

Northwest Automotive Trades Association

Board of Directors Meeting

By Telephone Conference Call

October 8, 2008

PRESENT: Bob Anderson, Ross Bradshaw, Rick Field, Kurt Garbe, Jerry Geiszler, Jim Jones, Ron Reichen, Catherine Skiens, Mary Ann Trout

ABSENT: Jeff Asher, Frank Bowen, Jim Havlinek, Sharree Strausbaugh, Vince Vierck

LOBBYIST: Darrell Fuller

STAFF: Barbara Crest

President Bob Anderson called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. and noted a quorum of the Board is present.

Ron Reichen moved and Kurt Garbe seconded a *motion to approve the minutes of June 7, 2008*; the Board voted the motion unanimously.

Crest reviewed a draft of NATA's Strategic Plan and highlighted the mission statement and the organization's focus through 2012:

NATA's Mission Statement:

NATA is committed to offering innovative ways to improve the automotive industry and member businesses through education, representation, and excellent membership services.

- Priority Focus: Advocate for and Support Statewide Automotive Education in High Schools and Community Colleges in Oregon and SW Washington
- Priority Focus: NATA will be the center of statewide communications to bring automotive training events to the attention of membership.
- Priority Focus: NATA will establish a "go to" relationship with members of the Oregon State Legislature, the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, the P20 environmental group (for Eco-Biz program), and other state agencies looking for information about the automotive industry in Oregon.
- Priority Focus: Provide our membership excellent benefits and services.

Ron Reichen noted the Strategic Plan is a living document and should be reviewed and revised as necessary. He noted the importance of following collision repairer issues such as waterborne paint, and said metals in car manufacturing are evolving fast. Capital investments are necessary to keep up with the repair industry, but are expensive to purchase. I-CAR training is changing for collision repair technicians. Also noted as issues for NATA members are apprentice programs, federal mandates for the Clean Air Act, and the evolving automotive technology. Kurt Garbe moved and Rick Field seconded a motion to approve NATA's Strategic Plan as written, but understanding the document is a living document and can be changed after review by the Board; the Board voted the motion unanimously.

Legislative Committee Report: Chair Mary Ann Trout reported her committee met to discuss, then recommend the "NATA Political Endorsements Policies and Procedures" draft. In section 1.6, the committee agreed to the language, "To pass a motion for a NATA endorsement, a super majority of the Board of Directors must vote in support of the motion. The supermajority required to pass an endorsement is ten members of the NATA Board (total fourteen members)." The committee also agreed to revisit this policy at an annual Board of Directors meeting after a legislative session. Kurt Garbe cautioned against making any political endorsement. Bob Anderson said NATA should be a voice for issues that affect the automotive industry. Jim Jones moved and Mary Ann Trout seconded a motion to accept the "NATA Political Endorsements Policies and Procedures" as amended; the Board voted the motion unanimously.

Mary Ann further reported on her committee's recommendation for NATA's 2009 legislative concepts for 2009:

- **Move Over Law:** About 54 tow operators are killed by passing traffic each year. Legislation proposed allows for a tow truck operator be covered and added to Oregon's Move Over Law if that operator has their lights on and they are working. Ron Reichen and Mary Ann Trout would support this legislation to raise public awareness, and because it is the right thing to do.
- **Excuse a tower from liability when acting under the direction of law enforcement or other state officials at the scene of an accident.** This would cover jobs where towers clear the road for traffic to flow, and then come back later for recovery work. Currently, these towers can be charged when incurring further damage to the vehicle in the act of recovery. Groups approached for further legislative discussion include AAA, the Sheriff's Assn., and others.
- **Training and background check for state towers:** currently, anyone responding to a state police call should already have a background check and be listed with the state police as a tow operator. Proposed to add to the law: **to respond to an accident for police agencies, the tow operator is trained and certified with an ID card issued by Oregon State Police.** NATA and/or another agency would coordinate required training for tow operators and would issue a card after a certified background check by OSP and pass a training course for the level they took: Light, Medium, or Heavy Recovery.
- **Addition to HB 2429 to add Probationary Status language**

Rick Field moved and Kurt Garbe seconded a motion to accept these legislative concepts for the 2009 Legislative Session; the Board voted the motion unanimously.

Finance Committee: Treasurer Kurt Garbe reviewed the 3rd quarter financial statements. Jerry Geiszler moved and Ron Reichen seconded a motion to approve the financial statements as presented; the Board voted the motion unanimously.

Insurance Committee: The 2008 NATA Health Plan renewal has been completed. There have been problems with the third party administrator (BENU) that staff is working through.

Kurt Garbe moved and Jim Jones seconded a motion to approve the "Right to Repair" letter as written, to be sent to NATA's media contacts throughout the state; the Board voted the motion unanimously.

Barbara Crest and Margaret Ragan attended the Autobody/NESHAP Regulations Roundtable Meeting hosted by the Pacific Northwest Pollution Prevention Resource Center. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss implementation of the NESHAP regulations in Oregon. Crest advocated for including regulation of NESHAP as a part of the Oregon Ecological Business Certification Program.

Barbara Crest reported to the Board that she has been working on the "I Drive Green and Clean" EcoBiz free vehicle inspection coupon and decal program. The DEQ has agreed to distribute coupons for the program at their Vehicle Inspection Stations in Portland. Roughly 50,000 cars pass through these stations each month. Distribution of coupons will start in April 2009.

Schedule the Next Board Meeting: The annual meeting of the NATA Board of Directors will be held in January 2009, with a date TBD.

Ron Reichen moved and Kurt Garbe seconded a motion to adjourn at 2:30 p.m.; the Board so voted the motion unanimously.