

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 9W, Motor Vehicle Commission Headquarters, 225 East State Street, Trenton, New Jersey on Tuesday, December 18, 2012. The meeting was conducted via conference call.

Present

Raymond P. Martinez, Chairman
Walter Orcutt, Public Board Member
Scott Kisch, Public Board Member
Miriam Weeks, Transportation Commissioner Designee
Gary Poedubicky, Attorney General Designee
James Fruscione, State Treasurer Designee

Vice-Chairman Stephen S. Scaturro and Board Member Laurette K. Asante previously advised Chairman Martinez that they would not be able to attend today's meeting.

Chairman Martinez and the Board wished a speedy recovery to Vice-Chairman Scaturro, who sustained an injury while making repairs to his home after Hurricane Sandy.

Governor's Authorities Unit Assistant Counsel Nicole Crifo and Deputy Attorney General Philip J. Espinosa participated.

Chairman Raymond P. Martinez convened the Open Session at 2:05 p.m. in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. He then led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Approval

Board Member Kisch moved to accept the proposed agenda, Director Poedubicky seconded the motion and it was unanimously adopted.

Chairman's Report

The Chairman then presented this report of key Commission activities since the October 2, 2012 Board Meeting:

Hurricane Sandy

While the storm put a temporary damper on motor vehicle and other state services, it did not impede our efforts to help those who were tremendously impacted by Sandy. From the start, we formally issued 30-day extensions to anyone whose driver license, registration, and inspection documents were due to expire by the end of the October. Staff from our Division of Agency Services also teamed up with FEMA centers to help

customers who may have lost essential documents, needed salvage vehicle assistance, had title issues or were experiencing other vehicle problems. The MVC, along with its sister agencies, quickly pulled together to provide help where it was needed. All cabinet members participated in a joint effort with Lowe's home improvement stores statewide to put hot meals together for people affected by the storm as a way of providing some brief relief. Specifically here at the MVC, our Division of Inspection Services came up with the idea of collecting much needed baby goods for those in the storm ravaged areas. This became a whole agency-wide effort that was very successful. Lastly, the MVC, in coordination with the Office of the Lt. Governor, collected food and other items for a Sandy relief effort.

Skip the Trip

I'm pleased to report that our renewal by mail initiative is going extremely well. To date, we've had over 75,000 customers take advantage of skipping the trip to their local agency. That's 75,000 less people who lined up in our agencies and that number will only grow. To help bring more attention to this new convenience, we held our own version of the Prize Patrol last week Lyndhurst, where I personally delivered the 75,000th Skip the Trip driver's license to one of our customers. It was a fun little media event that I hope will further encourage customers to Skip the Trip.

MATRX

While you may not hear any major announcements right now, there's been a lot of work behind the scenes on our MATRX project. At the end of October, a team of about 45 employees wrapped up the all-important script writing portion of Release II. For those not familiar with script writing, essentially this team spent several months creating around 14,000 step-by-step directions for various motor vehicle transactions; everything from the registration of an historic vehicle to the licensing of a new driver. I won't kid you; this was a pretty tedious process, but nonetheless, a very important aspect to the MATRX project. I want each and every one of these team members to know how appreciative I am of their many hours of work. It is because of their effort that we're now able to move into the User Acceptance Testing phase where those scripts will be put to the test in preparation for Release II of MATRX next year. I know all of us are looking forward to that.

Sara's Law

You may have seen some of the positive news stories about our recent launch of the new emergency Next of Kin registry. The registry was created following the signing of Sara's Law, which was developed in memory of Sara Dubinin; a young lady who was in a crash and lapsed into a coma before her parents could be located. She later passed away. This registry allows anyone with a driver's license or non-driver ID to visit our website and enter up to two emergency contacts in our system. This information will be accessible to law enforcement in the event that the individual becomes incapacitated following a crash. What's also helpful is that we lowered the age at which someone can obtain a non-driver ID so that they can take advantage of the registry. People as young as 14 may now get one with the permission of a parent or guardian. I want to thank our IT staff, as well as that of the state Office of Information Technology, who worked to get this registry up and running.

Season of Service

As a part of this administration's Season of Service, I was pleased to represent Governor Christie at a grant presentation to the Bergen County Community Action Partnership in Hackensack. I presented the organization's president, Bob Halsch, with a \$400,000 check that will be used to support the BCCAP's Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Rehousing Program. This is a great organization that does a lot to help individuals with housing issues or those who are on the verge of having a problem.

Leadership Development

We graduated another class of future MVC leaders as the 2012 Leadership Development Program came to a close. This is a program created in-house by our Office of Employee Development Team. This is the second group to finish this fantastic program, which prepares existing employees for management roles within our organization. This year's graduates were: Kristina Adams, John Giletto, Saida Jeudy, Steve Moorhatch, Laura Pasake, Roy Queenan and Laurie Sharpe.

Awards

The MVC was fortunate recently to be recognized with a few awards. Our eTemp Tag project, which was led by Jim Walker and Mike Cox, was given the Digital Government Achievement Award by the Center for Digital Government. The center is a national research institute focused on technology and best practices in government. ETemp Tags have been a very positive change for the MVC as we seek to bring great efficiency to its operations. The MVC also won two MarComm Gold Awards for communications projects. The first award went to our 2012 Share the Road motorcycle safety campaign TV commercial. The second recognized our informative Distracted Driving exhibit featuring a miniature car that allowed visitors to experience the dangers of not focusing on driving. Both these projects were put together by some of our communications folks: Elyse Coffey, Mairin Bellack and Awn Rizvi.

Holiday Safety Event

And speaking of our award-winning, Distracted Driving exhibit, we'll be going on the road with it again for a holiday safety event down in Voorhees Twp, Camden County later this week. The MVC, along with our friends at the NJ State Police, will host an information table at the Voorhees Town Center. We did a similar event up at the Bridgewater Commons Mall last holiday season that was very successful. Hosting these kinds of informative events during the busy shopping season is a great way to reach the public with such an important safety message.

That's an update of MVC happenings.

The following Agenda Items were presented for approval:

Minutes: October 2, 2012. 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 October 2, 2012.

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

Board Member Orcutt joined the meeting at this time.

1212-01: Motorcycle 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 re-adoption with amendments to the Motorcycle Safety Education Program Regulation. Robert Weinstein, Legal Specialist in the MVC Office of Regulatory and Legislative Affairs, presented the regulation.

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

1212-02: 2013 Meeting Dates. This item is to fulfill the requirements of the Motor Vehicle Security and Customer Service Act of 2003 and of the Motor Vehicle Commission's Bylaws Article III that the Board adopt the annual notice of meetings at its Annual Reorganization Meeting.

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

Legislative Report. A briefing was provided by Legislative Liaison Jonathan Pushman on a number of legislative issues, including the following bills that have had legislative action since the last Board Meeting on October 2, 2012:

A-2947 (Singleton / Burzichelli / Gusciora) and S-2238 (Allen / Pennacchio) make various revisions to laws concerning disabled person identification cards and placards related to parking privileges. MVC helped draft and publicly supports this bill. It has passed both houses and been sent to the Governor's Desk.

A-1753 (Prieto / Mainor / Quijano) and S-440 (Sacco / Pennacchio) exempts certain Office of Emergency Management (OEM) personnel from federal commercial driver's licensing (CDL) requirements under certain circumstances. The MVC has no objection to this legislation. It has passed both houses and been sent to the Governor's Desk.

AR-11 (Caputo) requests DEP, MVC, Attorney General, and Division of State Police to adopt regulations necessary to address engine braking noise from diesel trucks. Passed General Assembly (68-5-3) and filed with Secretary of State.

S-71 (Codey / Singer) and A-2037 (Watson Coleman) establishes "New Jersey Yellow Dot Program" in MVC.

These identical bills would establish a “Yellow Dot Program” in the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC). The purpose of the program is to provide emergency responders with critical health and emergency contact information for program participants to enable emergency responders to better assist program participants who are involved in motor vehicle emergencies and are unable to communicate. Passed one House of the Legislature and reported from committee in second House.

S-69 (Codey / Madden) and A-1080 (Quijano / Spencer / Munoz, N. / DeAngelo / Fuentes / Moriarty) increases fine and imposes license suspension for talking or texting on hand-held device while driving. All fines collected are to be paid to the State Treasurer for allocation to the Chief Administrator of the Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC) for use in the MVC's public education program on this offense, which will include informing motorists of the dangers of texting while driving. Passed one House of the Legislature and reported from committee in second House.

S-2168 (Whelan / Beach / Buono) and A-2870 (Mosquera / Eustace / Milam / Benson / DeAngelo / Wisniewski) requires Secretary of State to establish secure Internet website for online voter registration; authorizes use of digitized signature from New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission database. MVC defers to the Secretary of State's office, since that department will have primary responsibility for building the online voter registration system. Upon enactment, the MVC will need to build the capability to share info in the MVC database with the Division of Elections. Passed one House of the Legislature and reported from committee in second House.

Regarding implementation of Sara's Law (P.L.2010, c.47), MVC has launched an online “Next of Kin Registry” for individuals to voluntarily submit and maintain emergency contact information through the MVC website at: <http://www.nj.gov/mvc/Licenses/nextofkin.htm>.

Finally, mention was made of bills discussed at the October 2, 2012 Board Meeting that had seen no legislative movement since that time.

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 Board Member Orcutt and unanimously adopted at 2:55 p.m.