

Minutes by Board Secretary John G. Donnelly of actions taken at the Open Session of the regularly scheduled 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 Tuesday, April 16, 2013.

Present:

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

Governor's Authorities Unit Assistant Counsel Peter Simon and Deputy Attorney General Philip Espinosa attended.

Chairman Raymond P. Martinez convened the Open Session at 2:00 p.m. in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Agenda Approval. Vice-Chairman Scaturro moved to accept the proposed agenda, Director Fruscione seconded the motion and it was unanimously adopted.

Chairman's Report

The Chairman then presented this report of key Commission activities since the February 12, 2013 Board Meeting:

Distracted Driving

How many of you are willing to admit that you've ever daydreamed while you were behind the wheel? Well, an interesting new study by the Erie Insurance Group showed that daydreaming while driving is five times more dangerous than talking or texting on your phone. They found that 63 percent of all distracted driving crashes in the U.S. that resulted in fatalities were blamed on being lost in thought. So, the next time you drift off into a dream about how great your next trip to the MVC will be, think twice and focus on the task at hand – driving. Daydreaming, texting, talking, eating...they are all distractions, so keep your eyes and thoughts on the road.

Now for an update on what's been going on here at the MVC.

Organ Donor Awareness Month

It's National Donate Life Month once again and the MVC is heavily involved in the promotion of the important issue of organ and tissue donation. Just last week, Selika Gore and Bob Grill joined Governor Christie for a proclamation signing at the State House

where he declared April as Donate Life Month here in New Jersey. I have also begun my month-long tour of the state with our friends from the Gift of Life and the Sharing Network to raise awareness about this issue at our agencies. Our agencies are all on board with this effort and have decked themselves out with plenty of information and promotional materials for customers to see. On the 18th, we're also planning an event down at Our Lady of Lourdes Medical Center's Regional Organ Transplantation Center in Camden. This is going to be another fantastic event to keep this month's momentum going.

National Car Care Month

In addition to organ donation, April is also National Car Care Month. We had a great event recently down at LeisureTowne in Burlington County where mobile inspection teams provided free car checks to residents of this active adult community. Thank you Tom Bednarz to the great work your staff did that day. While waiting for their car checks, the motorists also had the opportunity to get all kinds of information at an MVC information booth, as well as from booths staffed by our partners from the DEP, Lottery, Military/Veterans Affairs and Consumer Affairs. I also want to thank Gary Poedubicky who joined us that day too. In addition to the car checks, we presented our Wisdom Behind the Wheel mature driver program to the residents. Gary was one of our featured speakers on behalf of Highway Traffic Safety in addition to friends from DOT and the NJ Society of Optometric Physicians.

E-ZPass

I'm pleased to say that we've now added three more agency locations where we're selling E-ZPass on the Go kits. We announced last month that we've moved into the northern part of the state with sales at agencies in Bayonne, Newark and Rahway. This brings our sales locations to nine. Other sites include Hazlet, Manahawkin, Rio Grande, Salem, Turnersville and West Deptford. To date, we've sold approximately 567 kits at \$31 each.

Flood/Salvage Vehicles

You'll remember that back in January we held a joint event with the Division of Consumer Affairs regarding flood and salvage vehicles. At that time, we announced the creation of an online search tool on the Consumer Affairs website that allows the public to look up vehicles that the MVC has processed as flood or salvage. Since that announcement, we've reached a total of 30,000 vehicles now listed for public viewing on the searchable database. This is a simple way for consumers to protect themselves when they are in the market for a vehicle. As you know, under the law, a seller cannot knowingly sell a vehicle without disclosing to purchasers any damage it may have, but we know that consumers should always enter into any type of transaction from a position of strength. In this case, the strength is gained from knowledge.

Military CDL Waiver

Every once and a while we do make a common sense decision here at the MVC. One such decision was to offer an official waiver from the CDL road test to veterans with documented military driving experience. We've partnered with Brigadier General Michael Cunniff and the Department of Military & Veterans Affairs to alert recently returned soldiers who were on active or reserve duty within the last 90 days that they will now be able to utilize their military driving experience of at least two years to apply for the waiver. The move by the MVC streamlines the process a bit for those who want to get their CDL.

Introduction - Legislative Liaison

I wanted to take a moment and welcome a new addition to our MVC team – Don Dinsmore. He's joined us as our new Legislative Liaison in the Office of Intergovernmental Relations. Don comes to us with a lot of great regulatory and legislative experience having most recently served as Chief of Staff to Assemblyman Gary Chiusano and prior to that Assistant Chief Counsel at the NJ Assembly Republican Office. In bringing Don on board, I'd also like to thank Rebecca Donington who has been a tremendous support to me over the last several months as Acting Legislative Liaison. I'm pleased to say that she will now be assuming the role of Legal Specialist in our Regulatory and Legal Affairs Office where she's accepted the challenge of serving as the State Contract Manager for the state's vehicle inspection program, as well as the MVC's Ethics Liaison Officer.

That's an update of MVC happenings.

The following Agenda Items were presented for approval:

Minutes: February 12, 2013. This item is to fulfill the requirements of The Motor Vehicle Security and Customer Service Act and of the Bylaws to approve the Minutes of each MVC Board Meeting, by approving the Minutes of the MVC Board Meeting of February 12, 2013.

Board Member Orcutt moved the resolution, Board Member Kisch seconded it and it was unanimously adopted.

1304-01: Placard Regulation. This action is to meet the statutory requirement 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 regulation regarding placards for persons with disabilities. Sarah Miller of the MVC Office of Regulatory and Legislative Affairs presented the regulation.

Board Member Asante moved the resolution, Director Poedubicky seconded it and it was unanimously adopted.

1304-02: ZORF Regulation. This action is to meet the statutory provision of the Motor Vehicle Security and Customer Service Act to implement the Zone Of Rate Freedom (Z.O.R.F.) law found at N.J.S.A. 48:4-2.20 to 2.25. Kate Tasch, Manager in the Office of Regulatory and Legislative Affairs, presented the Final Rule for 2013.

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

Legislative Report. A briefing was provided by Acting Legislative Liaison Rebecca Donington on a number of legislative issues, including:

A-720(Ramos, Milam, Wagner, Quijano, Moriarty) was signed by the Governor and requires direct deposit for all State employee compensation on and after July 1, 2014 and allows county, county college, municipality, and local school district to opt for mandatory direct deposit for all employee compensation on or after July 1, 2014;

S-71 (Codey, Singer, Watson Coleman) was conditionally vetoed by the Governor and was opposed by MVC, and would establish "New Jersey Yellow Dot Program" in MVC by which a yellow dot affixed to the rear driver side window would alert emergency responders that medical information is in the glove compartment;

A-2555 (Tucker, Milam , Wilson , Conaway) has been sent to the Governor's desk and is supported by MVC, and would permit the MVC Chief Administrator to waive CDL skills test for certain applicants with military experience operating commercial motor vehicles;

Two bills are near the Governor's desk are S-69 (Codey, Madden)/A-1080 (Quijano, Spencer, Munoz, N., DeAngelo, Fuentes, Moriarty) to increase the fine and impose license suspension for talking or texting on hand-held device while driving, and MVC has taken no public position on this legislation, and S-2168 (Whelan, Beach, Buono)/A-2870 (Mosquera, Eustace / Milam, Benson, DeAngelo, Wisniewski) to require the Secretary of State to establish secure Internet website for online voter registration and authorize use of digitized signatures from New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission database, and MVC has deferred to the Secretary of State on this bill;

The MVC is in the process of implementing P.L. 2012, c.3 regarding disability identification cards, placards and license plates, consistent with the proposed regulation approved by the MVC Board Members today;

FY2014 Budget Testimony was provided on April 3, 2013 by Chairman and Chief Administrator Martinez at the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee. The Chairman was complimented by numerous Senators on the great job the MVC is doing keeping agency wait times down and that the changes in agency hours have been very accommodating to the public. It was even noted that the Newton Agency won a Customer Service Award by the Sussex County Chamber of Commerce. Chairman Martinez fielded questions regarding MVC's initiative to implement an electronic lien and titling system, whether a customer's change of address on the MVC's website is forwarded to the Division of Elections and the procedures employed to inspect school busses. Chairman Martinez is scheduled to testify before the Assembly Budget Committee on Tuesday, May 7, 2013.

Chairman Martinez thanked Rebecca, and also the entire staff of attorneys and professionals in the Office of Legal and Regulatory Affairs for their ongoing assistance to each of the other offices at the Commission.

Public Comments:

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

Chair Martinez thanked the Board Members, staff and public for their participation today and noted that Board Meetings are an important means of assuring the public that MVC is working to be responsive to their needs.

Adjournment:

Since there were no further comments or business, a motion to adjourn was made by Director Weeks and seconded by Vice-Chairman Scaturro and unanimously adopted at 2:55 p.m.