

# Governor's Motorcycle Advisory Council

DMV

10/09/07

10:00a.m. – Noon



[www.motorcycleva.com](http://www.motorcycleva.com)

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**Chair:** Robert P. Crouch, Jr.

**Recording Secretary:** Audrey Odum

***Council Members:***

Robert Crouch	Bernard Adams	Richard Becker
Chief Charles Bennett	Bruce Biondo	Marquita Brooks
Jim Cannon	Dale Coyner	Capt. Richard Denney
Sheriff Steve Draper	Charles Finley	Mark Hodges
Alleyn Harnard for Sec. Pat Gottschalk		Richard Holman
Pam Jewell	Joseph Marshall	Rick Richardson
Chuck Talley	Shawn Walker	
Graeme Bisdee - Representing VHTA (Former member Julia Hammond resigned.)		

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***Council Members***

***Absent:***

Melissa Franklin	Sec. Pierce Homer	Keith Lindgren
Sec. John Marshall	John Mazza	Tom McGrath
Del. Samuel Nixon, Jr.	Sen. Phil Puckett	James Ramsey
Patrick Sanders	Lora Sharkey (Resigned)	

***Guest:***

Gianna DeMarco from VHTA	Andy Roberts / American Legion
Sandy Fox / Rider – Trainer	Cheryl Lynn / Research Council
Steve Whitmore / Ass't Attorney General	Lynette White / Tourism
Mark Copeland / DMV	
Ralph Earnhardt (No longer with VTC – Richard Lewis will replace Ralph.)	

**Greetings**

Chair Bob Crouch welcomed and thanked everyone for attending.

**Introductions & Roll Call**

Introductions and roll call concluded. Representation was sufficient for Quorum.

### Approval of Past Minutes

The Chair asked Council to review and submit updates to the August 2007 meeting. (Minutes were recorded and due to technical difficulty, minutes were unable to be finalized.) August minutes will be reviewed for approval at the December meeting.

### Council Business

Jim Cannon gave the Council an update on data collected from the Department of Motor Vehicles and State Police relating to the increase in motorcycle fatalities.

Chair Bob Crouch indicted that the Motorcycle Advisory Council should be pro-active with this problem and come up with constructed proposals to address. (How are we as a Council going to make a difference?)

Chair Bob Crouch recognized Cheryl Lynn from the Research Council. Ms. Lynn briefly discussed how the Research Council was contacted and became involved with the rising concern on motorcycle fatalities. Ms. Lynn indicated that they will be doing a micro-scopic analysis of the crash report, looking at the motorcycle data for any consistency in accidents, how others were at fault, etc. and in hopes of having a report at the Council's December meeting.

**Action:** Dale Coyner to work with Keith Lindgren on the most appropriate way to get findings out to the public.

**Action:** Bruce Biondo to coordinate getting a narrative on motorcycle fatalities that would show items such as location of accident, road conditions, etc.

### Committee Reports

**Tourism:** Richard Holman discussed local initiatives in the Lexington, Rockbridge, Roanoke and Roanoke Valley area. These areas are very active in promoting motorcycle tourism and have had a number of successful events.

Chair Bob Crouch recommended that the Council needs to let the local communities know that the Council is willing to help promote good events. (i.e., motorcycle website, distribution of materials, etc.)

**Action:** Graeme Bisdee to work with Richard Holman on a way to get this information to localities, etc.

### **Economic Development:**

Rick Richardson stated work was continuing to identify distribution centers for the possibility of a new invasion of foreign cycles.

California Sidecars new facility in the Lynchburg Area was discussed along with how the interest in sidecars has boomed.

**Safety:** See Council Business above. Items addressed.

### **Marketing / Communications:**

Dale Coyner gave a brief update on the new website design. New site demo should be ready for Council's review at the December meeting.

**Finance:**

Charlie Finley indicated that two finance committee meetings had been held. Charlie readdressed the possibility of having a Governor's motorcycle ride which would consist of several points where you could go to rest in different localities or just have a tour within a specific locality. He welcomes any feedback and would like to set a goal of raising \$10K for future motorcycle safety endeavors.

Questions were asked about the status of producing and selling motorcycle t-shirt. Ralph Earnhardt indicated that the Council should check out the VTC website. VTC works with Design Labs and the Council can enter into an agreement with them to add the motorcycle t-shirt to their inventory and they could offer it for sale on their site.

*Action:* Follow-up on Memorandum of Understanding between the Council and VTC.

**New Business from Floor**

Sheriff Draper invited the Council to the participate in Henry County's motorcycle ride and rodeo on October 27<sup>th</sup> as part of the celebration for their new Motorcycle Safety Program.

Bruce Biondo mentioned to Council concerns surrounding new 3 wheel vehicles and how these vehicles need to be classified.

Concerns were addressed on road construction and how VDOT would leave a bump in the roadways when maintenance was finished for the day. Motorcyclist along with motor vehicles are having trouble due to the large bumps being left until the following work day. Mark Hodges with VDOT advised Council members to contact their local engineers in their area to address this type problem.

**Public Comment**

None

**Future Meeting(s)-**

December 11, 2007  
DMV Headquarters

**Meeting Adjourned**