TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

LEGISLATIVE & PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING

OPEN MEETING VIA TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL
PURSUANT TO GOVERNOR'S MARCH 16, 2020,
TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF CERTAIN
OPEN MEETING PROVISIONS

2:00 p.m.
Wednesday,
September 30, 2020

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Paul R. Scott, Chair
Tammy McRae
Shelley Washburn
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EXECUTIVE SESSION
5. The Committee may enter into closed session none under one or more of the following provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act, Government Code, Chapter 551:
   - Section 551.071
   - Section 551.074
   - Section 551.076
   - Section 551.089

7. Action Items from Executive Session none
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MR. SCOTT: Good afternoon. My name is Paul Scott, and I am pleased to open the Legislative and Public Affairs Committee of the Board of the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles. Will all Board members please make sure their video is turned on throughout the meeting, and use their unmute button prior to speaking.

It is now 2:00 p.m. I am calling the Committee meeting for September 30, 2020 to order. I want to note for the record that the public notice of this meeting, containing all items on the agenda was filed with the Office of the Secretary of State on September 22, 2020.

Before we begin today's meeting, please place all cell phones and other communication devices in a silent mode. And please, as a courtesy to others, do not carry on side conversations or other activities during the conference call.

This meeting is being held by conference call in accordance with Texas Government Code Chapter 551 as temporarily modified under Governor Greg Abbott's authority to suspend certain statutes, due to COVID-19. Governor Abbott suspended various provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act that require government officials and members of the public of to be physically present at specified meeting locations.
Under that suspension, the public will not be able to physically attend this meeting in person. Instead, the public may attend this meeting by using the link or calling a toll-free number, which were both posted on our agenda, which was filed with the Secretary of State on September 22, 2020.

All Committee members, including myself will be participating remotely, via Webex. At this time, please mute your phones for the entire duration of the meeting.

I am asking our Webex meeting host to make sure all participants' phones are muted and their video is turned off, except for Committee members and those who are presenting. Callers will be removed for any disruption, including backtalk.

I would like to remind all participants that this is a telephone conference call. Because this meeting is being held by telephone conference call, there are a few things that will assist in making this run smoother and assist the court reporter in getting an accurate record.

First, Department staff and any commenters should identify themselves before speaking. Secondly, speak clearly, and remember that there may be a slight delay, due to the telephone conference call meeting. So, please wait a little longer than usual before responding.
to participants.

   Do not speak over others. And speakers should
ask the Committee Chair permission to proceed and be sure
to get recognized before speaking.

   If you wish to address the Board, or speak on
an agenda item here at today's meeting, please send an
email to gco_@txdmv.gov. Please identify in your email
the specific item you are interesting in commenting, your
name and address, and whether you are representing anyone
or speaking for yourself. If your comment does not
pertain to a specific agenda item, we will take your
comment during the general public comment portion of the
meeting.

   In accordance with Department administrative
rule, comments to the Board will be limited to three
minutes, then the call will be muted by the meeting host
when your time is up. Comments should be pertinent to the
issue stated in your email. When addressing the Board,
please state your name and affiliation for the record.

   We will proceed to Agenda Item 1, roll call and
establishment of a quorum. And now I would like to have a
roll of the Committee members. Please respond verbally
when I call your name.

   Member McRae.

   MS. McRAE: Here.
MR. SCOTT: Member Washburn.

MS. WASHBURN: Here.

MR. SCOTT: And I, Paul Scott, let the record reflect that I am here, too. We have a quorum. The posted agenda stated that a quorum of the Board may be present at this meeting. However, Board members who are not members of the Legislative and Public Affairs Committee will not vote on any agenda items today, nor will any Board action be taken.

Before I begin, I ask that the Board and other panelists please turn off their audio and video, except for Jeremiah Kuntz, who will -- we will pause to give presenters and Board members a moment to turn off their audio and video.

(Pause.)

MR. SCOTT: Jeremiah Kuntz will lead us in the Pledges of Allegiance.

(Whereupon, the Pledges of Allegiance were recited.)

MR. SCOTT: Jeremiah, thank you for leading us in the pledges. Members, please turn your video back on. We will now move to Agenda Item 3, comments and announcements. At this time, I will turn it over to Whitney Brewster regarding the House Transportation town hall.
MS. BREWSTER: Thank you, Chairman Scott and Members McRae and Washburn. I know that there's going to be a lot of discussion here in a little bit around future legislative items when Ms. Love provides information to you here in a bit. But I wanted to give you an update on a recent legislative meeting that occurred.

In normal circumstances, between legislative sessions, there would be interim hearings. The House and Senate Committees would be having these interim hearings to discuss and really do a deeper dive on interim charges issued by the Speaker and Lieutenant Governor, and then also hear updates from agencies under the different Committees' purview on operations that are happening here at the Department.

But due to the impacts of COVID-19, unfortunately plans for several of the interim hearings were cancelled. However, some of the committees have continued to hold virtual town hall events. And this is to hear updates from agencies, again, under their purview.

And these are -- these have not been official public meetings, but they have been events to help members at the Legislature and the public kind of stay up to date on things that are going on with the different Departments.

So on September 17, the House Transportation
Committee Chairman, Terry Canales, he hosted a virtual town hall and heard updates from the Texas Department of Transportation as well as our agency.

And specifically, Chairman Canales asked our agencies to really talk about the impacts to our operations from COVID-19; ways that we have adjusted to providing services to customers and then some of the long-term impacts from the pandemic.

And Chairman Trevino and I provided an update to the Committee and outlined the financial impacts of COVID-19 and how many of those revenues are anticipated to be deferred once the current waivers are lifted. Also, we had the opportunity to talk about the Department's response, what we have done.

We talked a bit about the Regional Service Centers installing plexiglass and social distancing markers, PPE to employees and customers, and really how we have leveraged technology to help up through COVID-19, such as, you know, implementing of the appointments-only system, as well as the notice to customers via text that it's their turn to come into the building, so we could reduce that heavy traffic coming through our offices.

And then, also, just talking about the demand on the Agency and in particular, areas like our Consumer Relations Division and the increases that we have seen in
the number of contacts, either through email or over the phone.

So just -- Chairman Canales seemed especially interested in our significant growth when it comes to social media channels. For example, at the beginning of March, our Agency had about 5,000 Facebook followers. Today our Facebook page has over 54,000 followers.

And I think this is reflective of our customers' need for timely and helpful information. And I think too it also helps our Agency to provide updates to Texans in a timely manner, with a broader reach. And so we were able to talk a little bit about that during the hearing. All in all, it went very well. I just wanted to provide an update on that.

But just kind of along the lines of these interim hearings and how the committees are substituting having those formal meetings, they've also been asking for -- posting requests for information from the agencies and stakeholders.

And so in your books, in your materials, starting on page 5, you can see what our agency provided in response to the Request for Information from the House Transportation Committee. And it has a lot of, I think, good information about transportation revenue trends and what we have done specifically within the Department when
it comes to impacts from COVID-19.

So I just wanted to provide that information to you for reference. Thank you very much for the opportunity to address the Legislative and Public Affairs Committee.

And, Chairman Scott, I am happy to answer any questions that you or other Board members may have.

MR. SCOTT: Okay. Are there any questions for Ms. Brewster?

MS. McRAE: I have no questions.

MR. SCOTT: Okay. Well, hearing none, we will now move to the next Agenda Item, that is Agency Process for Legislative Session. We will now hear from Caroline Love on Agenda Item 4(a).

MS. LOVE: Good afternoon. Thank you, Chairman Scott, and members of the Committee. My name is Caroline Love; I am the director of the Government and Strategic Communications Division for the Department.

And this afternoon, I wanted to review with all of you what we anticipate for the upcoming session and how my group and the Department will be interacting, especially as it comes to interactions with the Board and keeping you all informed of those activities.

First I thought it would be helpful to cover some of the key dates that we are keeping in mind as we
move forward. First, we have November 9th, which starts
bill filing for the next session. And that is an open
bill filing, so anyone can file anything.

And my team and I will start monitoring those
bills that are filed for anything that might have a
potential impact to the Department. And we also will have
a legislative tracking system that will help us in keeping
track of those bills and then sending them out through to
our different business areas and also our General Counsel,
so that we can review them for financial and operational
impacts.

And then after that, of course, the next big
date is January 12, which is the first day of session.
And then two months after that, on March 12, is the last
day for legislators to file bills. And then of course,
the next big date after that is May 31, which is when they
are scheduled to conclude their session and sine die.

So those are kind of some of the big dates
coming up over the next several months. And what my group
will be doing during that time is we'll have regular
meetings with internal business areas to be sure that we
are talking about any legislation coming through that
would have those impacts and provide any information back
to the Legislature to help with their decision-making
processes.
And then we are also -- the Legislative Budget Board will analyze bills and ask agencies to submit a fiscal analysis. And so that is another process that my team will help coordinate within the Agency, to get that information submitted.

So we plan to hold, at a minimum, weekly meetings with the team and talk through some of those bills of significance. But in addition to those, we are working with the Board support office to make sure there's information on the Board's SharePoint site.

There will be a particular legislative page that will help us have a place to put information about any bills that are of interest. And we also will have there these key dates to keep in mind. And there will be links to the committee pages as well, and that way, you will know who the members of those legislative committees we deal with most include.

So those committees will not be official until after the Legislature begins. They will be announced by the Lieutenant Governor and whoever the Speaker may be. Usually it happens within about a month of when the Legislature begins. So we will certainly be keeping everyone in the loop on those activities.

And in addition to that, whenever there are any requests for legislative meetings that would include the
Department, we will coordinate with executive leadership to make sure the Department is represented in those and any hearings that come up.

In particular, we know for certain there will be budget hearings. So the Senate Finance Committee and the House Appropriations Committee and the Legislative Budget Board, they will have hearings to hear from the Department about our Legislative Appropriations Request, which you will hear more about from Linda Flores, our CFO, tomorrow.

And just kind of keeping everybody in the loop on those hearings and providing reports on what happens in those hearings is a big component of what my team works on, as well. So we will be sure to provide those updates and reports through that SharePoint site for the Board as well to reference.

We also monitor any of the floor activities where the bills of significance may be discussed. That way we can provide reports and feedback to the Department and the Board on any activities there.

So that's a pretty high-level overview of how my team will be engaging with the Department and the Board throughout the session, and I'm happy to answer any questions you may have.

MS. McRAE: I have a question.
MR. SCOTT: Anyone have any questions?

MS. McRAE: Yeah. I know you don't have the answer to this, but I am going to ask it anyway. Do you have any idea of how COVID will affect any of this, whether it's volume of bills or pace? Do we know anything yet?

MS. LOVE: That's a great question. And there has been some discussion among legislators and staff about how the upcoming session will look.

And they have taken steps to install plexiglass in some of the hearing rooms so they can have hearings safely. But they are looking, I'm sure, at other options as well.

I know that there are many legislators who, if you have been to the Capitol recently, if you go into a legislative office, they can be small but heavily staffed. There will be interns and people crammed into small spaces.

There's definitely a desire to keep those offices not as fully staffed, to limit the exposure and to help with social distancing. So because of that, there has been a lot of discussion that the capacity for the Legislature to have a lot of meetings, to consider a lot of legislation, and do a lot of their normal activities will be limited.
So that will definitely impact their capacity. And beyond that, everything else is a rumor at the moment. You know, there's all these rumors about what if it's a budget-only session and things like that. So as soon as we get more information on those things, we will be sure to inform the Board as well.

MS. McRAE: Thank you.

MR. SCOTT: Are there any more questions?

Tracey, do we have any comments from the public?

MS. BEAVER: Tracey Beaver, General Counsel, for the record. No comments from the public. Thank you.

MR. SCOTT: Okay. We can now move to Agenda Item 4(b), which is the recommended legislation to the 87th Legislature. We will now hear from Caroline Love on Agenda Item 4(b).

MS. LOVE: Thank you. So the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles Board is charged with considering opportunities to help support operations of the Department and recommend any statutory changes to the Legislature that may assist with efficiencies.

And so earlier this year, my group has reached out to all the divisions within the Department to see if they have identified any statutes that would impede our efficiency in operations.
And we have taken that information and reached out to stakeholder groups as well to get their feedback on any items we identified and potential impacts to their operations that need to be considered as well. And so in your packets, starting on page 44, are the items that we would like this committee to consider for further recommendations for adoption.

And then there's -- that is included in Section 1 of the document. There's a second section that has items that we will be researching further, because we have received some feedback that will make -- want us to have further discussions before moving forward on those.

And so I will go ahead and start by explaining those items that are included in Section 1. And they are broken out by functional area within the Department.

So we start with the enforcement-related items. The very first one that we have relates to a mandatory filing that chief appraisers -- tax appraisers currently do for dealers who we have not filed their inventory or sell fewer than five vehicles in a calendar year.

While the second part of that requirements will be mandatory still for an appraiser to file for a dealer who sells fewer than five vehicles in a calendar year, the other component would provide more flexibility to tax appraisers, where they would only need to file if they
found a need to do so.

And we have reached out to the tax appraisers and also the motor vehicle dealer community on this one, and it has support from those communities. We just wanted to provide more flexibilities there.

But there are still opportunities for the Department to continue to monitor those activities through reports that we receive. So there really isn't more of a change, other than providing greater flexibility to appraisers in those situations.

And if at any time you have any questions, feel free to let me know. But I will continue through these, and we can also go back to any at the end as well.

The next item under the enforcement area cleans up some statute. And there are a few items similar to this throughout the list of recommendations which really just help us clarify the statutes.

There were two bills that passed back in 2013 that amended the same section of code. So this just takes out the extra language and makes it clear in statute which section is the prevailing one.

And then next I will move on to the motor carrier items. There are a few in this one. There's a new recommendation that our team had, and it relates to certain outdated oversize and overweight permit bond...
These permit bonds were to be called upon by the state through the Texas Department of Transportation or counties, if a truck that had such a permit created damage when they weren't on their route. Throughout the time that these bond requirements have been in place, neither TxDOT nor the counties have utilized these bonds, and they do create a significant amount of work for staff.

We have reached out to both TxDOT and counties on this recommendation and received positive feedbacks of that will help streamline our processes internally.

And then another motor carrier related item relates to motor transportation brokers who have to file with the Department. There are only four such brokers. And they have a very small bond requirement as well, and there is a lot of time that is contributed to making sure that these filings are correct. And we have come to learn that they are likely not very helpful or needed, and so our recommendation here would be to remove those requirements. And again, we have reached out to the trucking association and associated stakeholders and received positive feedback on this one.

And then the next two items under the motor carrier area are items that the TxDMV Board have adopted in the past but did not become law. And there are a lot
of reasons that this happens, and sometimes it is just
because the timing isn't on our side. These bills made it
through the process, but didn't meet the deadline to be
heard before the end of the session.

And so there hasn't been any negative feedback
on these, but we want to continue to pursue them, because
they will help clean up the statutes on references to axle
distribution for certain trucks, and also conforming our
state laws to federal laws.

There's a risk that if our state statutes do
not conform to certain federal laws, that Texas could lose
federal highway funding. Thankfully that hasn't happened
yet. But that is the goal with this, is to prevent that
potential scenario.

Next I will move on to the Motor Vehicle Crime
Prevention Authority recommendations. There's two items
on this one.

One relates to an outdated reporting
requirement. When the MVCPA program was under the Texas
Department of Transportation, their grant funds were
included in their districts' and counties' statistic
reporting. It is also referred as DISCOS, and that report
is something TxDOT produces every year to show where
Transportation funds are being distributed throughout the
state.
And since MVCPA has moved over to DMV, there's a different reporting we do that covers this requirement.

But to help with TxDOT streamlining their reporting and also with our team and reporting, we would recommend that this item be removed from TxDOT's reporting requirement.

We also have another item for MVCPA that relates to allowing for the recovery of costs for any grant funds that have been denied, and so that would streamline processes for that item as well.

There's -- on the Motor Vehicle Division side, we have one very minor reference that's a cleanup to an old reference to the Motor Vehicle Board, which now, of course, it's the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles Board. So we want to clean up that reference.

Another item relates to the Office of Administrative Hearings and the processing of lemon law and warranty cases. There are a few items here. We need to clean up a reference to information that's exempted from public information requests.

And then also the current process is that when there's a lemon law case and the manufacturer is not on the prevailing side, the final order must dictate that the manufacturer cover the filing fees. And so this would have that provision placed in statute and just help streamline those final orders to not be so specific.
And there's also another option that came from another part of the recommendation that came from an internal audit that said that someone other than a chief hearings examiner could provide for a rehearing motion. So that is something that we thought would be helpful to have in that statute as well.

And then we get to the registration-related items. The first one relates to local option fees that are assessed at the county level and when vehicle registration renewals are due. So the local option fees will take effect on January 1 of any given year.

And oftentimes people who are ahead of the curve will renew their registration before January, and so this will help to clarify that those fees take effect on January 1. Therefore, if somebody renewed early -- unlike me; that's not my normal process -- they would have it clear when those fees are applied to that registration renewal.

And then another registration-related item will help to clean up some references in statute to license plates. There are a couple of military plates that are outside of the norm when it comes to the remainder of military plates.

For example, the Legion of Merit military plate currently has a registration fee assessed on it, so we
want to bring that in line with the other military plates that do not include a registration fee for that first set of license plates.

And then also there are some license plates that have been in the statute for more than five years and they have never been manufactured.

And so when a specialty license plate is created by the Legislature, the statute says that a deposit must be made by the interested party to help with the manufacturing of that plate. And then once the plate has received that amount of revenues and plate orders, that deposit goes back to the interested party, that that helps to get the initial manufacturing of the plate on the way.

Well, we have about five license plates that have never received the deposit. And our -- they have been in the statute for several years. And so this will clean it up by removing them from the statute, those specialty license plates.

And then the very last one that we have is related to titles. And this one is definitely more of a cleanup or clarifying in nature. It helps to clarify that the holds that are placed on titles during lawsuits are not eligible for salvage of non-repairable motor vehicles and also that the salvage and non-repairable motor
vehicles are not eligible for title hearings or bonds. And that concludes the items that we have for recommendation, and I am happy to answer any questions. (Pause.)

MS. BEAVER: Member Scott, I believe you're still muted.

MR. SCOTT: Do we have any questions?

MS. WASHBURN: No questions.

MR. SCOTT: Do you have a question, Member Washburn?

MS. WASHBURN: I do not. Sorry about that.

MR. SCOTT: Okay. All right. I'm sorry about that.

Tracey, do we have any comments from the public?

MS. BEAVER: Tracey Beaver, General Counsel, for the record. There have been no public comments; nobody has requested to speak on this item. Thank you.

MR. SCOTT: Thank you, Tracey.

Okay. The Chair will now entertain a motion for Agenda Item 4(b).

MS. WASHBURN: I would like to make a motion. I move that the Committee recommend to the Board that they adopt the proposed legislation recommendations as developed by the Department staff with stakeholder input.
and involvement; direct staff to finalize and submit the recommendation to Legislature as directed in Transportation Code 1001.025 for further consideration by members of the Legislature for possible bill drafting and potential filing. Lastly, staff shall provide the Board regular updates throughout the legislative session on the status of the recommendation.

MR. SCOTT: Do we have a second?

MS. McRAE: I will second the motion.

MR. SCOTT: We have a motion from Committee Member Washburn, and a second from Committee Member McRae.

Is there any further discussion?

(No response.)

MR. SCOTT: All right. Hearing none, I call for the vote. Board members, when I call your name, please state your vote for the record. Member McRae.

MS. McRAE: Aye.

MR. SCOTT: Member Washburn.

MS. WASHBURN: Aye.

MR. SCOTT: And I, Chairman Scott, vote aye as well. Let the record reflect that the vote was unanimous.

Okay. I will go back to Caroline to continue with her presentation of briefing items under Agenda 4(b).

MS. LOVE: Thank you. So as I mentioned before, there were a few items that we received some
feedback on and we would like to go back and have additional conversations.

So what we will do is come back to the Board, likely at the December meeting, with any further potential recommendations for consideration. So at this time that concludes my report for Agenda Item 4(b).

MR. SCOTT: Okay. Thank you. We will now hear Agenda Item 4(c). Please continue.

MS. LOVE: Thank you. All right. I have been talking more than I feel like I have talked in several months. My daughters might not agree with that.

Okay. So Agenda Item 4(c) relates to the Department's implementation of Sunset recommendations. Last cycle TxDMV went through the Sunset review process, which results in a report from Sunset staff, and that report includes both management recommendations and statutory recommendations.

The statutory recommendations were included in Senate Bill 604 that was passed by the 86th Legislature. And then the management recommendations are items that the Department is to pursue throughout the interim. And so this will provide -- this is to provide an update on the implementation of both of those items.

When it comes to the management recommendations, there's a chart that is in the Board
materials that lists each of the recommendations. And how Sunset follows up with departments on this effort is the state auditor will come back and ask for implementation status on management recommendations.

And we did receive that request from the State Auditor's Office. And we submitted what is reflected in this report on September 21st. And then Sunset staff will be following up with DMV later this year on our status of implementation for the items that were included in Senate Bill 604.

And many of those items in Senate Bill 604 have already been implemented. The Department has been very busy these past several months, the past year and a half, I suppose I should say, implementing those items which include training, not only for Board members, but also staff, and also tax assessor collectors and their staff. And there's been a lot of efforts that have been put forward there.

But there are two items in particular that I did want to be sure that this Committee and the Board is informed on. The first one relates to the implementation of digital license plates.

The Senate Bill 604 says that the Board is required to adopt rules related to the implementation of digital license plates, and the Board adopted rules in
July.

So what was required by Senate Bill 604 has been met, but I did want to be sure that you all know that staff is remaining on target to provide the functional part of that, and we anticipate having an interface available for any providers of digital license plates to use before the end of this calendar year. So that is something that remains underway.

The other item that was in Senate Bill 604 that will probably get some attention this next session, as we mentioned before, the budget is the main item the Legislature needs to address. And certainly there has been a big hit for a lot of areas when it comes to the budget.

One of the legislative items in Senate Bill 604 stated that DMV must study alternatively fueled vehicles and opportunities for how to assess a fee to those vehicles to make up for what they are not paying into the motor fuels tax.

And this report says that we needed to work with five separate -- or, I'm sorry -- four separate agencies to obtain the data to support what we are seeing when it comes to alternatively fueled vehicles in this state and the impact that it has, not only on our roads, but also the environment and the utility system.
And so we are working with the Texas Department of Transportation, the Texas Department of Public Safety, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, and the Public Utility Commission to gather that data.

We are near final with gathering that data and compiling a draft of the report. The report is due to the Legislature on December 1st. And so we anticipate that we will have the report completed well within that time, and we will definitely provide a copy to this committee upon its finalization.

And that concludes my update on Sunset implementation items. I'm happy to answer any questions.

MR. SCOTT: Any questions for Caroline?

(No response.)

MR. SCOTT: Okay. Tracey, do we have any comments from the public?

MS. BEAVER: Tracey Beaver, General Counsel, for the record. No comments from the public. Thank you.

MR. SCOTT: Okay. Then we will now move to Agenda Item 4(b), and, Caroline, you are still up.

MS. LOVE: Yes. Thank you. Okay. Well, I think this may be my last item.

As it relates to the Sunset process from last session, the Texas Department of Public Safety also went
through a Sunset review. And their continuing legislation, Senate Bill 616, said that they shall conduct a study on looking at the challenges and opportunities of transferring the driver license function from DPS to DMV or another option.

They had a provision in Senate Bill 616 that stated if a study that was to be conducted by a private third-party independent vendor -- if it was not completed by September 1st of 2020 and submitted to the Legislature, then a transfer of that program would be automatic to the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles as of September 1, 2021.

So this report was submitted prior to September 1st, to the Legislature, so the transfer will not go into effect. And I wanted to give you all a brief overview of what was included in the study. There is an executive summary included in the Board materials for today.

But the study looked at several options: what the future of the program would look like if it remained with DPS; what the future of the program would look like if it transferred to the Department of Motor Vehicles; and also what it might look like to create the driver license function as a standalone agency.

The University of Texas Center for Transportation Research is who DPS acquired to conduct the
study. And as they conducted their research, they created what is called a Likert chart that did a comparison of all these options.

And they felt the creation of driver licensing as a standalone agency is the preferred approach for the future of that program. There was a lot of supporting information in the reports about this.

There was a concern, if it came to a transfer to the Department of Motor Vehicles, that it could be very disruptive to our current programs and processes. And so that was, I think, one of the main components for the recommendation leading to the creation of a standalone agency.

And that was the summary of the report. And if you have any questions, I'm happy to answer them.

MR. SCOTT: Okay. Have any questions? Anybody?

MS. WASHBURN: I have a question. So what is next? So the report is provided.

MS. LOVE: Yes.

MS. WASHBURN: They can obviously make any decision they want. Right? This is just a recommendation.

MS. LOVE: Exactly.

MS. WASHBURN: So we just see what happens?
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MS. LOVE: Yes. That is exactly right. So the Legislature now has this. There's, interestingly, a House Select Committee on Driver Licensing Issuance and Renewals, and they have -- similar to what the House Transportation Committee did that Ms. Brewster mentioned previously, they have issued a request for information on the potential transfer of the program.

And so that is something that we are looking at, and we're looking at developing a response to the Committee on that. But you are correct that at this point, they can take that recommendation and the Legislature can determine how they want to approach that moving forward.

MS. WASHBURN: Okay. Thank you.

MR. SCOTT: Any other questions?

(No response.)

MR. SCOTT: Caroline, I have a question. If we had a budget-only session, are there any more dates, like the one that said the Committee -- the study had to be done by September 1st. So, if it is a budget-only, I guess this issue just gets punted over to the next session. Would that be right?

MS. LOVE: Right. So there are a couple of ways that you know -- and as I mentioned, the rumor mill has many scenarios in play. There was a thought that if
there was a budget-only session, there could be a special
session once social distancing requirements are rescinded.
And then that session could take up any items deemed, you
know, appropriate at that time.

And I think what we will see that will be very
interesting is, when bill filing begins on November 9th,
if any the legislation is filed in this regard, because
that will helps us understand where the Legislature is
thinking of heading.

As we note, there were some standalone bills
last session that did contemplate a full transfer. But
they -- last session was certainly hectic in and of
itself, and they didn't make it through to the end,
obviously.

So we will have to wait and see, and we'll be
monitoring it closely as well.

MR. SCOTT: Thank you.

Tracey, do we have any comments from the
public?

MS. BEAVER: Tracey Beaver, General Counsel,
for the record. We have no public comment for this agenda
item. Thank you.

MR. SCOTT: Okay. We will now move to the next
agenda item. Let's see. Okay. The next agenda item
would be Executive Session, but we do not have an
Executive Session today. We're not taking up any of the items in 5 or 6.

We will now move to Agenda Item 7, which is public comment.

Tracey, do we have any public comment?

MS. BEAVER: No public comments. Nobody registered to comment on the meeting today. Thank you.

MR. SCOTT: Okay. Well, we can now move to Agenda Item 8, which is adjournment. Unless there's further discussion, I would like to entertain a motion to adjourn.

MS. McRAE: I make a motion to adjourn.

MR. SCOTT: Okay. We have a motion to adjourn from Member McRae. Do we have a second?

MS. WASHBURN: I second it.

MR. SCOTT: Washburn seconds. When I call your name, please vote for the record.

Member McRae.

MS. McRAE: Aye.

MR. SCOTT: Member Washburn.

MS. WASHBURN: Aye.

MR. SCOTT: And I, Chairman Scott, vote aye as well. Let the record reflect that the vote is unanimous.

Thanks, everybody.

MS. McRAE: Thank you.
MS. WASHBURN: Thank you.

MS. LOVE: Thank you.

(Whereupon, 2:46 p.m., the meeting was concluded.)
CERTIFICATE

MEETING OF: TxDMV Legislative & Public Affairs Committee

LOCATION: via conference call

DATE: September 30, 2020

I do hereby certify that the foregoing pages, numbers 1 through 35, inclusive, are the true, accurate, and complete transcript prepared from the verbal recording made by electronic recording by Nancy H. King before the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles.

DATE: October 7, 2020

/s/ Carol Bourgeois
(Transcriber)

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