Motorcycle Safety Education Commission Meeting Minutes

June 28th, 2021 - 10:00am Zoom Meet - Virtual

Commission Members Present:

Steve Hanlon, Jacob Renner, Marshall Johnson, Monty Heim, Matt Cole, Mike Canchola

Transportation Cabinet Representatives

Jay Huber, Jason Siwula

Guests:

Maggie Barta, Eric Eberling, Eric Guy, Lila Payne, Bill Meister, Gary Lingo, Peter Miller, Tim Jenne

Open Session:

Meeting called to order by Steve Hanlon. Motion to accept the previous Meeting Minutes by Mike Canchola, second by Capt. Johnson. Motion carries.

State Registration Website:

Presentation by Scot Williams. Discussion of a change in the focus of the website from a student facing site to a site provider facing site. Jay Huber explained the change was due to the budget cap. Once the student tuitions go through the app they would have to be counted towards the budget cap. This would overwhelm the current cap so discussions would need to happen with the Legislature to raise the cap in FY23 and beyond, to account for those additional funds.

There is also a move to go to Phase II of the app development wherein the database would be linked to KYTC's KIDLIS program. This way when a student completes the course, their information would be sent electronically thus eliminating the need for the skills waiver cards. Matt Cole mentioned the need to create a small working group with Steve Coffey in his office and Kentucky Interactive to determine the next best course of action.

Jay Huber also discussed the possibility of linking this to the driver history record so when insurance companies pulled a record they could see if a rider was eligible for a discount if they offered one. Matt Cole explained he thought that was feasible but would need to be discussed in that same working group.

Public Comment:

No comments offered

Budget:

Jay Huber reported that our cap is \$700,000. Through April/May, we have spent approximately \$591,000 and still have June classes to pay for. In the spring and summer months the reimbursements can run from \$100,000 to \$125,000 per month. To accommodate for the cap, we have moved any expenses we can into the next fiscal year. So, training for coaches and the marketing program expenditures have been pushed back to later dates. FY22 will have a cap of \$800,000. The Motorcycle Education Fund itself has approximately \$2,000,000 in it so the program is on sound financial ground. The problem is we do not have access to all of those funds without legislative approval.

Jason Siwula addressed the Commission about the need to work together to develop future budgets. The current caps were put in place based on past spending patterns.

The program was affected by COVID in a positive way, with the limited availability of the Circuit Clerk's offices and the move to the KYTC Regional offices, more people found their way to the education program to get their license. Matt Cole reported that KYTC currently had 18 regional offices up and running with somewhere between 25 – 30 planned. The transition to KYTC from the Circuit Clerks had to be completed by June of 2022.

Training:

There is a new Rider Coach Prep class scheduled for end of July and into August which is already full. Discussions are in the works with both Elizabethtown and Four Rivers HD about holding new coach classes at each of those locations.

An MSF ARC course is planned for existing coaches in late September.

BRP has offered to pay for a 3-Wheel certification class which the date is to be determined.

Looking to offer some QA training and to pay for veteran coaches to act as peer reviewers.

Steve Hanlon expressed concern that the budget cap is hindering the program especially as it relates to training and QA. Jason Siwula explained how restricted funds worked within the State budget system and his work to allow the Commission and program the greatest flexibility possible. He also offered to meet with the Commission outside of the quarterly meeting to help explain the budget process and to develop a plan for future budgets.

Marketing Program:

Jay Huber has applied for a grant from NHTSA to help pay for that effort. The request was for \$100,000. It is still unclear how these funds would apply towards the budget cap at this time. Jason Siwula mentioned that he also looking for other potential revenue sources to help the program.

Policy and Procedure Manual:

Final draft was sent to the Commission members for review. Draft was also sent to the KYTC staff to review for correct language and format. Mike Canchola asked about the peer review forms and some of the related comments in the daft. Was discussed that this was a working document and changes can be made as needed. Motion to approve the Policy draft by Marshall Johnson, seconded by Mike Canchola and approved.

Four Rivers HD and E-Town KCTCS:

Four Rivers has held classes in both April and May with 36 students each month. E-Town is getting their range painted and have a kickoff event planned to show support for their sponsors who have helped to fund the purchase of the equipment there. Tim Cody has been looking into expanding his operations into the Cave Run and Ashland areas. Discussions with Morehead University have fallen through.

Surplus Properties Auction:

The bikes are back up for sale. The first part of the year saw total sales of about \$93,000 which went into the fund. There have been some personnel changes at Surplus Properties but they are doing a really good job.

Other:

Question to Marshall Johnson about the 3rd party testing program. He discussed there is a desire to pursue that possibility but COVID and transition to the KYTC regional offices has taken precedence. State Police are struggling to find people to even administer regular car skills tests. It looks as if new legislation would be needed to allow for this and then administrative regulations to follow.

Future Meeting:

Discussion to move the meetings to the second Friday of the month for the quarter and then approved. Jay Huber would let Boards and Commissions know of the change. Next meeting set for Sept. 10th at the Transportation Cabinet offices. Mike Canchola requested that the meeting be made available online as well for those who had to travel a significant distance. Jason Siwula said that option was available, would need to get with the appropriate staff at the Transportation Office in order to accommodate the technical aspects.

Motion to adjourn by Mike Canchola, seconded by Marshall Johnson and approved.