

Motorcycle Safety Education Commission Meeting Minutes

August 8th, 2023 – 10:00am

KYTC Offices Frankfort Rm 109 and Zoom Meet - Virtual

Commission Members Present:

Jacob Renner, Monty Heim, Marshall Johnson, Mike Canchola, Dave Newman

Transportation Cabinet Representatives

Jay Huber, Brad Franklin, Brandi Craft, Bill Bell, Ed Harding

Guests:

Carol Olson-Smith, Tim Jenne, Richard Moothart, Susan Bandy, Dinah Meister, Bill Meister, Ashley Becktenwald, Brad Day, Tom Simpson, Daryl Kanatzar

Open Session:

Meeting called to order by Jacob Renner at 10:02 am. Motion to accept the previous Meeting Minutes by Dave Newman, second by Jacob Renner. Motion carries.

Public Comment:

Bill Bell asked a question on what the state law was regarding lane splitting for motorcycles. Discussion ensued but no one was aware of any statute directly addressing the issue. Examples were discussed from California and Europe and how they handle the issue along with the pros and cons of the actions.

Marketing:

Report from Susan Bandy on the status of the video ad and the marketing program. Ashley Recktenwald also with BCH helped present information. The new ad along with the proposed music was shown to the group with discussion following. Items mentioned were the left-handed throttle in the animation and the mentioning of KY more in the ad by Jacob Renner. Jacob asked if the ad was an autoplay which led to whether the music would be too loud all at once. Discussion about adding KY into the copy of the ad more prominently. Also discussed was whether to use a different font to make it more eye-catching. Mike Canchola asked about the spelling mistake to be corrected. Discussion about the sound versus the music and the music was decided upon.

Budget:

FY23 saw a record number of students of 4091 with 10 sites operating and Elizabethtown running only a partial season due to the parking lot issues. The previous record was 4001 in 2008 with 18 sites running. Still waiting on the final financial numbers to come in.

FY24 so far we are at 1252 students in the program. The original contract caps are back in place that started FY23. There will be a review of each site's numbers and a revision will occur in the winter months, with a revised contract to be sent out to most sites based on that review along with the previous year's numbers.

The Motorcycle Program Fund currently has just under \$2.5 million in it, so funds are available to support an overall budget cap increase. There are talks ongoing with the Office of Budget and Fiscal Management along with legislators to increase the budget cap for the program. The ask has been for \$1.2 million during the next budget cycle.

Dave Newman asked about the numbers for minors. Discussion about how that statistic has been on the rise over the past several years.

NHTSA Grants:

FY24 grants have been applied for to cover the advertising, training and QA programs. Brandy said those are currently under final review. Expecting everything to be approved at this point.

Administrative Regulations:

Regulations are passed and in effect at this time. 601 KAR 014:050

SB 60:

Transition went very well. Tina Ferguson and Renee Cosmoore did a great job getting the training together and out to the regional offices.

Capt. Johnson said that anecdotally the feedback he is getting from his testing offices is that more people are interested in going the Rider-ed program versus the traditional route which will have an affect on budgets and numbers of students in the program.

Training:

Discussion about the NHTSA funding for a potential RCP in October and whether the approvals would be in place prior to that happening. Bill Bell said he had a verbal approval of the grant but still waiting on the official letter from NHTSA.

Dinah Meister discussed the two recent training sessions. The RCP in Walton approved 4 new instructors while the 3WBRC certification for existing instructors added 8 more 3-wheel certified instructors to the ranks.

Talks are in the works to schedule a second RCP, 3WBRC, ARC and QA training during 2024.

Discussion about KSP members going through the training to for examiners. Most all tenured staff have completed the training. All that is left are primarily new hires. Decisions of when to schedule that training will be made at a later date after considering the changes in SB60 and evaluation of staffing needs.

Other:

Elizabethtown is getting their parking lot repaved and should be operational in Spring of 2024. They are considering adding the 3-wheel course there also.

Future Meeting:

Next meeting would be December 8th, at 10am either virtual and/or in person at the KYTC offices.

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