

## MINUTES OF THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Mike Petersen at 8:30 am on Wednesday, January 21, 2015, 546-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Senator Anthony Hensley – Excused

Senator Kay Wolf – Excused

Committee staff present:

Jill Shelley, Legislative Research Department

Whitney Howard, Legislative Research Department

Adam Siebers, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Carolyn Long, Kansas Legislative Committee Assistant

Scott Wells, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Lisa Kaspar, Director, Division of Vehicles, Kansas Department of Revenue

Others in attendance:

[See Attached List](#)

### **Remarks from the Chair**

Chairperson Petersen welcomed those in attendance and reminded them of the upcoming deadlines for submission of bills.

### **Bill introductions**

The Chairperson asked if there were any bill introductions and reminded everyone that requested bills would be considered introduced unless a committee member had an objection..

Whitney Damron, representing Polaris Industries, offered a bill to amend K.S.A. 8-126(a), (ff), and (rr) along with accompanying statutes K.S.A. 8-1420a and K.S.A. 2014 Supp. 8-1493. There were no objections from the committee.

Travis Lowe, representing AAA, requested legislation regarding seat belt statutes. There were no objections from the committee.

Patrick Vogelsberg, representing the National Waste Recycling Association, requested legislation regulating vehicles speed as they approach and move around waste and recycling vehicles. There were no objections from the committee.

Lisa Kaspar, representing the Division of Vehicles, Department of Revenue, requested two pieces of legislation. The first was a fee for the manufacturing and funding of a new flat license plate and the second concerned increasing the fee to obtain a commercial drivers license and the Division's retention of the funds for the administration of the test which hopefully would eliminate a portion of the wait time. There were no objections from the committee.

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Senator Elaine Bowers requested a bill to designate a portion of K-8 as the "Home on the Range" highway. There were no objections from the committee.

### **Presentation by**

Senator Petersen welcomed Lisa Kaspar, Director of Vehicles, Kansas Department of Revenue. Ms. Kaspar began her update by outlining some of the customer service enhancements put in place by her Division ([Attachment 1](#)) . They were:

- The establishment of a Stakeholder Advisory Board. The Board met twice and covered a variety of issues. Due to it's popularity, several sub-committees were formed which included customer service, DUI interlock committee, receipt in lieu of a decal, uninsured motorists, and law enforcement. Division staff also met with the Dealer Review Board.
- The addition of a Quality Assurance program to customer service centers.
- Upgraded the Wichita driver's license office to a "one stop shop" with Taxation and a Learning Center.
- Piloted Summer Nights in Topeka and due to its success will initiate Summer Saturdays in 2015.
- Initiated a customer survey consisting. Of the more than 9400 surveys returned, 92.4% returned contained positive feedback and the authors of all those containing concerns or questions were contacted by Division personnel.
- Expiration and issuance dates of Commercial Drivers License (CDL) Medical Certifications were added to the driver license status check and are available on line.

Director Kaspar informed the Committee that in October 2014 her Division launched, along with third party CDL testers, implementation of HB 2693 and added an automated testing system (KATS). It is anticipated that when fully implemented, a savings of \$45,000 could be achieved. The Fraud Investigation Unit looked into 241 potential fraud situations the Division provided responses to and 1797 driver license requests from law enforcement.

The Division has over 14,000 active International Registration Plan (IRP) and Commercial Motor Vehicle (CMV) accounts, 82 counties offering CMV registrations, eight counties offering IRP/CMV registration and one third party vendor offering both IRP and CMV registration.

The Division currently has available license plates for the Horse Council and Masonic Lodge available now and Donate Life license plates will be available at the end of February.

The Division has implemented electronic personal property certification for vehicle dealers allowing

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Unless specifically noted, the individual remarks recorded herein have not been transcribed verbatim. Individual remarks as reported herein have not been submitted to the individuals appearing before the committee for editing or corrections.

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the county treasurers to research tax obligations.

The Division has also established a lien management team which is continuing to work on combining electronic and paper processes for consistency and enhancement of the e-lien system.

Director Kaspar said the Division is modernizing the vehicle registration renewal notification by going from letters to postcards resulting in a savings of \$330,000 in printing and postage.

Regarding safety and security, Division staff continue to provide training and tools to combat fraud in driver license offices; are investigating suspected fraud; and continue to serve on two AAMVA working groups to keep the Division on the forefront of emerging trends for fraud, safety and security.

Ms. Kaspar took an opportunity to introduce her staff that was present. They included:

- Shelly Barton, Executive Secretary
- Jodie Soldan, Vehicles Communication Manager
- Ray Wilk, Legislative Analyst
- Debra Wiley, Manager, Budget, Contracts, Grants, Inventory and Quality Assurance
- Jessica Ross, Manager, Driver Solutions
- Kent Selk, CDL Manager
- Aaron Emery, Assistant Manager, CMV
- Julie Earnest, DL Manager

Following introductions, Ms. Kaspar stood for question from the Committee. When asked about the piloted electronic test for CDL's, Kent Selk returned to the podium and responded that Phase One had been implemented although they were still going through some minor tweaks. Several committee members thanked the Division for assistance with constituent problems.

The Chairperson thanked Director Kaspar and the members of her staff for their presentation. The meeting adjourned at 8:58 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 22, 2015.

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