

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, June 7, 2011.

Present:

Raymond P. Martinez, Chairman
Stephen S. Scaturro, Vice-Chairman
Scott L. Kisch, Public Board Member participated by telephone
James S. Simpson, Transportation Commissioner
Gary Poedubicky, Highway Traffic Safety Dep. Director, Attorney General Designee
Adrienne Kreipke, OMB Manager, Treasury Designee

Not Present:

Laurette K. Asante, Public Board Member previously advised she would be absent.
Walter S. Orcutt, Public Board Member previously advised he would be absent.

Chair Raymond P. Martinez convened the Open Session at 2:05 p.m. in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, and followed with The Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Martinez said he was pleased to introduce Transportation Commissioner James S. Simpson. Commissioner Simpson said he welcomed the opportunity to attend today's MVC Board Meeting, especially now that snow storms appear to be behind him for the spring! The Commissioner noted that Governor Christie and his efforts to reauthorize the Transportation Trust Fund are progressing, the importance of which the MVC meeting's attendees can appreciate. Finally, Commissioner Simpson stressed the importance of reducing pedestrian and vehicular fatalities, and that through his office and through an increased familiarity with MVC he wishes to enhance efforts to reduce the number of such fatalities.

Agenda Approval. Vice-Chairman Stephen S. Scaturro moved to accept the proposed agenda, Mr. Kisch seconded the motion and it was unanimously adopted.

The Chair then presented the Chair's Report with these highlights since the February 8, 2011 Annual Reorganization Board Meeting:

Motorcycle Safety

With the assistance of Bergen County Harley Davidson, one of our motorcycle safety course providers, we held a NJ Motorcycle Safety Month rally on May 6.

About 100 riders, along with representatives of the Division of Highway Traffic Safety and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, turned out for the rally as we unveiled our new safety campaign with the theme of Share the Road.

This year's federally grant funded campaign is extra special for us because it features many MVC employees who are riders.

The centerpiece of the campaign is a 30-second spot airing on TV and on the web that takes a more family-oriented approach to encourage motorcycle safety. You may even notice a familiar face, our Vice-Chairman Steve Scaturro!

I want to thank Highway Traffic Safety for its assistance in getting the federal grant, as well as all of our staff members who participated in the campaign this year. It was a job well done.

EDDL

One of the biggest announcements we've had so far this year was the unveiling of our new Enhanced Digital Driver License last month.

Highlighting the overall security efforts of New Jersey, I, along with Attorney General Paula Dow and Homeland Security Director Charlie McKenna held a media event at Newark Liberty International Airport to bring attention to this new license and the benefits it provides now and those it will provide in the near future.

The overall look of the new, Real ID-materially compliant license doesn't differ that much from the old license, but we now have a number of new security features that will make duplication extremely difficult for criminals.

And frankly, this was our goal.

The driver license is no longer a simple card that proves you are legally entitled to operate a vehicle; it is now THE primary source of identification for most Americans and a breeder document for so many other pieces of identification.

It is the primary document used for traveling, accessing government buildings, obtaining certain federal, state and local benefits or even purchasing certain drugs.

Additionally, it's been seven years since we rolled out New Jersey's first digital driver license and now we continue to stay one step ahead of those who would seek to perpetrate fraud.

But the security isn't the only benefit of this new license that is already being issued in all 39 agencies.

The new license brings us one step closer to a true central issuance system.

Following the completion of our core computer system overhaul in late 2012, the MVC will begin implementation of a new, secure central issuance process for all driver license renewals.

Relying on state-of-the-art facial recognition technology in the coming year, the MVC will begin a scrub of our entire 16-million- record data base that will be an invaluable process in helping to prevent fraudulent driver license activity. The scrub will, in turn, prepare us for a move to the central issuance of driver licenses following the completion of our MATRX project.

This move has the potential to eliminate the need for more than one million people a year to visit their local agency for license renewal in the coming years – a true customer service benefit. We look forward to the years ahead that will produce these benefits.

Fraud Prevention

On May 20, the MVC, along with our national partner, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, and our state partners – the Office of the Attorney General, the NJ State Police, and the NJ Office of Homeland Security & Preparedness, hosted a very well-attended and highly successful fraud prevention seminar that focused how state and federal law enforcement agencies can leverage each other's resources in the fight against identity theft and preventing fraud. The full-day, information-filled seminar also focused on local and national trends in these types of cases and ways to assist related investigations. The seminar was attended by 235 participants, including representatives from 104 local, county, and state law enforcement and investigative entities.

Our own Director of Security, Tom Flarity and his staff were instrumental in putting this together and the reviews were excellent.

Safe Summer

As we kicked off the summer season, I joined the Attorney General, State Police, DOT and Highway Traffic Safety at the 101 Days of Safe Summer event at the Cheesequake rest area on the Garden State Parkway.

It was an event focused on highway safety issues as we enter the busiest traffic period on New Jersey roadways.

From driver distractions and seatbelt usage to drunk driving and pedestrian safety, we brought attention once again to all of the major components necessary for a summer of safe driving.

As I've learned from my years in the motor vehicle world, constant reminders and consistent messaging is critical to ensuring the safety of our roads.

Plates

I'm pleased to report that the first editions of our state's first Gold Star Family license plates can now be seen on the back of many vehicles. The plates were shipped prior to the Memorial Day holiday.

The following Agenda Items were presented for approval:

Minutes: April 5, 2011. 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 Annual Reorganization Board Meeting of April 5, 2011.

Mr. Scaturro moved the resolution, Mr. Poedubicky seconded it; Ms. Kreipke abstained and the motion was adopted.

1106-01: Appreciation to Martin N. Herman, M.D. This action is to meet the statutory requirement of The Motor Vehicle Security and Customer Service Act (“Act”), P.L. 2003, c.13, as the enabling statute that created MVC, and as amended by P.L. 2007, c. 335 and by P. L. 2009, c.298, at Section 2 that MVC inform our customers of the work of MVC, which includes distinguished and invaluable service provided by New Jersey’s Medical Doctors to MVC through the MVC Medical Advisory Panels as described at N.J.S.A. 39:2-14. The Board approved a resolution to recognize and thank Martin N. Herman, M.D. for his 30 years of continuing, ongoing service to the MVC Medical Advisory Panel.

Chairman Martinez presented Dr. Herman with the framed resolution and a congratulatory letter from Governor Chris Christie.

Commissioner Simpson moved the resolution, Vice-Chairman Stephen S. Scaturro seconded it and it was unanimously adopted.

1106-02: Appreciation to Francis A. Wood, M.D. This action is to meet the statutory requirement of The Motor Vehicle Security and Customer Service Act (“Act”), P.L. 2003, c.13, as the enabling statute that created MVC, and as amended by P.L. 2007, c. 335 and by P. L. 2009, c.298, at Section 2 that MVC inform our customers of the work of MVC, which includes distinguished and invaluable service provided by New Jersey’s Medical Doctors to MVC through the MVC Medical Advisory Panels as described at N.J.S.A. 39:2-14. The Board approved a resolution to recognize and thank Francis A. Wood, M.D. for his 46 years of continuing, ongoing service to the MVC Medical Advisory Panel.

Chairman Martinez presented Dr. Wood with the framed resolution and a congratulatory letter from Governor Chris Christie.

Commissioner Simpson moved the resolution, Vice-Chairman Stephen S. Scaturro seconded it and it was unanimously adopted.

1106-03: Emergency Equipment 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 regulations governing the display and use of emergency equipment. Jeff Pistol of the MVC Office of Regulatory and Legislative Affairs presented the regulation, and noted the Chair’s new policy of making all proposed regulations available at the Board meetings at which they are considered.

Mr. Kisch moved the resolution, Mr. Poedubicky seconded it and it was unanimously adopted.

1106-04: Licensing Service 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 these proposed amendments of the Commission’s regulations regarding the implementation of its various licenses and certificates, which in part permits certain farm vehicles to operate on

highways on Sundays and holidays. Jeff Pistol of the MVC Office of Regulatory and Legislative Affairs presented the regulation, and noted the Chair's new policy of making all proposed regulations available at the Board meetings at which they are considered.

Mr. Poedubicky moved the resolution, Mr. Kisch seconded it and it was unanimously adopted.

1106-05: Enforcement 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 these amendments pertaining to school buses. Jeff Pistol of the MVC Office of Regulatory and Legislative Affairs presented the regulation, and noted the Chair's new policy of making all proposed regulations available at the Board meetings at which they are considered.

Mr. Poedubicky moved the resolution, Commissioner Simpson seconded it and it was unanimously adopted.

Legislative Report. A briefing was provided by Legislative Assistant Rebecca Donington on a number of legislative issues, including: The FY2012 departmental budget hearing process during which Chief Administrator Martinez testified before Senate and Assembly Committees; Chief Administrator Martinez also testified before the Assembly State Government Committee on the closing of the Elizabeth motor vehicle agency; "Sara's Law" that requires Motor Vehicle Commission to establish a voluntary next-of-kin program that was signed into law by Governor Christie; A-1467/S-2590 that clarifies the type of insurance coverage for damage to property and for liability arising from bodily injury that an auto body repair facility must maintain to obtain a full service license; MVC has begun issuing Gold Star Family License Plates as authorized by Governor Christie's signing legislation in January 2011 and approximately 200 sets of plates have already been ordered, and; MVC is actively working to implement recently enacted legislation that made several revisions to statutes concerning motorcycle safety, including that the holder of a basic driver license is now authorized to operate a "low-speed motorcycle," and such motorcycles may not be driven on any toll road, limited access highway, or public road with a posted speed limit greater than 35 MPH, and that the new law prohibits motorcycle permit (probationary) holders from: a) operating a motorcycle from one-half after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise, b) carrying passengers, or c) riding on any toll road or limited access highway.

Chairman Martinez noted that it has been nearly a year since the passage of the FY2011 state budget and MVC's move to provide our customers with greater convenience through more flexible agency hours. He also noted that MVC will continue to monitor the effectiveness of those more flexible agency hours and their ability both to help us meet our service goals and to provide greater customer convenience.

Public Comments:

Mr. Ed Wengryn of the New Jersey Farm Bureau thanked the Commission for today's approval of the Licensing Service regulation that permits certain farm vehicles to operate

on highways on Sundays and holidays. Chairman Martinez stated that the Board appreciates the New Jersey Farm Bureau's comments.

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

Chairman 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. He also noted that this Sunday, June 12 at 10:00 a.m. in New Providence, NJ is the Share NJ 5K that will raise funds to encourage organ donation, which MVC supports through the sale of its organ donor plates. Chairman Martinez further noted that on Sunday, June 12, Deputy Chief Administrator Denise Coyle will represent MVC at the 41st Annual New Jersey Irish Festival of Monmouth Park, which will include an MVC Booth staffed by the MVC Communications Department.

Since there were no further comments or business, a motion to adjourn was made by Vice-Chairman Scaturro and seconded by Mr. Poedubicky and unanimously adopted at 3:05 p.m.