



Highway Policy Committee

CHAIRMAN: Dave Williams, Executive Vice President, Knight Transportation
TCA STAFF LIAISON: David Heller, Kathryn Sanner

MINUTES:

MEETING DATE: Sunday, March 10, 2019
TIME: 9:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
PLACE: Margaux 1, Wynn Las Vegas Resort
Las Vegas, Nevada

MEMBERS PRESENT

Roger Amhof	Ed Nagle
Dave Berry	Dean Newell
Adam Blanchard	Howard O'Malley
Jon Coca	Donavan J. Olson
Roy Cox	Rob Penner
Dennis Dellinger	John Pope
Barry Dittmer	Barry Pottle
Shepard Dunn	Jon Russell
Amber Edmondson	John Simms
Wendell Erb	Karen Smerchek
David Freeman	Jim Stockeland
Bryan Fortay	Tommy Thomas
Sherri Garner Brumbaugh	Randy Vernon
Darrel Hopkins	Jim Ward
Josh Kaburick	Sarah Wellman
Robert Low	Dave Williams
Scott Manthey	Nick Wingerter
Eli McCormick	

GUESTS PRESENT

Mike Ahart	Don Freymiller
Barry Andersen	Steve Hill
Mike Cobb	Trevor Kurtz
Jeff Davis	Scott McCollister
Missy Edwards	Paul Menig
Jake Einwechter	Phil Peck
John Elliott	Tom Pirnie
Brent Falgione	Garth Pitzel
Michael Foley	Scott Randall

Jeff Reed
Jerry Sigmon, Jr.
Jill Snyder
Mike Spalla
Glynn Spangenberg
Richard Sullivan

Dave Taylor
Jonathan Todd
Avery Vise
Lance Votroubek
Steve Wutke

TCA STAFF

David Heller
John Lyboldt
Kathryn Sanner

I. Call to Order

Chairman Dave Williams called the meeting to order at approximately 9:15 a.m. and asked the attendees to introduce themselves. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to conduct the meeting according to the antitrust guidelines. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve the minutes of the previous meeting in Arlington, Virginia on September 26, 2018.

II. Legislative Update – David Heller, Vice President of Government Affairs, TCA

The committee received an update from David Heller on the legislative status of infrastructure reform, particularly the different pay-fors being debated by Congress. Heller also discussed the status of F4A and the effort to repeal the federal excise tax on the sale of new trucks. There were no action items as a result of this discussion.

III. Advocacy Advisory Committee Update – Josh Kaburick, CEO, Earl L. Henderson Trucking Company

Josh Kaburick updated the committee on the newly established TCA Advocacy Advisory Committee. He explained the topics the committee will cover and the direction it will provide to the TCA staff, along with the TCA officers and committee chairs who will make up the committee's membership. There were no action items as a result of this discussion.

IV. Highway Funding Policy Discussion – Dave Williams, Executive Vice President, Knight-Swift Transportation

Committee Chairman Dave Williams initiated a discussion of the potential pay-fors currently being discussed by Congress for a federal infrastructure plan. The priority for the trucking industry is for the money collected through the Highway Trust Fund to be reinvested in the nation's highways. Congress is increasingly focusing on a vehicle miles traveled (VMT) tax as a solution, however TCA does not currently have a policy position on this.

The committee engaged in a robust discussion of the VMT tax. Committee members raised concerns including privacy, the possibility for fraud, the varied success of VMT pilot programs, and the high costs of administering this tax, among others. It was noted that many Republican members of Congress have signed pledges against raising taxes, so they are looking to the VMT tax as an alternative. As such, it was decided that TCA needs a policy specifically on the VMT tax in order to effectively list the association's concerns with this potential funding option while still being engaged in the discussion over how to fund a federal infrastructure package. Chairman Williams announced that a subcommittee will be created to further discuss this subject and that the members will report back to the full committee at the next meeting. All Highway Policy Committee members were invited to take part in the subcommittee discussions.

V. TCA Policy Updates – Kathryn Sanner, Manager of Government Affairs, TCA

The Committee was presented with suggestions for bringing TCA's policy language up-to-date by eliminating or changing language that is no longer current. Kathryn Sanner explained the routine changes to the Tort Reform policy. The committee discussed that some of the TCA policies which fall under the committee's jurisdiction should be eliminated altogether, and so these updates will be presented at the next committee meeting. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the routine policy change presented to the group.

VI. Call on Washington Discussion – David Heller, Vice President of Government Affairs, TCA

Heller informed the committee that the dates for the 2019 Fall Business Meetings and Call on Washington have been set for September 24-25, with meetings being held at the Capital Hilton in Washington, DC. Committee members recommended that this year's Call on Washington include fewer quick-turnaround meetings and that leave-behind materials customized by state or congressional district be developed. There were no action items as a result of this discussion.

VII. Old/New Business

There were no Old Business items to discuss. Under New Business, Glynn Spangenberg of Spangenberg Partners encouraged the committee to take up policy regarding moving heavy duty trucks out of the left lane and into the center or middle lane as technological advances now allow for improvements in this. Following this point of business, Chairman Williams requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made, seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.

VIII. Adjournment