

MINUTES

Truck Driver Training Advisory Committee Meeting

Date | time 4/27/2017 5:30 PM | Meeting called to order by Joe Dahm, Coordinator

In Attendance

Members Present:

Pat Burch—President, Roy's Transfer

Ben Burch—Manager, Roy's Transfer

James Watson—Manager, Ryder

Terry Smith—Manager, Ryder

Others Present:

Joseph Dahm—Transportation Programs Coordinator, Kishwaukee College

Matthew King—CDL Training Specialist, Kishwaukee College

Denny Herrman—CDL Training Specialist, Kishwaukee College

Brock Byers—CDL Trainer, Kishwaukee College

Ron Arne—CDL Training Specialist, Kishwaukee College

Bill Nicklas—Executive Director, Kishwaukee College Foundation

LaCretia Konan—Director of Business and Training Partnerships, Kishwaukee College

Brianna Hooker—Administrative Assistant to Instruction/Recorder, Kishwaukee College

Call to Order—Joe Dahm

Meeting called to order by Joe Dahm at 5:50 PM.

Growth of the Program/Current Updates on Training

Joe reports that the program is doing really well, our numbers are up again this year. With regards to credit classes, 58 students graduated in 2016 and 68-70 are on track to graduate in 2017. Joe reports that there are more females enrolled than ever before.

Joe announces having received a donated truck in November 2015 and can now run classes with 8 students rather than 4 which has assisted to our increased enrollment. The program will be placing a bid for another truck on May 1, 2017.

For Contract Training, Joe reports that two of the largest companies in the area (Nicor and ComEd) are training (80-140 +/-) employees at the college.

Joe announces plans for developing a link on the KC website for companies hiring/looking for drivers but is not sure as to when that should be up and running. Will update as progress is made.

Federal Industry Updates and Concerns

Joe provides a handout to committee members and reports that FMCSA is increasing fines for regulations violations.

Greg reports on the final ruling on defining how a person can get a CDL. The process going forward will be that a person will need to attend a certified school which would then allow the individual's name to be placed on a

list at the DMV to allow the person to test. This means that the federal government will now be driving the curriculum. This policy has been in the works for nearly 15 years and will fully be in effect by 2020. Farming/Fire/Military are some examples of industry that will be exempt from this ruling. Currently, our program costs ~\$4,000. Committee seems to agree that insurance companies may be a driving force behind this ruling.

Open Discussion on Current and Future Industry Challenges

Joe reports new industry requirement for electronic logging systems that is to go into effect by December 2017 and is interested in committee feedback/opinions. Joe reports that KC IT is purchasing tablets for the school program right now. Terry reports that Ryder's system is linked to their billing system and feels that this requirement can be challenging for smaller companies but it offers extra protection to larger companies.

Joe provides handout on Roadside Inspections to committee members.

Joe reports that our training area on campus has been recently improved including new paint, lights, black top.

Overtime vs. Comp Time Discussion initiated by Joe. Pat reports companies can choose how they classify themselves which determines whether or not they are required to pay any overtime and Roy's Transfer is classified as such that they are not required to pay overtime. Terry reports that Ryder has a system where employees can choose if they want to be paid hourly or by mileage.

Overtime/Comp time conversation leads to discussion on industry challenges of rest time and delivery times.

Policies regarding rest time have led many companies to drop their trailers off for deliveries.

James asks instructors for thoughts on student interest within the program. More specifically whether instructors think students are entering the program because they really have a desire to or if it is an easy program to get into. Has concerns with financial aspect of field, higher fines, and 'micromanaging' within the field becoming potential barriers to people wanting to enter the field. Instructors do not feel there is a specific trend either way in student interest into the program.

Brock stresses importance teaching students by the book and to not scare them away with fines or industry changes.

Local Transportation Driver Demands for Summer 2017

Pat reports Roy's Transfer will hire drivers right out of school whereas Ryder requires 1 year experience. Greg asks Pat if there is anything recent graduates of the program do not know that they should know when they finish school and Pat confirms that graduates are well prepared. Pat explains that Roy's Transfer hauls very specific things and they need to train drivers their own way and they do not expect KC to train on those things.

Announcements

Bill announces each year the college distributes Awards of Excellence and Joe Dahm won an Award of Excellence this year. Bill thanks the committee for assisting in a successful program and supporting Joe within the program.

Next Meeting

11/30/2017 5:30 PM, Kishwaukee College, Room TBA
Meeting Adjourned at 6:55 PM.