

LHSC COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

June 7, 2021
9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Louisiana Highway Safety Commission
7919 Independence Boulevard
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806
and via Zoom/Conference Call 636 651 3185 Code 353694

CALL TO ORDER:

Commission Members were welcomed by Commission Chairman Jim Craft and Executive Director Lisa Freeman. All members were emailed packets containing the following information: Meeting Agenda, Project List and Description, and Voting Ballots.

ROLL CALL:

Commissioner Craft, Chairman

Commissioner Oxley, Vice-Chairman

Commissioner Blache

Commissioner Snow

Commissioner McMakin

Commissioner Arbuckle

Commissioner Skains – *Present & Present by Proxy, (due to technical remote meeting difficulty) Given to Commissioner Oxley*

Commissioner Haman – *Present & Present by Proxy, (due to technical remote meeting difficulty) Given to Commissioner Oxley*

Commissioner Ausberry – *Present & Present by Proxy, (due to technical remote meeting difficulty) Given to Commissioner Blache*

Commissioner Reynolds - *Present & Present by Proxy, (due to technical remote meeting difficulty) Given to Commissioner Oxley*

Commissioner Pohlmann - *Present & Present by Proxy, (due to technical remote meeting difficulty) Given to Commissioner Oxley*

Commissioner McKneely - *Present & Present by Proxy, (due to technical remote meeting difficulty) Given to Commissioner McMakin*

Commissioner Tyson – *Present & Present by Proxy (due to technical remote meeting difficulty) Given to Commissioner Snow*

Commissioner Green - *Present & Present by Proxy, (due to technical remote meeting difficulty) Given to Commissioner Snow*

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MINUTES:

Commission Chairman Craft asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the June, 2020 and December, 2020 Commission Meeting. Commissioner Blache offered the motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Commissioner Snow and with no objections, the minutes of the meetings were approved.

ETHICS OVERVIEW – Recusal from Voting/Discussion:

Steve Quinn, DPS – OLA Attorney (see entries below)

Consideration & Voting:

HB 654 Relative to Highway Safety Corridor Legislation

- LSP Colonel Lamar Davis and LA DOTD Secretary Shawn Wilson were moved up on the agenda and spoke about HB654 (2020 regular session) and explained what the passage of this bill would mean for LHSC, LSP, and DOTD as a partnership moving forward to reduce roadway deaths by establishing safety corridors.
 - Steve Quidd (DPS – Office of Legal Affairs) addressed the ethics overview regarding the voting discussion/recusal process and invited questions/concerns from the Commissioners.
 - Chairman Craft asked the Commission how they would like to proceed, whereupon Commissioner Snow made a motion to vote and allow Executive Director Freeman to represent the Commission on HB654, Commissioner Arbuckle seconded the motion, and it passed without opposition.
- DOTS representative Dan Magri concluded this item with a power point presentation regarding the proposed highway safety corridors and thereafter invited questions from Commissioners.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW:

Deputy Director Cummins presented a financial overview for LHSC in FY2022.

GRANT FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS & VOTING:

LHSC staff presented programmatic overviews for their emphasis areas/project funding recommendations as follows:

- Planning & Administration, Paid Media, Surveys – Dortha Cummins, LHSC Deputy Director
- Traffic Records – Chuck Miller, LHSC Program Coordinator
- Impaired Driving – Chela Mitchell, LHSC Program Coordinator
- Young Drivers, Distracted Driving, Earned Media – Jessica Bedwell, LHSC Executive Staff Officer
- Non-Motorized and Rail Safety – A’Kimberly Short, LHSC Program Coordinator
- Police Traffic Services – Terry Chustz, LHSC Program Coordinator
- Occupant Protection & Diversity Outreach – Chanita Vazquez, LHSC Program Coordinator
 - There was additional discussion regarding the voting process and proxies/recusals.
 - Commission Chairman Craft moved approve Grant Funding Recommendations for FY2022 Fiscal Year, and with no objection, the grant funding recommendations for FY2022 Fiscal Year were approved were approved verbally by the Commissioners.
 - Although proxies given, Commissioners cast individual votes and agreed to send in their formal ballots as back-up to the verbal voting and to ensure any abstention positions taken.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

Director Freeman updated the Commission on LHSC’s current COVID-19 teleworking status and stated that staff would begin returning to the office.

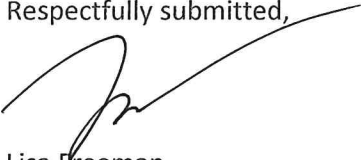
NEW BUSINESS:

Director Freeman announced that Governor Edwards’ office was working quickly to fill all Commission vacancies and that the new Commission members would be in place for the final quarterly Commission Meeting in December, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT:

After the presentation of new business, Commission Chairman Craft called for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Commissioner Oxley, and with no objections, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Lisa Freeman', written in a cursive style. The signature starts with a large, sweeping 'L' and ends with a long, horizontal flourish that extends to the right.

Lisa Freeman