Minutes

Motor Carrier Safety Advisory Committee Meeting

May 21 - 23, 2012

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration’s (FMCSA) Motor Carrier Safety Advisory Committee (MCSAC) met May 21 - 23, 2012, in Alexandria, VA. In accordance with the provisions of

Public Law 92-463, the meeting was open to the public.

Mr. Larry Minor, the FMCSA Designated Federal Official (DFO), called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, May 21, 2012.

The following individuals attended the meeting:

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT FOR ALL OR PART OF THE MEETING:**

LaMont Byrd, Director, Health and Safety Department, International Brotherhood of Teamsters

Paul Claunch, Major, Arkansas Highway Police

Bill Dofflemyer, Captain, Maryland State Police

Scott Hernandez, Lieutenant Colonel, Colorado State Patrol

Henry Jasny, General Counsel, Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety

John Lannen, Executive Director, Truck Safety Coalition

Jane Mathis, Board of Directors, Parents Against Tired Truckers

Janice Mulanix, Assistant Chief of Enforcement and Planning Division, California Highway Patrol

Stephen Owings, President, Road Safe America

Peter Pantuso, President and CEO, American Bus Association

David Parker, Senior Legal Counsel, Great West Casualty Company

Robert Petrancosta, Vice President of Safety, Con-Way Freight

Danny Schnautz, Operations Manager, Clark Freight Lines, Inc.

Todd Spencer, Executive Vice President, Owner-Operator Independent Drivers Association

**FMCSA REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT FOR ALL OR PART OF THE MEETING:**

Bill Bannister, Division Chief, Analysis

Loretta Bitner, Division Chief, Commercial Passenger Carrier Safety

Larry Minor, Associate Administrator for Policy

Bill Quade, Associate Administrator for Enforcement

Jack Van Steenburg, Assistant Administrator and Chief Safety Officer

Shannon Watson, Senior Advisor for Policy and MCSAC Liaison

Dee Williams, Division Chief, Strategic Planning and Program Evaluation

**OTHERS PRESENT FOR ALL OR PART OF THE MEETING:**

Sarah Alves, ICF International

Jim Angel, PeopleNet

Stephen Clark, Teletrac

Cyndi Cramblett, OOIDA

Karianne Disharoon, TransCon CSI

Maura Fitzpatrick, Howard/Stein-Hudson

Donald Fowler, National School Transportation Association

Mirna Gustave, MacroSys

Clyde Hart, American Bus Association

Bill Keppen, Keppen Assoc.

E. Lynette McMillian, Greyhound

Eric Miller, Transport Topics

Doug Morris, OOIDA

Julie Perrot, NTSB

Jeff Plungis, Bloomberg

Alan Potter, Booz Allen Hamilton

Ken Presley, United Motorcoach Association

Glen Reuschling, TransCon CSI

Al Smith, Greyhound Bus Lines

Georgia Thu, ICF International

Elizabeth Turner, Volpe Center

Bryan Vicker, FAM

**TASKS:**

The MCSAC Committee began discussions on Task 12-02 “Alternative Strategies the Agency Could Pursue to Address Outstanding National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) Recommendations Classified as “Open-Unacceptable.” The Committee will continue discussions on Task 12-02 at the August 2012 meeting.

**REMARKS:**

R.C. Powell, a former MCSAC member, submitted a letter to the MCSAC explaining that he has a new job with the Virginia State Patrol and will no longer be a member of the Committee. He thanked the entire committee for their contributions, time and commitment and acknowledged that it was a pleasure to work with everyone.

**MINUTES:**

The Committee unanimously accepted the minutes from the February 6 - 9, 2012 MCSAC meeting.

**PRESENTATIONS:**

Dee Williams, Chief, Strategic Planning and Program Evaluation Division, FMCSA presented “The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) and its Recommendations to Improve Motor Carrier Safety.”

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIODS:**

***Al Smith, Greyhound Bus Lines:***

Mr. Smith spoke to the Committee twice.

Mr. Smith addressed the Sherman Collision that was part of one of the NTSB recommendations discussed during the MCSAC meeting. He suggested looking into the details of the crash further and believes that other investigators would have a different opinion on the causes to the accident from what NTSB found.

Greyhound did an extensive study on Driver Fatigue that was delivered to FMCSA and NTSB. This study caused Greyhound to implement best practices which have had a good effect on limiting driver fatigue as a factor in collisions. Mr. Smith offered to share this study with the Committee along with a 1999 study conducted by Phil Hanley.

***Donald Fowler, National School Transportation Association (NSTA):***

Mr. Fowler reminded the committee that there are 450,000 school buses and only 150,000 of those are contracted, meaning they are subject to DOT regulations. Mr. Fowler believes that the regulations are only going to affect well-performing carriers and that those who want to get by the regulations will get by them. Mr. Fowler also described that his church voted to buy a van that did not conform to DOT regulations because the voting members thought that church vans were exempt. He thinks that many people may have those same misunderstandings.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm on Wednesday, May 23, 2012.

We hereby certify that, to the best of our knowledge, the foregoing minutes are accurate and complete.

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David R. Parker

Chairman

Motor Carrier Safety Advisory Committee

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Larry W. Minor

Designated Federal Official

Motor Carrier Safety Advisory Committee