

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

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Chief John Batiste, Washington State Patrol, Meeting Chair
Pat Kohler, Department of Licensing
Jon Snyder, Association of Washington Cities (via telephone)
Judge James P. Swanger, Judiciary

COMMISSIONER'S DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT:

Martin Mueller, Washington State Department of Health
Mike Dornfeld, Washington State Department of Transportation
Kim Kimbler, Superintendent of Public Instruction
Staci Hoff, Washington Traffic Safety Commission

COMMISSION STAFF PRESENT:

Geri Nelson, Executive Assistant
Jonna VanDyk, Program Manager
Shelly Baldwin, Program Manager
Joyce Fan, Data Integration Specialist
Erica Stineman, Communications Consultant
MJ Haught, Program Manager
Mark Medalen, Program Manager

OTHERS PRESENT:

Gloria Mansfield-Averill, TZM
Dave Wright, TZM
Marsha Masters, TZM
Michele Baumgart, TZM
Eveline Roy, TZM
Marion Swendsen, TZM
Assistant Chief Ron Rupke, WSP
Kim Smith, TZM
Jerry Noviello, TZM
Melody Nelson, TZM

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

Chief Batiste advised attendees that Darrin is absent due to illness, and Chris Madill is on a business trip.

Approval of Commission Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Swanger moved to approve the minutes of the Commission meeting held April 17, 2014. Commissioner Kohler seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. [A quorum was not in attendance, so the minutes will be re-introduced at the October 16 meeting.]

Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation (PIRE) Roadside Survey

Jonna VanDyk, Program Manager, gave a recap of the PIRE Roadside Surveys conducted in six Washington counties (Spokane, Yakima, King/Snohomish, Kitsap/Whatcom) over a three week period in June. She shared the informational video developed for the project. PIRE is compiling the information collected from the roadside survey and the data should be available in September. We hope to present the findings to the Commission at the October meeting. PIRE will be back in early 2015 to collect additional data.

Chief Batiste thanked Jonna and the staff for coordinating this project.

Tribal Transportation Safety Advisory Board

MJ Haight, Program Manager, briefed the Commission on the Tribal Traffic Safety Advisory Board (TTSAB). Washington State has 29 federally recognized tribes, and each tribe is a sovereign nation with its own laws. In Washington, each state agency, by statute, has a tribal liaison.

The TTSAB is a voluntary board, co-chaired by Darrin Grondel, WTSC Director, and Celine Cloquet, of the Executive Committee of the Cowlitz Tribe. Membership includes tribal members, state agency representatives, tribal law enforcement, and engineering and planning representatives. The TTSAB is working to find more tribal leadership members and representatives from the health care field and emergency medical services.

The traffic fatality rate of Native Americans in Washington State continues to be higher than that of the general population. The TTSAB is hoping to integrate a traffic safety culture into the local tribal community culture.

Chief Batiste emphasized the importance of the work of this Board and the willingness of the tribes to work with the Commission to reach Target Zero. Target Zero will be impossible to accomplish without the tribes' participation.

Ignition Interlock Revolving Account

Shelly Baldwin, Program Manager, briefed the Commission on the status of the Ignition Interlock Indigent Revolving Account used to support the Ignition Interlock Program. This account pays for indigent offenders to obtain interlock devices. This revolving account was created in 2008 and is funded by non-indigent offenders with an interlock device. Those individuals pay a fee of \$20 per month into the account. Indigent offenders who are able to prove a financial hardship can apply for assistance for their interlock device.

Two things have negatively affected this account and left it in a deficit: (1) An appropriation from this account was given to the Department of Corrections to pay for contracts for chemical dependency beds; and (2) the \$20 fee was only applied for the amount of time an offender was

suspended and driving on an ignition interlock driver license. In 2012, the time was extended to continue through the offender's ignition interlock restriction.

In July, the Department of Licensing (DOL) notified all individuals receiving assistance for ignition interlock devices that instead of the DOL paying 100 percent of the cost of the device, only 11 percent (roughly \$8.00) would now be covered. This has the potential of causing people to stop using their interlock device.

The Governor's Office, DOL, WTSC, and the Legislature met to try and resolve the funding issue. It was decided that DOL, for now, will fill the hole in the account, anticipating that when the Legislature convenes in 2015, the second supplemental budget will re-pay DOL for filling that gap. In August, indigent coverage will be back at 100 percent -- which solves this fiscal year budget crisis. The remaining issue is that the account is taking in less money than it is putting out if it reimburses at 100 percent. Projections show this will be a continuing issue.

The Governor's Office asked the WTSC to convene a group of stakeholders to discuss the issues around interlock and the indigency account and make recommendations to DOL. WTSC staff will reach out to stakeholders and convene a meeting in September 2014.

A short discussion ensued.

Summer DUI Campaign

Erica Stineman, Communications Consultant, discussed the summer DUI Campaign. The first campaign just ended, and the August "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" campaign begins August 11 and runs through September 1. In addition to the broadcasts (TV and radio), we included digital banner ads online and Pandora ads.

Good media coverage has been received on the new "Drive High Get a DUI" campaign, but we want to make sure we do not lose any momentum on the drinking and driving messaging. WTSC felt the beginning of summer was a good time to add the marijuana component to the messaging because the marijuana stores just opened. WTSC will add the drinking and driving component back in for the next campaign.

Erica also advised the Commission that the WTSC submitted the 2015 HSP to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration on June 30. This plan explains the grants approved for FFY15 and establishes our performance measures and goals for serious injuries and fatalities in Washington.

Thurston County Party Intervention

Jerry Noviello, Thurston County Target Zero Manager, discussed the Thurston County Party Intervention Patrols (PIP). The PIP has been in Thurston County for two years. Pierce County started the program and, having an established program to use as a resource, was invaluable to Thurston County in developing its program. The PIP is, essentially, the integration of proven strategies used in the chemical dependency profession, along with ideal law enforcement in contacting underage drinking parties and reducing alcohol and drug use.

The goal of the PIP is to find parties, make sure none of the kids are driving home impaired or riding with someone who is impaired, give them the tools to change their behavior so they are

not put in those risky scenarios again, and ultimately reduce their drinking over time. Part of the investigation is also finding out who supplied the alcohol; the person supplying the alcohol to the parties is arrested.

A component of the PIP is also reducing alcohol at the source. Thurston County has integrated alcohol compliance checks into the program. Locally there is no budget for the alcohol compliance checks, but the grant Thurston County received from WTSC will help pay for some alcohol compliance checks.

A short discussion ensued.

Director's Report

This agenda item was tabled due to Darrin's absence.

Chief Batiste mentioned that he and Darrin have been discussing how to gain more public involvement for the Target Zero initiative. Buy-in from the public and a willingness to address behavioral issues is crucial. In terms of the daily recap of fatalities, we are way ahead this year in comparison to last year. There is concern that with the legalization of marijuana, and the fact that the patrol and other law enforcement agencies are short-handed, we cannot be very effective at removing impaired drivers from our roads. We cannot arrest our way out of this problem, and we need to find a way to draw the public in.

Adjourn

There being no further business, Commissioner Kohler moved for adjournment at 11:55 a.m. The motion passed unanimously.

These minutes plus the audio recordings constitute the full minutes.

Gerri Nelson, Executive Assistant