



# Board of Transportation Safety

## Meeting Minutes

01/25/07

**DRAFT**

VDOT Auditorium, Richmond, Virginia

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**Chair:** Dee Bowles

**Recording Secretary:**

Audrey Odum

**Board Members Present:** Dee Bowles, Bruce Wingo, Melvin Robertson, Walter Yeatts  
Charles Rosemond, Seldon Rhodes, Charles Quillin  
Tom McGrath, Allen Muchnick

**Board Members Absent:** Paulette Benson, Rebecca Martin, Judith Suddith

**DMV Staff:** David Mitchell, John Saunders, Audrey Odum  
David Mosley, Kathy Aebischer, Judy Whitesides

**Special Guest(s):** Deputy Secretary Ralph Davis

Chair Dee Bowles called meeting to order, thanked everyone for attending and recognized Deputy Secretary Ralph Davis.

Deputy Secretary Ralph Davis acknowledged and updated the Board on the status of Governor Kaine's transportation initiatives. The Virginia Strategic Highway Safety Plan and the three outcome measures that Virginia will focus on were mentioned.

- Education
- Enforcement
- Measures to help us quickly react to incidents on our highways.

As part of this plan, Virginia has a goal to reduce fatalities by 100 by 2010. This plan can be viewed at [www.vdot.virginia.gov](http://www.vdot.virginia.gov).

Deputy Secretary Ralph Davis also suggested to the Board that any recommendations they have on any legislation be submitted early in the year in order to meet legislative timelines. He recognized the "Primary Seatbelt Recommendation" that the Board recently submitted.

Chair Dee Bowles asked Secretary to the Board, David Mitchell to call roll. Representation was sufficient for a quorum.

## **Board Business**

Chair Dee Bowles asked the Board to review for approval the minutes from the October 2006 meeting. Approved with no amendments.

Chair Dee Bowles asked Walter Yeatts, Chair of the Nominating Committee, to give a report from the committee. Walter Yeatts recognized the other two members of the Committee, Seldon Rhodes and Judy Suddith. Chairman Yeatts brought forth one nominee, Dee Bowles, for the position of Chair of the Board of Transportation Safety. Chair Dee Bowles thanked the Nominating Committee and called for other nominations from the floor. None were received. The nominations were closed. Dee Bowles, by acclamation, will serve as Chair to the Board of Transportation Safety.

Chairman Yeatts brought forth one nominee, Charles Rosemond, for the position of Vice-Chair of the Board of Transportation Safety. Chair Dee Bowles thanked the Nominating Committee and called for other nominations from the floor. None were received. The nominations were closed. Charles Rosemond, by acclamation, will serve as Vice-Chair to the Board of Transportation Safety.

Chairman Yeatts indicated that no other nominations were received and that the Board members felt that both the current Chair and Vice-Chair offered a lot of expertise and commitment to the field of transportation safety and the Board was satisfied with their prior tenure.

David Mitchell gave a brief update of transportation safety legislation for the 2007 General Assembly Session. (Legislation Update attached.)

Chair Dee Bowles asked David Mitchell to give update of past action statements. David addressed the following items:

### ***Completed ACTION Statements***

**Action:** Seatbelt Resolution – Completed and moved forward. Copy in packet.

**Action:** Draft training agenda was completed and forwarded to Board for review. John will be addressing this at the end of meeting. Copy in packet.

**Action:** Invite DOE to Board meeting to discuss Driver License Curriculum. Vanessa Wigand is here today to discuss and answer any questions.

David referred to staff on the following items:

### ***Current ACTION Statements***

**Action:** Data on bicycle helmet usage. - John Saunders reviewed chart with Board on helmet usage used during fatal crashes for the past three years.

**Action:** Enforcement Activity Report – David Mosley reported that the final year end report will be ready at the March training session. Still obtaining data.

David Mitchell furnished an update on behalf of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and offered regrets from Dr. Beth Baker who had a prior commitment. Items addressed:

- NHTSA's Priority Areas for 2007
- U.S. DOT's 2005 State-by-State Data on Alcohol-Related Traffic Fatalities
- Infant Car Seat Test Report
- Young Driver Traffic Safety Summit

Chair Dee Bowles mentioned two Committees that needed to be formed.

*Allocations* - To review and work with staff on the FY08 grant requests. Committee will bring forth recommendations to the full Board grant's meeting. Vice-Chair Charles Rosemond agreed to serve as Chair to the Allocations Committee and asked Charles Quillin and Seldon Rhodes to serve on Committee.

*Awards* – To review nominations received on behalf of the Governor's Transportation Safety Awards, select winners and assist with presentation of awards at the Annual Conference on Transportation Safety. Bruce Wingo agreed to serve as Chair to the Awards Committee and Walter Yeatts and Tom McGrath agreed to serve on Committee.

### *Standing Reports*

John Saunders provided an overview of crash statistics.

Kathy Aebischer provided an updated Financial Report.

### *Presentation*

Vanessa Wigand with the Department of Education furnished an overview of the driver curriculum offered in Virginia schools to the Board.

### *New Business from Floor*

David Mosley presented to the Board two new grant requests:

**Grants Management System Enhancements and Maintenance Costs – \$75,000 Approved by Board**

**40-Hour Parent/Teen Driving Guide – \$58,500 Approved by Board**

David also asked for final approval on the MADD grant. Grant was approved at \$150,000 pending future discussion with MADD on uses of funds. Staff met with MADD and clarification on usage of funds was addressed.

**MADD Grant – \$150,000 Approved by Board**

Bruce Biondo addressed the Board to request that the Board formally support the use of one standardized curriculum for use across the Commonwealth for Motorcycle Safety Training. The curriculum recommendations are the Motorcycle Safety Foundation's Basic Rider Course, Skilled Rider Course and the Evergreen Safety Council Sidecar/Tryke Training Course. This will ensure consistency of Motorcycle Safety Training throughout the Commonwealth.

**Board agreed.**

John briefly went over the Board training agenda and asked Board members to review and contact staff with any additional comments. Several dates will be offered in order that all members will be able to attend.

**Public Comment** - None

**Dates of Future Meetings** -

March 13, 2007  
1<sup>st</sup> Training Session – DMV Headquarters

May 7-9, 2007  
Annual Conference on Transportation Safety /  
Governor's Transportation Safety Awards  
Richmond, VA (Virginia Crossings)