



MINUTES
Indiana State School Bus Committee
March 2, 2021

The Indiana State School Bus Committee met for a regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, December 1, 2020 held online through MS Teams with the following members in attendance:

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Michael Mentzel – Chairman
Ron Chew – Ind. Assoc. of School Bus Drivers
Dr. James Hanna – Pub. Sch. Superintendent
Dwayne Vandiver – Sch. Trans. Assoc. of Ind.
Randall Boone – Ind. Dept. of Revenue
Dr. Joseph O’Neil – Governor’s Council on
Impaired & Dangerous Drivers
Terry Butler – Ind. School Boards Assoc
Melissa Lechner – BMV

VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:

Adam Ervin – Indiana School for the Deaf &
Indiana School for the Blind

COMMITTEE SECRETARY PRESENT:

Lisa Callihan – Office of School Transportation

NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sgt. Chris Kath – ISP
Kelly Moore – Ind. Assoc. of Sch. Bus
Dist.
Julia Goon – Ind. Twnshp. Assoc.
Todd Edwards – Ind. Trans. Assoc.
Loren Evans – IASBO

NON-VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:

**INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION PRESENT:**

Mike LaRocco – Office of School
Transportation

The meeting was presided by Chairman, Michael Mentzel. The committee meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. Roll call was taken, and a quorum of voting members was present for voting purposes.

**Indiana State School Bus Committee
Minutes of March 2, 2021
Page 2.**

Guests that were present: Ryan Campbell-MacAllister
Kevin Feldman-Midwest Transit
Dan Fillenwarth-Luminaire
Jack Fillenwarth-Luminaire
Reggie White-DOE
Mike Martin
Andrew Desmarais
Roger Harvey
Davis

Approval of Minutes

Dr. Hanna made a motion to approve the December 1, 2020 minutes with Dwayne Vandiver seconding the motion. Motion passed and minutes were approved.

ITEMS OF ACTION

Luminaire UV light Air Purification

Dan Fillenwarth with Luminaire gave a short presentation to the committee about their UV light Air Purification system. The committee discussed whether to allow Fort Wayne to pilot the Luminaire system. After discussion, Melissa Lechner made a motion to allow the pilot program. Dewayne Vandiver seconded the motion. There was a roll call vote taken and all voting members in attendance at the time of the vote voted to allow the pilot.

ITEMS OF DISCUSSION

Lion Bus Lift Door Hinge

The committee received a request for allowance for Lion Bus to be approved for use of a lift door hinge that is not at floor level. Mike LaRocco and Sgt. Chris Kath explained the issue to the committee. The committee agreed to allow the language in specs to be adjusted to allow this request.

**Indiana State School Bus Committee
Minutes of March 2, 2021
Page 3.**

School Bus Numbers

Sgt. Chris Kath advised the committee that inspectors are having issues with buses not having numbers on all four sides. The committee discussed that the specs say that buses “may” have numbers on all four sides but is not a requirement. The committee decided that this is convenience issue and not a safety issue and to leave the verbiage as is in the spec.

NCST

Mike LaRocco wanted to advise the committee that the NCST had postponed the steering committee in 2020 to 2021. The steering committee has now been postponed again and the NCST will be deciding if they are going to schedule it for 2022 or just cancel until the already scheduled 2025 meeting.

Garage Door Openers

South Bend Schools has requested that specs be updated to allow the use of an empty switch on the dash to be allowed to contain a hardwired garage door opener. The committee discussed this request and decided to allow the request.

BraunAbility Pilot Test

Carmel-Clay Schools has requested permission to be part of a pilot program for a lift-gate curtain from BraunAbility. The committee discussed this and would like to invite BraunAbility to present to the committee at the June 1, 2021 meeting.

Correspondence

Specification Certification Letters – Lion, MicroBird, and Collins (Starcraft)

Mike LaRocco advised the committee that he has received Specification Certification Letters from Lion and MicroBird. He has not received one from Collins (Starcraft).

**Indiana State School Bus Committee
Minutes of March 2, 2021
Page 4.**

Yellow card revocations.

There were no yellow card revocations.

Next meeting date: June 1, 2021 at the Indiana State Police Commercial Motor Vehicle Division or virtual if needed.

Adjourn

Chairman Mike Mentzel adjourned the meeting at 10:59 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary

Date