

Idaho Transportation Board

129,000 Pound Truck Route Subcommittee

March 7, 2014

Idaho Transportation Board (ITB) 129,000 Pound Truck Route Subcommittee Chairman Jim Kempton and ITB Members Jim Coleman and Jan Vassar met at 10 AM on Friday, March 7, 2014 at the Idaho Transportation Department, Boise, Idaho. Member Dwight Horsch was absent. ITB Chairman Jerry Whitehead was also present.

Subcommittee staff members and advisors in attendance included Deputy Attorney General Larry Allen, Chief Engineer Dave Jones, Bridge Asset Management Supervisor Kathleen Slinger, Motor Vehicles Administrator (MVA) Alan Frew, Motor Carrier Services Manager Reymundo Rodriguez, Government Affairs Manager Mollie McCarty, Public Involvement Coordinator Adam Rush, Executive Assistant to the Board Sue Higgins, Local Highway Technical Assistance Council Administrator Lance Holmstrom, and Department of Commerce representative Randy Shroll. ITD Planning and Program Management Manager Erika Bowen and Transportation Legislation Policy Specialist Matt Moore were also present.

Membership. Chairman Kempton noted that with the addition of a fourth board member to the Subcommittee, if a vote results in a tie, he will abstain from voting, resulting in three voting members. He added that the staff addition of Chief Operations Officer Jim Carpenter is being explored.

Form 4688. The consensus of the Subcommittee was to modify the Request for Designated Routes up to 129,000 Pounds, form #4886, to clarify that the requester is responsible to submit the completed application to ITD and local governments where the requested state route is contiguous to the respective jurisdiction(s). (ACTION: MCSM)

Subcommittee Process. Chairman Kempton presented and reviewed the revised Subcommittee Manual*, outlining the process to consider designating 129,000 pound truck routes. He encouraged the Chief Engineer (CE) to assign a case number to each requested route.

The CE's posting of a request on the website triggers the public comment period and the time that the public must be noticed of the opportunity to comment. Comments will be filed on the website. They will also be routed to appropriate Subcommittee staff and advisors for information or action.

CE Jones elaborated on the internal process. A tracking system is being developed to monitor the status of requests. Various staff members will conduct analyses concurrently.

After the CE's analysis is completed, a Subcommittee meeting will be called in the appropriate District Office. Although open to the public, these meetings will not be hearings. No

oral testimony will be taken. (All of the written comments received on that specific route will be provided to the Subcommittee members in advance.) In addition to the CE's presentation, the party responsible to address specific public comments, if applicable, will address those comments. The Subcommittee will determine the recommendation to present to the full board. Technically, the Subcommittee's responsibilities end at this point.

Chairman Kempton emphasized that if the action results in a hearing, the proceedings become ex parte. No Subcommittee member or staff/advisor can discuss the issue with the Chief Engineer unless the communication is shared with all parties.

In response to a question on whether a statewide group would have a standing to sue, DAG Allen said the hearing officer will determine if another party can participate in the appeal.

Miscellaneous Issues. ITB Chairman Whitehead suggested staff develop an educational video or tutorial to post on the web site. (ACTION: PIC/MVA)

Chairman Kempton suggested posting proposed routes on the IPLAN map, where a variety of data is available.

In response to a question on the process to de-designate a route, Chairman Kempton said it would be a technical decision so it should go directly to the full board. DAG Allen added that it may be a permitting decision.

A draft Board Policy was also reviewed. Some minor changes were proposed.

ITB Chairman Whitehead provided an update on Congressional efforts to allow Idaho to designate its interstate system for vehicle combinations up to 129,000 pounds. Congressman Simpson is leading an effort to include language in a transportation appropriations bill.

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 AM.

signed
Respectfully submitted by:
SUE S. HIGGINS
Executive Assistant & Secretary
Idaho Transportation Board

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