



MINUTES

Indiana State School Bus Committee

December 4, 2012

The Indiana State School Bus Committee met for a regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, December 4, 2012 at the Department of Education office in Indianapolis, Indiana with the following members in attendance.

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Danny Libs – Chairman
Joey Dallas – Ind. School Boards Assoc.
Ron Chew – Ind. Assoc. of School Bus Drivers
Dr. Robert Taylor – Pub. Sch. Superintendent
Shannon Dickson – BMV
Dwayne Vandiver – Sch. Trans. Assoc. of Ind.

NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

John Perkins – IASBO
Sgt. Steve Whitaker – ISP
Clifford Zehr – Ind. Assoc. of Sch. Bus
Dist.

VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:

Claudia Koerner – Ind. Dept. of Revenue
Assoc.
Dr. Joseph O’Neil – Governor’s Council on
Impaired & Dangerous Drivers
Carl Brown – Indiana School for the Deaf &
Indiana School for the Blind

NON-VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:

Kent McDaniel – Ind. Trans. Assoc.
Mark Clawson – Ind. Twnshp. Assoc.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Carrie Duthie called roll. Four guests were present; Brad Bush with Midwest Transit, John Barrington with MacAllister Transportation, Michelle Gough and John Huang, legal counsel with the Indiana Department of Education.

The September 4 meeting minutes were reviewed. Mr. Vandiver moved to approve the minutes as presented, Mr. Dallas seconded the motion to approve; motion carried.

Items of Information

Mr. LaRocco introduced Mr. Haung as the new staff attorney for the Committee.

Michelle Gough reviewed the Rule Promulgation Process and where the process is currently on the timeline. She advised we will need to file AROC Notice if we go over the 1 year time line. The AROC Notice needs to be filed by Day 250. At the request of the Committee, Ms. Gough will file the extension. She also noted the Committee will need to hold the public hearing no sooner than 21 days after the final version is published. Then the Specs will go the State Budget Agency for a Cost Benefit Analysis and review.

Indiana State School Bus Committee

Minutes of December 4, 2012

Page 2.

Ms Gough also advised the Committee that after January 1, 2013, the Committee can use telemeeting technology to conduct meetings.

After discussion, the Committee agreed that a sub-committee would meet on January 8, 2013 to review the revisions and language for the specifications. The sub-committee will then present their proposed version to the full Committee to vote on the final version and language. The public hearing is tentatively scheduled for March 5, 2013 prior to the regular Committee meeting. The hearing will be held prior to the general business meeting.

Items of Action

Mr. LaRocco provided the proposed 2013 meeting dates of March 5, June 4, September 3, and December 3. The Committee approved the dates. Mr. LaRocco reminded the Committee that the Indiana Department of Education will be moving to a new location at PNC Bank Towers at 115 W. Washington Street, South Tower, Suite 600, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Mr. LaRocco presented a request for a pilot program for the use of Guardian Angel Lights from Marion Community Schools. The committee reviewed the request and had many questions including:

- Where are the lights mounted?
- Clarification of usage?
- Time frame for the pilot program?
- Type of feedback required?
- Does the Committee assume liability if we approve the pilot program?

At this time and until the questions have appropriate answers, the Committee has denied the pilot program. Motion to deny made by Dr. Taylor, second provided by Mr. Vandiver, motion passed. Mike LaRocco is to contact Marion Community Schools on the behalf of the Committee and advise them of the Committee's decision and to either remove the currently installed system(s) or have them rendered inoperable. Additionally, Mr. LaRocco will meet with Mr. Huang to write up language for pilot programs.

Mr. LaRocco presented a request by Durham School Services to allow the use of "Topeka Tabs" on the rear section of their school busses. The tabs are made of doubled over red reflective tape and provide a reference point for back swing of the bus. Use of Topeka Tabs was approved.

Items of discussion

Mr. LaRocco mentioned the recent media airing of school bus driver not wearing seat belts.

The Committee received an article from the Sun Sentinel (Florida) titled [Palm Beach County jury wanted to punish School Board](#). The article noted the jury awarded over \$158,000 to the family of a autistic teen who was beaten on a school bus. The jury held the School Board negligent.

Indiana State School Bus Committee

Minutes of December 4, 2012

Page 3.

Correspondence

Legal Counsel has provided review and opinion that the placement of a small plaque to acknowledge donors for the buses cost does not violate the no advertising rule on school busses and is legally permissible. Specifications for the size and placement of the plaque will be included in the 575 IAC specifications currently under review.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, February 5, 2013 at the Department of Education in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Without further business to discuss, Mr. Dallas made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Chew; motion carried.

Chairman

Secretary

Date