

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, October 2, 2012.

**Present**

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

Governor's Authorities Unit Assistant Counsel John Cascarano and Deputy Attorney General Philip J. Espinosa attended.

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

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

**Board Member Comments**

The Chairman invited Board Member comments. Board Member Orcutt noted that the recent issue of customers not smiling too broadly for the driver license has highlighted to him how streamlined and quick is the driver license process, which he hears regularly from customers.

**Chairman's Report**

The Chairman then presented this report of key Commission activities since the August 14, 2012 Board Meeting:

Fee Reductions

Something that always makes our customers happy is the term "fee reduction." So I was very pleased, when over the last couple of months we were able to announce some reductions. Thanks to a new Treasury agreement with state vendor NICUSA, Inc., the MVC was able to reduce the online credit card processing fee by 25 percent. Essentially, the fee was reduced by about 50 cents on credit card processing for vehicle registration renewals and specialty plate orders, which are among the most popular online transactions. And speaking of specialty plates, we recently announced a dramatic drop in

the renewal fee for our sports-themed license plates. When we first launched, renewals were \$60 per year. Now we've reduced that to just \$25 per year, which should be a great incentive to sports fans considering a plate for their car. And...with the holidays around the corner, they make a great gift.

### E-ZPass on the Go

Continuing our quest to make the most of a customer's visit to our agencies, last month we began selling E-ZPass on the Go kits at a few agencies in close proximity to the Garden State Parkway. For just \$31, customers stopping by the Hazlet, Manahawkin or Rio Grande Agencies can pick up the E-ZPass kit and begin using it right away. So far, we're showing pretty good success with this service. To date, we've sold 72 kits, which may prompt us to consider expanding their sale to other agencies around the state.

### Toll Violator Program

We continue to be a part of the great success that NJ Turnpike Authority is having in collecting from toll violators. It was recently reported by the authority that it has collected over \$3 million in additional revenue through various efforts to crack down on violators, including through the agreement with the MVC. Our folks here at the MVC have been a tremendous help in making the efforts a success. And, we've been working with the South Jersey Transportation Authority on a similar effort that I anticipate being just as successful.

### eTemp Tags

As you're aware, we implemented our new eTemp Tag system a few months back. Now that we've eliminated the use of the old style temp tags, our dealer partners are now into the full swing of using the print on demand system. As I mentioned previously, the new system also gives law enforcement the ability to do real-time verification of the temp tags; something that could not be done with the old style tags. To date, we have 232 police departments signed up to utilize this new system with about five new ones signing on each day. We've hit nearly 50 percent of all eligible law enforcement outlets who have joined us in using the eTemp Tag system look up capability.

### Senior Outreach

We officially kicked off our Wisdom Behind the Wheel mature driver program in Rutherford. As I mentioned previously, this safety program offers an informative discussion about remaining safely behind the wheel at any age. We've done several outings so far with our partners at Highway Traffic Safety, DOT, AAA and the medical community and they have been very well received. We've also had some very positive coverage of this program on the front pages of the Star Ledger and Trenton Times.

### Bakers Basin Agency

A couple of weeks ago, we marked the grand opening of our newest modernized agency that we built on Route 1 in Mercer County. The new Bakers Basin Agency, which at more than 12,000 sq. ft. is the largest facility we've constructed on state owned land, was completed on budget and two months earlier than anticipated. This is a testament to our great facilities staff here at the MVC, as well as the architects and construction folks on site that have really done a magnificent job moving Phase I of the project along. Next up

is the demolition of the old agency, along with the construction of an inspection office, driver testing field house and the addition of new parking areas.

### Skip the Trip

I wanted to save the best for last. As you know, I've talked a lot about expanding services, making things more convenient for our customers and improving our overall performance. Next month, we will begin one of the most long-awaited initiatives: Skip the Trip – driver's license and ID renewals by mail. We began sending invitations to eligible customers last month, letting them know that all they need to do is complete the renewal form, enclose a check or money order and within 7 to 10 days their new document will be issued by mail; absolutely no trip to an agency. To start off, Skip the Trip will be offered to customers born on or before December 1, 1964. This move will potentially eliminate the need for up to a million people to come to our agencies in the next year. That's not only good for them, but also for anyone else that still has to visit an agency; about a million less people standing in line with them. I'm very excited about Skip the Trip and looking forward to experiencing its positive impact on our operations. I encourage everyone to spread the word about Skip the Trip.

That's an update of MVC happenings.

The following Agenda Items were presented for approval:

**Minutes: August 14, 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 August 14, 2012.

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

**1210-02: 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 this Final Rule regarding convulsive seizures at N.J.A.C. 13:19-5.1; 13:19-5.7; 13:25-4.1; 13:25-4.7. Robert Weinstein, Legal Specialist in the MVC Office of Regulatory and Legislative Affairs, presented the regulation.

Chairman Martinez noted the significant stakeholder input with this regulation, particularly from the Medical Society of New Jersey, the Neurological Association of New Jersey that is represented at today's meeting by its Legislative Counsel Laurie A. Clarke, and doctors throughout New Jersey on whom everyone relies for good health and safety in these matters.

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

**Presentation – MVC Annual Report.** A briefing was provided by MVC Deputy Chief Administrator Denise L. Coyle, who began by describing the dedication of staff to the significant improvements noted in the Annual Report.

Deputy Chief Administrator Coyle explained that The Motor Vehicle Security and Customer Service Act requires that the Commission file an Annual Report with the Governor, the presiding officer of each House of the Legislature, and the transportation committees of each House of the Legislature. She noted that it was previously produced biannually, and that the new schedule for producing it is in line with the State fiscal year.

Deputy Chief Administrator Coyle then discussed the Christie Administration's Performance Management and Budget System that embraces the idea that "if you can measure it, you can improve it." MVC is realizing improved performance indicators as a result, and she thanked MVC staff for the commitment to making that happen.

The Deputy Chief Administrator noted that a chart in the Annual Report detailing the success with those performance indicators is followed by four pages of improvements! These include accomplishments such as increased agency hours, more secure driver licenses, automated driving test scheduling, new and improved facilities such as the Bakers Basin agency, cross-training of commercial bus and school bus inspectors, new eTemp tags, and completion of initial stages of our new computer system MATRX.

The Annual Report also includes a map showing all MVC facilities, Fast Facts on MVC's millions of annual customer interactions, and MVC arrests and related actions by our LEASE officers (Law Enforcement and Security Enhancement) that Deputy Chief Administrator Coyle reminded everyone are critically important to maintaining the safety of MVC employees and customers and the integrity of our operations and documents.

As this report is produced at no cost other than staff time, Deputy Chief Administrator Coyle thanked the Communications staff for an excellent job, and further thanked all MVC employees for doing so much in difficult financial times.

Chairman Martinez thanked Denise for the presentation and lauded the increased positive customer interaction and feedback as reflected in the Annual Report.

**Legislative Report.** A briefing was provided by Legislative Liaison Jonathan Pushman on a number of legislative issues, including the following bill that have some legislative action since the last Board Meeting on August 14, 2012:

**S-2168** (Whelan / Beach / Buono) and **A-2870** (Mosquera / Eustace / Milam / Benson / DeAngelo / Wisniewski) **to require the Secretary of State to establish secure Internet website for online voter registration; authorizes use of digitized signature from New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission database.** These identical bills require the Secretary of State to establish a secure Internet website to allow eligible voters to register to vote using an online voter registration form. The bill also authorizes the use of digitized signatures from the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission's database in connection with online voter registration forms. The MVC was initially concerned with the immediate

effective date of this legislation and requested an implementation deadline that would be consistent with MATRX timelines. Also, the MVC requested removal of a provision in the Senate version of the bill that would have required the MVC to utilize the electronic voter registration system to comply with the federal "Motor Voter Act." Both bills will now take effect 180 days after enactment. Also, the "Motor Voter Act" provision described herein was removed. Going forward, the MVC will defer 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. A-2870 was released by the Assembly Housing and Local Government Committee and may now head to the full Assembly for a floor vote. S-2168 was released by the Senate State Government, Wagering, Tourism and Historic Preservation Committee. It has been referred to the Senate Budget & Appropriations Committee for further consideration.

**S-1533** (Vitale) and **A-2398** (Coughlin / Gusciora) **to permit health care providers to report certain patient health problems to MVC.** This bill authorizes a health care provider to report to the MVC the name, age, address, and description of the alleged impairment of any person aged 16 or older diagnosed by the health care provider with a health problem which, in the health care provider's judgment, significantly affects the person's ability to safely operate a motor vehicle. The MVC, in cooperation with the Department of Health, would be responsible for developing forms on which health care providers would report certain health problems and a procedure for evaluating the submitted reports so that no person is unwarrantedly denied the privilege of operating a motor vehicle. The MVC has taken no public position on this bill, which would essentially codify the existing Medical Review Process that evaluates a person's fitness to drive. A-2398 and S-1533 were released by the Assembly Judiciary Committee, with amendments, and may now head to the full Assembly for a floor vote. If passed by the Assembly, the legislation will need to return to the Senate to concur with Assembly amendments. S-1533 passed the full Senate (40-0).

**S-71** (Codey / Singer) and **A-2037** (Watson Coleman) **to establish the "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. The MVC does not oppose the overall intent of this legislation, but has serious concerns about having primary responsibility for administration of a statewide Yellow Dot program. The MVC would likely incur significant costs in implementing such a program, which falls outside of the Commission's core mission to provide effective and efficient motor vehicle services. The program also runs counter to the MVC's efforts to reduce agency foot traffic. Chief Administrator Martinez has sent a letter to each of the sponsors indicating our concerns. Prior to Assembly committee consideration, the MVC proposed an alternative solution that would permit counties and municipalities to establish their own Yellow Dot programs. The proposal was not accepted by the sponsor and the MVC continues to oppose this legislation. A-2037 and S-71 were released by the Assembly Transportation, Public Works, and Independent Authorities Committee and may now head to the full Assembly for a floor vote. S-71 passed the full Senate (39-0).

**A-494** (Albano) **to establish recreational fishing license plate and dedicate fees to coastal fishing research** and **A-1429** (Watson Coleman / Tucker) **to authorize special Alpha Kappa Alpha license plate.** Both of these bills would establish new special license plate programs. In recent years, the MVC has opposed most special license plate legislation due to cost concerns. The MVC is now preparing to transition to digital, flat-plate technology for all special license plates. This new technology will make the license plate production and issuance process more efficient and cost-effective. Therefore, the MVC will no longer oppose special license plates bills, provided that they include provisions to offset the financial and operational burden any new program will place on MVC staff and resources. The MVC will seek amendments to identify a source of funding to offset the initial start-up costs of a new license plate program, ensure that no public funds are spent on new programs, and require a minimum level of demand for a new plate to be demonstrated before production begins. A-494 (as amended) and A-1429 were released by the Assembly Transportation, Public Works, and Independent Authorities Committee and may now head to the full Assembly for a floor vote.

Finally, mention was made of bills discussed at the August 14, 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 Vice-Chairman Scaturro and unanimously adopted at 2:55 p.m.