

Motorcycle Safety Education Commission Meeting Minutes

June 8th, 2020 10:00am

Google Meet - Virtual

Commission Members Present:

Steve Hanlon, Glenda Hobbic, Marshall Johnson, Bob Heckel, Joe Altobellis

Justice Cabinet Representatives

Jay Huber, Jason Hamilton

Guests:

Scot Williams, Carlos Luna, Mark Carroll, Bill Meister, Theresa Mcfadden, Julie Evans, Jason Siwula, Michael Pratt, Peter Miller, Bridwell Terhune, Jeff Meriss, Anita Merriss, Lindy Hall Fraddisio, Wendy Namio, Jim Whitehair

Open Session:

Meeting called to order by Steve Hanlon and introductions were made. Jason Hamilton was introduced to the group as the new Budget Director. Jason mentioned that Michelle Lacy's replacement, Tiffany Smithers had been hired and was coming on board soon. Motion to accept the minutes made by Glenda Hobbic and seconded by Joe Altobellis. Motion carried.

Public Comment:

No Comments were made.

State registration website:

Scot Williams gave an update of the website. The search feature has been added to the program and is functional along with the editing and deleting students / events. The need of the state police to use the program for booking testing appointments across the state has been a real driver to get bugs in the system fixed. The reporting features are working now per Scot Williams.

The legal opinion on the \$0 classes has cleared legal and we are able to do those so long as other fraud / hacker protections are put in place. Jay had discussed possible options with Lee Tompkins at KI who assured there were several avenues that could be used. Possibilities could be a two-step verification which could help verify that student information is correct as well.

Possible relaunch would be the end of the riding season to see any bugs in the system and be ready to go for beginning of the 2021 riding season.

Marketing Program

Mark Carroll of Bandy, Carroll and Hellidge gave a presentation of their proposal to the Program to help attract more students to the program. The plan was to include things such as help with rebranding, tracking of students to the website, social media and avenues to help drive students to the class.

Discussion about integrating any ads with the Transportation Cabinet's radio ads that are typically purchased each year using NHTSA funds.

Discussion of the proposed budget and options within the budget for an approximate 6 month period. Steve Hanlon asked about approximate rollout dates. Some items can be rolled out within a few weeks but the need is to fill classes typically at the end of the riding season when classes are not full. Steve commented that he liked the whole proposal and felt we need to proceed. Joe Altobellis wanted to confirm funds were available. Motion to spend up to \$100,000 for the marketing program by Bob Heckel, seconded by Glenda Hobbic and motion carried.

EKU Equipment

Auctions are on hold due to COVID-19 and they are not sure when auctions will resume at this point. Fees for renting space at the MegaCaverns has been lowered to reflect the smaller footprint currently in use. There are about 100 bikes and parts still there, but discussion are ongoing to have all of it moved to Surplus Properties warehouse before the end of the fiscal year to avoid paying any more rental fees.

The plan to transfer some of the bikes to the current site providers through a 501c3 corporation has been denied by the legal department. All bikes will need to go through the auction process.

Administrative Regulations

Went into effect on June 5th, 2020 as 500 KAR 15.010. There are a few minor technical issues to clean up which may be addressed at the July meeting. The current contracts will be up at the end of this fiscal year. With the passage of the regulations that clears the way for the updated contracts to be processed through Finance using the new cited authority to bring on Four Rivers HD in Paducah. Wendy Namio was introduced to the group as the representative of Four Rivers HD and made some welcoming comments.

Jason Hamilton made the group aware that due to some internal deadlines of state government the new contracts may be delayed from the July 1 date. Finance had a deadline of June 3rd to have new contracts submitted for review and the regulations did not go into effect until June 5th putting things past the Finance Cabinet's deadline. The new contracts will come out as soon as possible under the review process.

Legislative Update SB 207

The bill addresses the ability for the Cabinet to pay for out of state riders to help clear up the logistical issue of separating those students out. The bill also restricts students who pass the skills test on a three wheel motorcycle to only driving a three wheel motorcycle on the roadways similar to a restriction for night driving or wearing glasses. The last items was technical in nature to move the annual review for coaches to a bi-annual review in order to match MSF guidelines and the new administrative regulations. SB 207 did pass unanimously in the Senate Committee and on the Consent Orders of the Day for the Senate. It was held up in the House due to the COVID situation and did not pass this session but we are looking to reintroduce the bill during the next session.

Program Status:

Classes resumed operation on May 25th for classes of 10 or less people. Jay Huber has plans to visit each of the sites to inspect operations under the COVID guidelines. He has already visited Kentuckiana

Motorsports and Balance Dynamics. On July 1 classes can resume at full capacity with proper safety precautions in place.

A question was posed as to whether classes could still be held if the contracts were not in place on July 1. Jason Hamilton explained that in the world of government contracts if a contract is not in place then technically operations should cease. However he was reluctant to say that classes needed to be cancelled at this point. He is working with OPS to pursue all available options at this point who currently has about 1000 contracts waiting to be reviewed at this point. When more information is known it will be forwarded to the sites.

KYTC Grants

Jay Huber let the group know that he has submitted grants to the KYTC for federal funds to help pay for the Share the Road program currently in place to help spread the message of watching out for motorcycles to the general public. Also in the application was a request for funds to start a Dial-A-Ride program similar to the one that was started by ABATE of Minnesota which helps provide rides and a trailer for the bike to bring an impaired rider home. This is addition to the previous grant application to help pay for the marketing of the program. The grants were asking for \$100,000 each.

3WBRC

Looking to hold another 3-WBRC training in August to be held in the Louisville. This is a one weekend training. We have received several applications for new instructors mostly along the I-75 corridor so talks are in the works to hold one at Man-O-war HD in Lexington with another possible in Western KY for Four Rivers HD to add instructors.

LRC Monthly Reports

Due to the change of personnel in the Cabinet the financials were not available for the most recent months. The number of students broken down by site was shared to the Commission.

KCTCS – E-Town and Systems Office

Due to the COVID shutdown it has been hard to reach anyone within the KCTCS system.

A question was posed about when the written test for the instructional permits will be available in the various counties. Marshall Johnson explained that they are being administered in 119 of 120 counties. However there is a backlog of people who were registered prior to the shutdown which the counties are trying to address first. The Circuit Clerk offices are working at half-staff which adds to the times available as well.

Future Meetings

Sept 14th, 2020 10:00am at the KYTC offices or virtual depending on the COVID guidelines at the time.

Motion to adjourn by Bob Heckel, seconded by Joe Altobellis and approved.