

APPROVED  
4/20/23

GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON MOTORCYCLE SAFETY  
Thursday, March 16, 2023 Meeting Minutes  
Transportation Safety Office  
In-Person and Virtual Hybrid Meeting

**Members Present:** Chair Don Hamon, Chris Henry, CJ Strauss, Ethan Lodwig, Debbie Weber, Graham Munsell

**Staff:** Jeff Greiner, Miguel H. Lopez, Alycen Ozawa, Suzanne Gill

**Liaisons/Guests:** Hanna Braziel (Oregon DMV), Officer Chris Cass (Portland Police Bureau, Deb Erye (Harley Davidson), , Bob Thomas (Bike Pac/ABATE), Aria Minu-Sepehr (Team Oregon), Michael Heinen

### I. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Don Hamon called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m. Some members and liaisons were present in person at the Oregon Department of Transportation, TLC (Technical Leadership Center) Building, and others joined the meeting via Teams. Chair Hamon then asked for a roll call and introductions. He reminded everyone this meeting was being recorded.

### II. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting (January 19, 2023)

Chair Hamon mentioned the corrections have been submitted and asked if there were any other corrections. No new corrections suggested. Chair Hamon asked if there was a motion to approve the corrected January meeting minutes.

**MOTION: Graham Munsell motions to approve the January minutes with corrections. Debbie Weber seconded. No opposition. Unanimous approval. Motion passed.**

### III. Chair and Committee Member Reports

Chair Hamon reported that he has not been able to ride as much as he would like; that he arrived in Salem on Tuesday, and it took him 330 miles to get to Salem because you can't cross the mountains. He commented on the perfect riding weather today and how beautiful the day was.

Vice Chair Chris Henry shared that he was thankful for the opportunity to attend the Transportation Safety Office annual conference in Grand Ronde last week.

Ethan Lodwig commented he was on his way to work, and it was dark, around 6:00 in the morning. Mr. Lodwig watched a car pull out right in front of him and he was reminded that motorcycles are vulnerable road users.

CJ Strauss shared she had nothing to report.

Graham Munsell reported that he was able to get his bike out on the road and that it was a good day.

Debbie Weber shared she had nothing to report.

### IV. Liaison/Stakeholder Reports and Public Comment

Portland Police Bureau (PPB) – Officer Cass

Officer Cass reported there have not been any major motorcycle crashes or fatalities since the last meeting. There are 9 total for the year, but nothing new. Officer Cass believes this is due to the recent bad weather.

Oregon State Police (OSP) – Jeff Greiner for Jason Lindland

Jeff Greiner reported for Jason Lindland that there has been one rider fatality that the OSP is investigating and there is no information so far. Mr. Lindland is in a training but is hoping to join the meeting later.

#### Driver and Motor Vehicle Services (DMV) – Hanna Braziel

Hanna Braziel reported they have been busy with legislation with several bills that look like they are gaining traction. Senate Bill 935, which would grant Ukrainian refugees that have a current driver's license, they can exchange it for an Oregon driver's license with no fee and waiving the knowledge and skills test. There has been a lot of analysis going on to all the cause and effect this bill could have. Ms. Braziel reported that the improvement project is still on and that it looks like they will be rolling out the online knowledge testing in early September. Finally, Ms. Braziel added that any members that would like to review the motorcycle manual that is coming up in April to get their names to her. All members expressed interest in a copy and Ms. Braziel will provide an electric copy to Suzanne and Alycen who will get it to all committee members.

#### Team Oregon – Pat Hahn

Pat Hahn reported on training and that there have been over 500 riders trained so far. Now that the weather is better classes are filling up and they are estimating more than 10,000 students for the year. Mr. Hahn reported they are waiting on painting at the new facility in Hillsboro and in Coos Bay. In Redmond, they have a large parking lot they use, but it fills up quickly. They have been fortunate that they are now allowed a second parking lot as a backup.

Mandatory instructor updates are completed, two-hour classes where they went over the results of the quality assurance visits from the previous year to find things that need to be changed or improved. An optional PDW class was also offered to the instructors where they learned more about administering the skills test properly and learning about equity and inclusion. The goal is 40 new instructors this year and they have seven so far. They had their first graduate course last month and will have another at the end of this month.

Mr. Hahn shared their current free safety seminars they have been giving and the objective is to reach into the community instead of waiting for people to come to them. The idea is to inspire them to go take a training course but even if they do not take a class, they are able to come together and get tips to become a better rider. At this point the seminars are not widely promoted as it's more of a pilot program. The seminars are being promoted in the areas where they have advanced courses that are most at risk of low enrollment as an incentive. Mr. Hahn shared that the classes can be put on for a group of people as well and you can take these classes online over Zoom. The reviews are all positive and people are really enjoying them.

#### ODOT - Transportation Safety Office, Motorcycle Safety Program – Jeff Greiner

Jeff Greiner shared an update on the maps and photographs and that they are currently coordinating with the photographer and two local dealerships to get photographs for the committee to review by the next meeting. Mr. Greiner reported that the TSO is tracking legislation related to transportation safety and motorcycle safety as well as issues that relate to causative factors or rider fatalities. Later he will share 12 bills with the committee for awareness. Presently, Mr. Greiner is working on arranging a meeting between the Governor's policy advisor and the Chair and Vice Chair of the GAC to have a conversation about the committee's ability to take positions on bills and with bills or ideas that the committee might like to see push forward. Mr. Greiner reported on three training providers that have expressed interest in coming into Oregon and to expect more to come on that soon. Finally, Mr. Greiner reported on scheduling subcommittee meetings for the trauma registry data as well as the road maintenance data.

Miguel Lopez expressed his appreciation for Jeff Greiner and all his hard work on the GAC-MS Committee.

#### NHTSA – James Skinner

James Skinner introduced himself and wanted to let everyone know that he was joining to just listen in, but if anyone had questions to please reach out.

#### BIKE PAC/ABATE – Bob Thomas

Bob Thomas reported on a work session for SB 422, Lane Sharing. It was passed unanimously to the floor and will be going to the Senate floor. Bike Pac and Abate will both be providing testimony to their senators to try to work that bill through the Senate and move to the House.

Bob Thomas reported on ABATE and thanked Debbie Weber for her discussion last month on bike helmets. Mr. Thomas went to his motorcycle shop and looked at the helmets and found they all had the sticker with the 218 standards. Mr. Thomas expressed confusion why if the helmets were already up to the standards why the committee would go to the legislature to enact a law that the federal government already has on the record. Vice Chair Chris Henry responded that some retailers do sell novelty helmets and riders are then purchasing a sticker that shows it does meet the safety standards when it does not. Mr. Thomas responded he felt that was a very small number of riders. Debbie Webber added that this is to help get our state in line with the federal standards.

#### Harley Davidson – Deb Eyre

Deb Eyre thanked everyone for their time and shared she was looking forward to the opportunities they will have in the State of Oregon and hopes to see everyone soon.

#### Public Comment

Michael Heinen submitted a comment in the chat; “Folks are now buying helmets online that are rated for the European standard and not DOT.” Vice Chair Henry responded that often helmets meet both standards because they want to sell the helmets worldwide. Debbie Weber added that she has never seen a European standard or a helmet that meets European standards and not be DOT.

#### **V. New Zealand Public Safety Campaigns – Graham Munsell**

Graham Munsell presented on the New Zealand Public Safety Campaign, specifically their marketing campaign that he noticed while on his trip last October. They have a different campaign for every month and for every season. There are specific sections for drivers, bicyclists, pedestrians, and motorcycle riders. Mr. Munsell shared the winter campaign which showed posters with slogans: “Start later, avoid the frost”, “Eyes out for Ice”, “Follow the sun, not the shade” etc. Mr. Munsell noted that their percentage statistics are almost identical to ours, with the highest crash rate at 40 and under. Chair Don Hamon asked if they had a big issue with impaired riders. Mr. Munsell responded yes, with alcohol, not other substances. Ethan Ludwig asked where Mr. Munsell noticed these advertisements. Mr. Munsell responded he saw them on buses and on roadsides. Chris Henry reported he heard in presentations at the TSO Conference that Clackamas County got permission to rebrand the state of Washington safety messages that they had already invested in. Jeff Greiner added that ODOT is working with Rob Sadowsky of Clackamas County where impaired riding is high. One meeting has been held about collaborative opportunities and the DUII program manager for ODOT, Ryan Stone, is willing to assist us in our messaging campaigns monetarily. Mr. Greiner added that they have shared material in the past with the

motorcycle program manager for the Washington Department of Licensing and Reciprocity and Washington State Highway Safety Office. Mr. Greiner shared with the committee the Transportation Safety Marketing (TSM) and how they produce media campaigns for all transportation system users and all issues and all subjects. The resource is available for any state to use, and they encourage all states that have produced material to submit it to TSM for use by other states. Bob Thomas shared that sharing among state motorcycle programs is very common and accepted. If you see something you like you just ask for it and if they can give it to you, they will with zero payment for any of the production.

#### **VI. 2023 Legislative Update – Jeff Greiner**

Jeff Greiner shared a spreadsheet and reported on the bills the OTS and GAC-DUII committees are following. Mr. Greiner highlighted the following bills for this committee and shared that nothing has changed so far regarding the committee taking any public positions on any of these bills at this time.

Senate Bill 422, Lane Splitting. A work session was held in the Judiciary Committee yesterday on the bill and it received a unanimous vote of due pass to send it to the floor and Senator Dembrow was assigned to carry the bill to the floor.

Bills OTSC/GAC-DUII are tracking:

- 2951. Programs for awarding grants to providers of Traffic Safety education courses to fund Spanish language Traffic Safety education courses. While this is directed at the Driver Education program, Mr. Greiner wanted to note the potential need for the motorcycle safety planning and to address traditionally unmet needs from people that do not have English as a first language. There is a lot of support for this, and Mr. Greiner anticipates the motorcycle program may need to be looking at offering a similar opportunity soon.
- 3146. Expands the offensive driving while under the influence of intoxicants to include any substance. This bill adds intoxicants that are not alcohol, cannabis, or other controlled substances. Mr. Greiner added if anyone has questions about the substances to please reach out to Officer Cass.
- 3374. Replaces the language from vehicle collision to vehicle crash. The idea is to begin messaging to people that most crashes are avoidable.
- 2316. Any Impairing Substance and increasing the classification of the crime.
- 2395. Requiring Oregon Health Authority to study substance use and directs OHA to submit findings to the Legislative Assembly. This is important for this committee as there is an issue with polysubstance use and motorcycle rider crashes and fatalities. Per Ryan Stone, the crash data is showing there is a decline in single substances in fatal crashes. If this bill were to pass, potentially we may find some answers on how to address this issue.
- 2707. Requires the sentencing court to order a person convicted of a drunk driving offense that resulted in the death of a victim to pay restitution to the surviving child of the victim in the form of child maintenance until the child is 18.
- 2882. Directs Oregon Health Authority to develop and maintain a public health campaign to educate Oregonians about illicit opioids and declares an emergency effective upon passage.
- 3376. Lowers the threshold for being under the influence from .08BAC to .05BAC. Mr. Greiner pointed

out that this is important for motorcycle riders as current research is showing that even at .02% BAC perception reaction and processing skills are affected even with these lower levels of alcohol.

## **VII. 2024 Highway Safety Plan Discussion – Committee**

Jeff Greiner asked the committee for input on three issues for the program as he develops the Triennial Highway Safety plan chapter for motorcycle/moped driver safety.

Speed / Too Fast for Conditions. ODOT to interpret and analyze data for causation factors. Speed continues to be a leading factor in rider fatalities.

Impaired Riding. Reduce the number of motorcycle crashes where riders are impaired. Work with rider groups to illustrate their capability and responsibility to change the culture of combining drinking with motorcycle riding. Consider new approaches to address impaired riding.

Unendorsed / Training Options.

Motorcycle Rider Education – to encourage and promote rider education, maintain, enhance, and improve Oregon’s motorcycle safety training programs, personal protective gear, and impaired riding.

Training and Motorcycle Operating Licensing – to provide input on licensing requirements, work with Oregon Driver and Motor Vehicle Services Division on upcoming versions of the motorcycle and moped manual and being properly licensed.

Mr. Greiner shared partners they have previously worked with to help address these issues and then asked the committee to share their ideas.

## **VIII. Discussion**

Impaired Riding:

Graham Munsell suggested pulling the insurance industry into this somehow. CJ Strauss suggested using the academic community and if there was anyone in that venue that may share their knowledge. Michael Heinen suggested having continuing education for riders. Ethan Lodwig suggested training young people to respect our transportation system. Pat Hahn suggested using the Last Drink Survey in Florida. A survey was given to anyone arrested to find out which establishment they had been served for their last drink. From this data law enforcement (Sheriff and local Police Department) were able to reach out to the top three establishments and educated them on DUII and provided them service and awareness training. The data from the establishments that went through the training supported that the number of DUII’s in the county went down significantly. Chair Don Hamon suggested having more family friendly events instead of tavern to tavern. Debbie Weber suggested asking dealerships and sponsors to not support the tavern-to-tavern events. CJ Strauss suggested looking at ways we can promote the restaurants and establishments that are supportive of the health and the livelihood of the drivers in our community by not promoting drinking to motorcycle riders. Aria Minu-Sepehr suggested lowering the BAC level for riders to .03.

Speed / Too Fast for Conditions:

Graham Munsell suggested educating people to raise awareness and that he enjoyed the advanced riding courses. He added the speed advisory signs are always helpful when he is coming into a turn. Chris Henry added that he agreed, Team Oregon does a good job of discussing judgment, but after the class how do we get people to practice the judgement they learned. How do we translate the range experience to the road experience, that is the challenge. Debbie Weber asked if there was an issue with young drivers driving too fast for conditions as well and should we reinforce it in the Driver's Education classes. Ms. Weber added peer pressure when you are new rider should be addressed as the confidence might not be there and they are just trying to keep up with the group they are riding with. Alycen Ozawa suggested using the crash test dummy simulation to give a perspective on your speed and use those commercials to show people how speed in turns can be a factor in crashes. Pat Hahn agreed with Mr. Munsell on the speed advisory and agrees they are the most effective way to hone your judgement and how that advisory speed relates to your skill level.

#### Unendorsed Riders and Training Options:

Ethan Lodwig asked Jeff Greiner how many licensed motorcycle owners are not endorsed. Mr. Greiner shared that next month they should have access to that data. Pat Hahn shared that one of the best practices that NHTSA support is the idea of identifying registered bikes that are registered to someone without an endorsement. It's the cheapest and simplest, most effective program as they send you a letter stating you are riding without an endorsement. CJ Strauss shared that possibly working with the insurance companies and the DMV to get letters out if they have registered motorcycles to a person who is not endorsed. Graham Munsell added that we need to get training to places like Eastern Oregon and Klamath and to figure out a cost-effective way to be training these riders in the border communities. Chris Henry asked Jeff Greiner if crash data or trauma registry help us understand who is crashing that is not endorsed or trained. Ethan Lodwig responded that would involve identifying the trauma registry data and needing a name and that getting aggregate data from the trauma registry is more palatable.

Chair Don Hamon suggested if committee members have more ideas to please send them to Jeff Greiner or Suzanne Gill.

#### **IX. Next Meeting: April 20, 2023 – Possible Topics:**

- 2023 Legislative Session Update
- Oregon Health Authority Trauma Registry Update
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Reciprocity – Equity Lens and the Motorcycle Safety Program of Oregon – ODOT/Committee
- GAC MS Publications and Outreach Materials Update
- GAC MS Strategic Action Plan

#### **X. Adjournment**

With no further business, the committee was adjourned at 6:32 p.m.