

**WASHINGTON TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION
COMMISSION MEETING
April 17, 2014
Olympia, Washington**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Pat Kohler, Department of Licensing, Meeting Chair
Jon Snyder, Association of Washington Cities
Sharon Dillon, Washington State Association of Counties
Judge James P. Swanger, Judiciary
Kevin Quigley, Department of Social & Health Services
Chief John Batiste, Washington State Patrol
Darrin T. Grondel, Washington Traffic Safety Commission (for Governor Inslee)

COMMISSIONER'S DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT:

Martin Mueller, Department of Health
John Nisbet, Washington State Department of Transportation
Allan J. Jones, Superintendent of Public Instruction

COMMISSION STAFF PRESENT:

Steve Lind, Deputy Director
Geri Nelson, Executive Assistant
Chris Madill, Program Director
Staci Hoff, Research Manager
Jonna VanDyk, Program Manager
Shelly Baldwin, Program Manager
Debi Besser, Program Manager
Joyce Fan, Data Integration Specialist
Angie Ward, Program Manager

OTHERS PRESENT:

Scott Waller, DSHS
Gloria Mansfield-Averill, TZM
Dave Wright, TZM
Capt. Mark Brogan, WSP
Steven Aust, Patrol Commander, Lewis County Sheriff's Office
Marsha Masters, TZM
Ron Roy, Douglas County Fire
Michele Baumgart, TZM
Haiping Zhang, DOL
Bruce Chunn, DOL

The Regular Meeting of the Washington Traffic Safety Commission (WTSC) was called to order at 10:30 a.m., on April 17, 2014, at the WTSC Headquarters in Olympia, Washington, by Commissioner Pat Kohler, meeting Chair.

Commissioner Kohler thanked Commission staff for their work in coordinating and facilitating the Target Zero Awards Ceremony held on April 16.

Approval of Commission Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Batiste moved to approve the minutes of the Commission meetings held on April 18, 2013, July 18, 2013, November 21, 2013, January 16, 2014, and February 26, 2014.

Commissioner Dillon seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Budget Update

Darrin T. Grondel, Director, gave a brief budget update/summary, including discussion of WTSC's two primary federal grants – Section 402 General Traffic Safety which allows for flexible use for a variety of traffic safety projects, and Section 405 High Priority Programs, specific to occupant protection, impaired driving, traffic records, motorcycles and graduated driver licensing. At this time, the WTSC does not qualify for distracted driving or graduated driver licensing grants. Darrin also discussed carry forward funding – funds carried forward from the previous year. WTSC uses carry forward funds until allotments are received for the next fiscal year. Grondel said historically, carry forward funds keep the WTSC's doors open.

Grant Approvals

Chris Madill, Program Director, presented the funding package for the next fiscal year. MAP 21 now only requires a single application; WTSC is no longer required to submit several applications throughout the year and stagger the timeline of disbursements. This year, WTSC is much more confident in the early allocations and, because of the early allocations should have the ability to spend some of the carry forward traditionally held back.

Last year, WTSC allocated approximately \$11.8 million to traffic safety grants. This coming fiscal year, WTSC is proposing to spend approximately \$2 million more than last year because of the change from SAFETEA-LU to MAP 21. The grant process now is a much more collaborative process than in the past. More time is allowed during the proposal period, and staff encourages potential requestors to contact Program Managers (essentially WTSC's subject matter experts) to discuss how to get the best strategies into the proposals.

WTSC received 85 project proposals this year, 25 to 30 more than it would typically receive in a fiscal year. The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and WTSC staff spent a full day discussing the proposals. A detailed list of all 85 proposals is in the Commissioner packets; staff summaries are listed for each project. In addition, a comparison of 2014 approved and 2015 staff/TAC recommended proposals is in each packet. For FFY 2014, WTSC funded 38 project proposals. Of those 38, 27 of the grants were directly to Commission or local agencies or had a direct benefit to Commission or local agencies. For FFY 2015, we are proposing to fund 47 projects; 37 are directly to Commission or local agencies or have direct benefit by Commission or local agencies.

Another document in the Commissioner packet is a detail of Traffic Records Grant Projects. This is a grant that WTSC receives each year earmarked for very specific projects focused on data improvement. The list was created by the Traffic Records Committee. For FFY 15, the WTSC proposes to fund grants totaling \$1.8 million, compared to approximately \$1 million last year.

Madill gave a brief, high level overview of the Grants process.

Following is the proposed funding plan for 2015:

High Visibility Enforcement*:

Local Law Enforcement	\$1,125,000
DUI/Seatbelt/Distracted Driving	
WSP Enforcement Overtime Campaigns	\$ 669,500
DUI/Seatbelt/Distracted Driving	
Target Zero Teams	
WSP Teams	\$1,117,700
Local Law Enforcement	<u>\$ 649,000</u>
	\$1,766,700
Media Education Campaigns	
Paid Media	\$1,900,000
News/Ancillary Media	<u>\$ 180,000</u>
	\$2,080,000
TOTAL	\$5,641,200

High Visibility Enforcement represents approximately 40 percent of our federal budget.

Locally-led Projects

DUI/Speeding/Young & Distracted Driving/ Pedestrian/Tribes	\$ 957,202
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Projects with Statewide Impact

Child Passenger Safety*	\$ 264,500
Traffic Records (WSP, WSDOT, DOH, WASPC, CRAB, WTSC)	\$1,833,000
Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutors	\$ 326,717
Traffic Safety Summit	\$ 175,000
Local Coordinators/Law Enforcement Liaisons	\$ 425,000
DOL/WTSC Motorcycle Program*	<u>\$ 289,800</u>
	\$3,024,217

Other Notable Projects

Grants Management System	\$ 350,000
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Staff Salaries/Benefits	\$1,800,000
Traffic Safety Corridors (Yakima, Seattle)	\$ 160,000
WSP Impaired Driving Section (Ignition Interlock, Drug Recognition Program, SFST Program, Mobile DUI Unit)	<u>\$ 454,960</u>
	\$2,764,960

***Required by Map 21**

After a brief discussion, Commissioner Batiste moved to approve the grants as presented. Commissioner Swanger seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Request for Extension of Timeline

At the February 26, 2014, special meeting of the Commission, a motion was approved that directed WTSC staff to consult with local law enforcement on the proposed changes to the Local Implementation Program and report back to the full Commission at its July 2014 meeting. WTSC staff has determined that more time is required to meet with stakeholders.

WTSC staff requested that the Commission amend the motion to extend the deadline and report-back at the Commission’s October 2014 meeting.

Commissioner Batiste moved to extend the timeline for WTSC staff to report back to the full Commission on the local Implementation Program from July 2014 to October 2014. Commissioner Dillon seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Director’s Report

Data Integration Specialist: Director Grondel introduced the WTSC’s new Data Integration Specialist, Joyce Fan. Ms. Fan came to the WTSC from the Department of Labor & Industries. Timing of Ms. Fan’s hire coincides with a new FHWA rulemaking (23 CFR Part 490) which calls for incentives for integration with medical records.

Schulte Memorial: Director Grondel attended and spoke at the Schulte Memorial Walk on March 25. The Schulte family lost both parents one year ago. Mr. Schulte’s wife and 10-day old son were seriously injured.

Target Zero Awards: WTSC staff hosted the Target Zero awards on April 16.

WTSC Virus Attack: WTSC computers were infected with a virus last week. All systems are currently fully functional.

NHTSA and PIRE: Director Grondel asked Program Manager Jonna VanDyk to give a brief update on the National Roadside Survey for Washington State. WTSC staff has met with the ACLU, local law enforcement, state agencies, and the Governor’s Office to discuss the roadside survey. Staff continues to move forward on the survey in Washington.

Tribal Traffic Safety Advisory Board: Director Grondel and Celeste Cloquete from the Cowlitz Indian Tribe are Co-Chairing this Board.

Fatality Picture: Preliminary FARS reports indicate 440 fatalities for 2013, compared with 438 in 2012. Reconciliation is underway and the 2013 number may change. Currently, for 2014, we are above our projected trend line. The funding package presented and approved today should help us get back on track.

Deputy Director Retirement: Steve Lind, WTSC's Deputy Director since 1989, is retiring at the end of June. Director Grondel thanked Steve for all his work and efforts in promoting traffic safety in Washington State.

Legislative Update/Proposals

Program Manager Shelly Baldwin gave a brief recap of the 2014 Legislative Session. WTSC staff followed several bills during session. The following bills passed:

- ESHB 2155 Theft from spirits retailers
- ESSB 6001 Transportation supplemental budget – this bill cut the school zone account by \$100,000
- SB 5141 Motorcycles and traffic signals
- SSB 6279 Search warrant applications
- SB 6413 Prior offenses for DUI
- SB 6415 DUI consecutive sentences

Bills tracked but not passed:

- E2SHB 2149 Medical marijuana
- SHB 2507 Vehicular homicide punishment
- ESHB 2556 Therapeutic courts
- SHB 2728 Impaired driving
- SSB 6085 DUI violation prior offenses
- SB 6090 DUI provisions
- SSB 6227 Distracted driving incidents

Discussion ensued around two bills that did not pass – SSB 6227 and SHB 2728 – and whether the Commission could or should support such bills next session.

SSB 6227, Distracted driving incidents, would have prohibited operating a motor vehicle while holding, reading from, or manually entering data into a personal wireless communications device. The bill would have doubled the fine for a second or subsequent offense, required distracted driving questions on the license exam. In addition, if this bill had passed, it would have qualified Washington for MAP 21 grant funds.

SHB 2728, Impaired driving, specified that arrested repeat offenders must be held in jail until released by a judge and required courts to notify DOL of IID orders. It clarified that IID circumvention includes having someone other than the driver blow into the device. It also clarified implied consent so that refusal penalties would apply in drug cases.

Commissioner Snyder moved that the Commission support the core provisions of SSB 6227 and SHB 2728 in the 2015 Legislative Session. Commissioner Dillon seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

WTSC staff will determine those core provisions and provide the Commissioners with a formal list.

Early Warning Letters

Haiping Zhang and Bruce Chunn from the Department of Licensing gave a presentation on DOL's Early Warning Letter (EWL) Program. The objective of the program is to reduce repeat offenses by young drivers. When 18-21 year old drivers receive their first moving violation, they are automatically put into the EWL Program. When DOL receives the violation for the driver record they send an Early Warning Letter to the young driver. The early warning letter advises of the risks associated with continued violations, but is not punitive in any way.

March 2013 was the two year mark for the program and the data are showing that there is 12 percent decrease in the number of young drivers who, after receiving the early warning letter, went on to receive subsequent violations.

Adjourn

Commissioner Batiste moved for adjournment at 12:22 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Quigley and approved unanimously.

These minutes plus the audio recordings constitute the full minutes.

Geri Nelson, Executive Assistant