

BUS industry **SAFETY** council

Sponsored by the **American Bus Association**

General Session-Opening Session Minutes

Monday, June 22, 2015

01:00 pm – 03:00 pm...Baltimore, MD.

The meeting was called to order at 1:07 pm by Stephen Evans, Chairman

159 Attendees were welcomed by Chairman Evans. Chairman Evans asked for acknowledgment from 1st time attendees. Approximately 15 first time attendees were welcomed by Chairman Evans. He invited them and encouraged them to participate in the sessions and come back to help us accomplish our BISC Mission. They were also invited to meet up with Chris or Charlie for further mentoring.

Chairman Evans

- Discussed the BISC Mission.
- Went through emergency procedures should anything happen during our meetings.
- Spoke about the name badges:
 - Green-Operators
 - Yellow-Government
 - Orange-Suppliers

Stephen introduced Suzanne Te Beau Rohde as the replacement for recently required Vice-President of Government Affairs Clyde Hart and invited her to give the Anti-trust Admonishment.

Anti-trust Admonishment, Suzanne Te Beau Rohde

- Suzanne read the anti-trust guidelines that prohibit the discussion of routes, rates, and/or services at any time during these BISC meetings.

Stephen recognized sponsors:

1. ABC
2. National Interstate
3. JJ Keller
4. Bridgestone
5. N.I.C.
6. Saucon
7. Transportation Safety Exchange (TSX)

Stephen discussed last year's selection of the Norm Littler Safety Award to Pete Worthington. At the time, we did not have the award in our possession. Stephen asked Don DeVivo and Pam Martinez to come forward to "accept the award on Pete's behalf, and then in turn present it to him during one of your company meetings that I understand he will be attending in a couple of weeks."

Stephen reminded the BISC that we are going to be accepting nominations for the next award and encouraged members to send those nominations to BISC to ensure that Norm's memory lives.

Our BISC Summer 2015 Theme: Getting to know your Federal Agency. Get the opportunity to access key officials from these agencies and hear from them what is going on in their departments.

Recognized the BISC Executive Committee for 2015 and thanked them for their work.

Chairs:

5 Committees and their Chairs. There is a link embedded in the agenda online, but Stephen also asked the chairs to come forward to discuss their agendas.

1. Govt. Affairs (Mike Horak)-8-10 on Tuesday. Entry Level Driver Training Recap, Insulin Dependent Diabetic NPRM, Beyond Compliance, Lease and Interchange of vehicles-Final Rule, CVSA out-of-service criteria, DOD Bulletin on wage/benefits, Sleep Apnea if there is interest
2. Human Perf (Mike Ferianc)-Many appear to be the same as Govt. but will be looked at in a different point of view (driver, employee, etc...). Hair follicle drug testing pros and cons, entry level driver training, proposed drug and alcohol clearinghouse, CDL medical card issue (what happens next), sleep apnea (changes and additions), qualifying drivers with type 1 diabetes, requirement for p endorsement for entertainer coach drivers.
3. Security (Lynette McMillan). Intercity bus security grants, PAG, I-Step exercise taking place on the 24th (IED on a bus), liability when it comes to security.
4. VTOC (Jeff Gilchrist)-NPRM's and Final rules, Submission of comments through ABA, Try to create a "Best Practice Guide", Looking for direction about what to do to benefit committee moving forward.
5. Health and Environmental Safety (Pam Martinez)-What to do for human performance evaluation, how not to hire a worker's comp claim, new guidance put out by OSHA.

Stephen once again went over the schedule for committees and informed everyone that the minutes would be posted to the BISC website. He then encouraged all to sign up for the TSA exercise on Wednesday if they had not done so already.

Stephen then invited Suzanne Rohde to give us an overview of her approach and then give us the high points of what she has noticed is happening in Government Affairs from the perspective of the operator so that we can understand.

Suzanne:

1. Gave a description of her background
2. Has worked across all of the modes of transportation. Able to see things from many different sides.
3. Oversees the legislative advocacy as well as monitor the regulatory type issues.
 - a. Regulatory
 - i. Entry level training-something should be forthcoming after another comment period. Hopefully later this year nprm
 - ii. Lease and Exchange rule-Final Rule effective January 2017. May file petition of reconsideration to ask the agency to take another look at the rule before making it effective. Will be critical to get feedback from those who would be affected.
 - iii. NPRM-Qualification standard for Type 1 Diabetes. Have until July 6th to file comments. Hopefully will hold phone calls for comments for future NPRM's .
 - iv. Beyond Compliance-not a rulemaking. Just a notice to gather information for voluntary technology and best practices. See if they should take these things into consideration. No prohibitions like an NPRM.

- v. Electronic Stability Control Rule
- vi. P endorsement for Entertainer
- b. Legislative
 - i. Authorization vs Appropriations Track
 - ii. Authorization bill typically lasts 4 years. Been a real challenge to get this done due to diminishing funds. Looking to extend it in July, question is for how long??? Hopefully it will be funded for another 2 years.
 - iii. Appropriations-.
 - 1. Financial responsibility provision. Hoping to stop FMCSA from moving forward on changing this provision.
 - 2. Homeland security funding bill. Hoping to either keep the \$3 mill like last year or even increase it moving forward.

Al Smith inquired as to the Final Rule for the Lease Agreement Rule and the final date for comments. ABA has asked for an extension but as of yet has not heard if it will be extended.

Stephen encouraged all members to meet Suzanne and introduce themselves to her as they see.

Stephen asked Brandon Buchanan to address the membership as to the variety of different places where BISC information resides so that members have access to information at times other than the meetings.

Brandon-There are a number of ways that members can stay in touch with BISC.

1. Bus Bulletin-try to tie in to BISC events upcoming (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday)
2. The ABA Insider
3. Equip Magazine-Each committee does an article on a quarterly basis as well as highlights an information regarding upcoming meetings (quarterly)
4. Member Alerts-Highlight different issues in BISC as well as ABA
5. Safety-link (quarterly)-should be receiving one next week
6. Motorcoach Travel News-BISC and other events are highlighted (monthly)
7. Website

*****All are archived*****

Members can always call other members or any of the ABA staff.

Stephen asked for questions.

Question was asked regarding BusMARC. Brandon explained that this is a new group focused on maintenance. January 2016 is to be their first meeting with both in house discussion as well as off-site tours. Will begin with the same structure as BISC and will coincide with BISC timeframes as well.

Question was asked about being automatically enrolled if you are signed up for BISC. Should be, but anyone not receiving one of these can email and ask to be put on the mailing list.

Brandon also informed everyone that the registration process should be less confusing, but if there are still questions, please call an ABA staff member for help.

Stephen discussed the BISC mission and trying to move safety forward. Mentioned that the committees are important and went over once again the workflow chart. Need to have member involvement in order for the continued flow of this information.

What comes out of the committee meetings:

1. FYI-personal interest, kept "in-the-loop"
2. Action oriented results "take-a-ways"
3. An opinion, position, comment

Goals for next 2 years

1. Better serve our members
2. Provide take-aways
3. Expand membership and attendance

4. Attract more sponsors

BISC 2015 Winter Meeting Take Away (4 Lists)

1. Top ten (9) driver violations
2. Top ten vehicle violations
3. Top ten OSHA violations
4. NTSB most wanted list from 2014

Suggested that each member select one issue from each list and see how their organization is doing in these areas. So far, there have been no volunteers to share this information back. Stephen asked if there was anyone who had done this.

Bill Torrez, DC trails commented that he found out that their company was having issues with a couple of these items. Went back and implemented new policies and has seen his CSA score reduced because of it.

Mike Castro took this back to his owners and they found that there were drivers that were choosing not to do logs. Discovered that others had received tickets and had invalid med cards. Now has someone checking medical certificates and other regulatory issues.

Joe shook Annette Bus Lines-Began tracking speeding using Saucon GPS and tied this information to the driver's safety bonus. Also found a program within their system that lets dispatchers become aware before cards are expiring.

Al Smith Greyhound-focused on cell phones. They went from 6 to 7 cell phone issues a month to none in the last 3 months.

Stephen Evans related that he had asked his Directors of Safety to take on this challenge. What he got back was a shopping list of things that should/could be done, not observations about what was actually being done. Stephen thought maybe he had not explained the challenge well enough.

Stephen re-issued the challenge to all members, both new and returning to go through these lists and see if there is something that may be impacting their organization. Will ask for feedback at the next Winter meeting.

Stephen once again mentioned the sponsors and thanked them for their participation.

Stephen asked for questions:

The general session was adjourned at 2:30 pm by Chairman Evans.