c.36.

**A-3905** (Coughlin D19/Eustace D38/Johnson D37/Garcia D33/Gill D34/Kean R21) authorizes operators of motor vehicles to display electronic proof of insurance in addition to the current paper form, consistent with regulations to be promulgated by the Department of Banking and Insurance in consultation with MVC. The following MVC divisions will be impacted: Legal and Communications. This act was signed on May 7, 2015 and took effect immediately as P.L.2015, c.54.

**A-3161** (Lampitt D6/Beach D6/Allen R7) amends the State child passenger restraint system and booster seat law to implement current car seat safety recommendations. MVC Communications Office will be impacted. This act was signed on May 7, 2015 and shall take effect September 1, 2015 as P.L.2015, c.50.

**A-3579** (Moriarty D4/Benson D14/O'Scanlon R13/Schepisi R39/Madden D4/Beach D6) limits access to data recorded by motor vehicle recording devices. There is little impact on MVC. This act was signed on May 11, 2015 and took effect immediately as P.L.2015, c.60.

**Bills Near the Governor's Desk** (*Passed one House of the Legislature and reported from committee in second House*):

**S-2508** (Oroho R24/Whelan D2) authorizes certain county veteran identification cards to serve as proof of status for veteran designation on MVC driver licenses or identification cards. MVC has expressed concern that should not be responsible to confirm that each County Clerks' Office follows the same DD-214 military discharge papers procedures. *It passed the full Senate (37-0) on June 26, 2014, and was reported out of the Assembly Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee and received 2<sup>nd</sup> reading in the Assembly on May 5, 2015.*

**A-1781** (McKeon D27/Mainor D31/Jasey D27/Wimberly D35/Sumter D35) requires MVC to inform and test drivers on dangers of failing to comply with traffic safety laws and "STOP for Nikhil Safety Pledge." MVC opposes this bill as: our driving manual already includes the necessary information that the bill incorporates into what it calls Nikhil's Pledge; the Driver and Road Test Scoring System (DARTSS) vendor would have to add this question to the driver's test; the question in the test would have to be translated to the languages we offer, new audio would need to be recorded, and; MVC would incur costs of approximately \$65,000. *It passed the full Assembly (75-0-0) on March 9, 2015, and was reported out of the Senate Law and Public Safety Committee and received 2<sup>nd</sup> reading in the Senate on May 5, 2015.*

**A-387** (Tucker D28/Giblin D34/Wilson D5/Webber R26) makes consent to register with Selective Service part of driver's license application process for males under age 26. MVC has no objection to this bill, as it has been amended to address MVC's concerns by removing the requirement of electronic submission of information to the Selective Service System. *It passed the full Assembly (75-0-0) on March 9, 2015, and was reported out of the Senate Law and Public Safety Committee and received 2<sup>nd</sup> reading in the Senate on May 11, 2015.*

**S-1946** (Sacco D32/Pennacchio R26) permits school districts to request and receive from MVC the name and address of a student's parent or guardian to verify student's eligibility for enrollment in school district. MVC has no objection to this bill, as it has been amended to adopt suggestions from the MVC including limiting disclosure to only the parent's or guardian's name and address, and MVC will only have to disclose this information in the event of a dispute between a school district and the parents or guardians of a student. *It passed the full Senate (40-0) on June 26, 2014, then with amendments passed the full Assembly (74-3-0) on December 15, 2014, and was referred back to the Senate to concur with Assembly amendments.*

Vice-Chairman Scaturro thanked Paul for the presentation.

**Public Comments:**

No members of the public sought to make a public comment.

Vice-Chairman Scaturro thanked everyone for their participation today.

**Adjournment:**

Since there were no further comments or business, a motion to adjourn was made by Board Member Asante and seconded by Board Member Orcutt and unanimously adopted at 3:00 p.m.