



MINUTES
Indiana State School Bus Committee
December 6, 2016

The Indiana State School Bus Committee met for a regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, December 6, 2016 at MSD Warren Township Transportation Facility, 9150 Rawles Ave, Indianapolis, Indiana with the following members in attendance:

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Pete Baxter – Chairman
Ron Chew – Ind. Assoc. of School Bus Drivers
Dr. James Hanna – Pub. Sch. Superintendent
Carl Brown – Indiana School for the Deaf & Indiana School for the Blind
Dwayne Vandiver – Sch. Trans. Assoc. of Ind.
Melissa Lechner – BMV
Claudia Koerner – Ind. Dept. of Revenue

VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:

Joey Dallas – Ind. School Boards Assoc.
Dr. Joseph O’Neil – Governor’s Council on Impaired & Dangerous Drivers

COMMITTEE SECRETARY PRESENT:

Carrie Glisson –IDOE

NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sgt. Chris Kath – ISP
Clifford Zehr – Ind. Assoc. of Sch. Bus Dist. – Represented by Kelly Moore
Todd Edwards – Ind. Trans. Assoc.

NON-VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mark Clawson – Ind. Twnshp. Assoc.
Rick Allen – IASBO

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PRESENT:

Mike LaRocco – Office of school Transportation

Mr. Baxter called the committee meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Roll call was taken and a quorum of voting members was present for voting purposes.

Eight guests were present:

Ryan Campbell – MacAllister
Kelly Moore – Kerlin Bus Sales
Bud Fears – Q’Straint
Cecil Gosser – Western Boone Community School Corp
Jason Latham – Western Boone Community School Corp
Dennis Wiger – Midwest Transit Equipment
Jim Bernhardt – MacAllister
Michael Daquill – Micro Bird - MacAllister

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Mike LaRocco informed the Committee that member, Mark Clawson, is recovering from cancer surgery. Pete Baxter requested Mike send a get well message to Mark from the Committee.

The September 6, 2016, meeting minutes were reviewed. Dr. Hanna moved to approve the minutes as written. Mr. Vandiver seconded the motion. Motion passed.

ITEMS OF ACTION

Meeting dates for 2017 were submitted for Committee review. All meetings to be conducted at the Indiana Department of Education, 115 W Washington Street, Ste. 600, Indianapolis, Indiana, unless otherwise noted.

2017 Dates are as follows:

Tuesday, March 7, 2017

Tuesday, June 6, 2017

Tuesday, September 5, 2017

Tuesday, December 5, 2017

ITEMS OF DISCUSSION

2017 ASM Topics – Mike LaRocco presented the topics for the 2017 ASM as:

- McKinney Vinto/Foster/Pre-school transportation to meet ESSA requirements
- Counter Terrorism
- Rail Road Crossings
- Physical requirements for school bus drivers

There will also be a Special Needs Certification training component available.

Seat Belt Cutter – the Committee discussed language for location and securement of the seat belt cutter for driver use. Will review again when next specification review is conducted.

Wheelchair Securement – The Committee discussed the variances in requirements for wheelchair securement for WC18 and WC19 wheelchair specifications. Current spec calls for additional restraints for chairs in excess of 250 pounds. Bud Fears of Q'Straint informed the Committee of changes between WC18 and WC 19 specs. How does the Committee want to address the upgrades in wheelchairs that are WC19 compliant? This topic was tabled until the March 2017 meeting.

Battery Box new Ford Transit cutaway chassis – In the September meeting this topic was discussed and determined that this particular Ford chassis style has located the battery box in the interior of the bus directly under the driver seat, which does not meet current specification. The committee agreed the bus must meet current specification 575 IAC 1-2-30 for battery location.

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Michael Daquill of Micro Bird/MacAllister provided testimony to the committee on the reasoning for the battery location as well as specifications on the safety of the battery used for the interior application. After discussion the Committee will allow the delivery of currently ordered buses using the Ford chassis style with the internal battery compartment. The Committee will continue to review data on the internal batteries and possible changes to bus specifications at the next specification review process. Sgt. Chris Kath will update the ISP inspection standards to include the internal battery location.

Additional Rear Lighting – Sgt. Chris Kath reviewed information from a workshop he attended at the NAPT conference on the increased safety for school bus with additional and/or lower brake and tail lights. Sgt. Kath will provide the Committee with a pilot program request for Committee review. Sgt. Kath’s presentation is available upon request.

CORRESPONDENCE

No Correspondence to report

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, March 7, 2017 at the Indiana Department of Education, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Mr. Pete Baxter adjourned the meeting.

Chairman

Secretary

Date