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STATE OF CALIFORNIA
NEW MOTOR VEHICLE BOARD
MINUTES

The New Motor Vehicle Board (“Board”) held a Special meeting on August 27, 2021, via Zoom and teleconference. Bismarck Obando, President and Public Member, called the meeting of the Board to order at 1:00 p.m.

Mr. Obando welcomed everyone to the meeting and stated that the meeting materials are available on the Board’s website and hard copies of the materials can be requested by contacting the Board’s legal staff at (916) 445-1888 or nmvb@nmvb.ca.gov. Mr. Obando also set forth the parameters for the meeting.

Steve Gordon, Director of the Department of Motor Vehicles, was welcomed to the meeting. Director Gordon thanked the Board and indicated that he looks forward to learning more about the Board’s processes and the State.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Board Members Present: Anne Smith Boland
Kathryn Ellen Doi
Ryan Fitzpatrick
Ardashes “Ardy” Kassakhian
Nanxi Liu
Bismarck Obando
Jacob Stevens

Board Members Not Present: Ramon Alvarez C.
Inder Dosanjh

Board Staff Present: Timothy M. Corcoran, Executive Director
Dawn Kindel, Assistant Executive Officer
Robin P. Parker, Chief Counsel
Danielle R. Phomsopha, Senior Staff Counsel
Suzanne Luke, Administrative Services Analyst
Anthony M. Skrocki, Administrative Law Judge

3. **INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME OF NEWLY APPOINTED PUBLIC MEMBER
JACOB STEVENS**

Mr. Obando introduced and welcomed Jacob Stevens, newly appointed Public Member. Mr. Obando noted that Mr. Stevens is Vice President of a privately held real estate firm in West Hollywood. He is currently President of the Los Angeles City East Area Planning Commission and has formerly served on the Los Angeles City Revenue Generation Commission. Mr. Stevens was elected to the Eagle Rock Neighborhood Council while a student at his LAUSD Public High School. Additionally, he is a Planned Parenthood of Pasadena and San Gabriel Valley Board member, and a member of the Board of Governors at Occidental College, where he was a Centennial Scholar. Mr. Stevens is an Eagle Scout, a two-term member of the California Democratic Party State Central Committee and was recognized as the 2019 LGBT Heritage Month - Person of the Year for Los Angeles City Council District 14.

Mr. Stevens indicated that he is grateful for the good work that the Board has been doing before his tenure, with the Mission Statement and the work by the Ad Hoc Committee on Equity, Justice and Inclusion, and appreciates this opportunity.

4. **INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME OF NEWLY APPOINTED DEALER MEMBER
RYAN FITZPATRICK**

Mr. Obando introduced and welcomed Ryan Fitzpatrick, newly appointed Dealer Member. Mr. Obando remarked that Mr. Fitzpatrick has been President of the Fitzpatrick Dealership Group since 2001. He was a subcontract analyst at Lockheed Martin from 2000 to 2001 and Mr. Fitzpatrick's a member of the California State University, Stanislaus Foundation Board.

Mr. Fitzpatrick expressed his thanks to the Governor and his staff for their recommendation, to Mr. Corcoran and his staff, and to Brian Maas on behalf of the California New Car Dealers Association (CNCDA) for his recommendation. Mr. Fitzpatrick indicated that he is a second-generation car dealer but likes to say he is a third-generation car dealer because his grandfather began his career as a janitor in a car dealership in Ohio and he was able to work his way from a janitor to a parts manager. This is a great industry and there is a lot of upward mobility. Mr. Fitzpatrick sees a lot of success stories in this industry and there is a lot of diversity that goes along with that. So, he wants to continue to support the industry and is glad to be a part of the Board.

5. **APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE,
BOARD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE, FISCAL COMMITTEE, GOVERNMENT
AND INDUSTRY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE, POLICY
AND PROCEDURE COMMITTEE, AND AD HOC COMMITTEES, BY THE
BOARD PRESIDENT**

Ms. Doi requested that this matter be moved to the end of the meeting after Agenda Item No. 8.

6. **DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENTS TO THE BOARD APPROVED MISSION STATEMENT OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON EQUITY, JUSTICE AND INCLUSION - AD HOC COMMITTEE ON EQUITY, JUSTICE AND INCLUSION**

The members were provided with a memorandum from Bismarck Obando and Tim Corcoran concerning proposed amendments to the Board approved mission statement of the Ad Hoc Committee on Equity, Justice and Inclusion.

Mr. Obando noted that at the February 2021 General Meeting, the Board voted to adopt the mission statement developed by the Ad Hoc Committee to guide its work. Additionally, the staff have been in regular communication with the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) about the work of both the Ad Hoc Committee and the Board, and that all feedback has been positive. Over the past few months, Mr. Corcoran and Mr. Obando have been monitoring the Administration's actions relating to race and equity to ensure the Ad Hoc Committee is on the right track as it develops its workplan.

Mr. Obando remarked that at the July 2021 meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee the members met to formulate an educational work plan. The work plan will focus on creating an educational forum for our stakeholders that focuses on two key areas. The first session is going to focus on learning about the state of the car industry in relation to minority-owned dealers. The Board would hear from manufacturers about what programs they are implementing to increase minority-owned dealers. The second session would focus on the topic of EVs (electric vehicles) and the impact to minority communities. At this meeting, the members reviewed the Board adopted Ad Hoc Committee mission statement. During this meeting, Mr. Stevens proposed amendments that reflect a more inclusive statement from the Board by striking the phrase "underrepresented" and replacing it with "historically excluded."

Mr. Stevens commented that he appreciates consideration of this change. It is more representative and in line with some of the diversity and equity language that have been encountered in certain circumstances to reflect the purposefulness of the Ad Hoc Committee's mission statement. An additional change is from "females" to "women." Mr. Stevens encouraged approval of this amendment.

Ms. Doi indicated that she was in favor of this amendment and appreciated Mr. Stevens raising this issue at the Committee Meeting. Ms. Doi moved to adopt the revised Mission Statement. Ms. Liu seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The revised mission of the Ad Hoc Committee on Equity, Justice and Inclusion is:

The purpose of the California New Motor Vehicle Board's Ad Hoc Committee on Equity, Justice and Inclusion will be to engage with the new motor vehicle industry and its stakeholders in a call to action to reverse policies and practices that have resulted in bias, both conscious and unconscious. Further, the New Motor Vehicle Board, as a department

within the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA), will educate, inform, and develop feedback to CalSTA on equity issues, including but not limited to, the following: 1) the role of new motor vehicle franchisors to provide women, minorities, and other members of under-represented historically excluded groups access to flooring and ownership of their own franchised dealers; and 2) explore opportunities for women, minorities, and other members of under-represented historically excluded groups to be considered for exempt executive level positions within CalSTA and its departments.

Mr. Obando thanked Mr. Stevens for his recommendation and feedback.

7. **INFORMATIONAL UPDATE REGARDING WORKSHOPS BEING PLANNED FOR EARLY 2022 ADDRESSING EQUITY AND REPRESENTATION DISPARITIES PERSISTING IN TODAY'S MOTOR VEHICLE INDUSTRY - AD HOC COMMITTEE ON EQUITY, JUSTICE AND INCLUSION**

As Mr. Obando noted above, the Ad Hoc Committee is working to develop two educational sessions in the winter of 2022.

Ms. Phomsopha indicated that the workshops would likely be held via Zoom to allow for a broad audience to attend. To avoid, Zoom fatigue, each session would be limited to two hours from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The Board Members and staff would be in attendance at one location since this would be a noticed Board Meeting.

Ms. Phomsopha reviewed the following draft agenda with the members and audience:

Day 1:

- 10:00 a.m. Introduction of Board Members, staff, and attendees by Bismarck Obando, President, California New Motor Vehicle Board
- 10:10 a.m. Keynote address from representative, California State Transportation Agency
- 10:20 a.m. State of the Industry with Respect to Diversity in the Automotive Franchise Network
 - ❖ Representative, National Association of Minority Automobile Dealers (NAMAD)
 - ❖ Representative, Crane Automotive Resources
- 10:50 a.m. Automaker Discussion of Women, Minorities and other Members of Historically Excluded Groups in the Automotive Franchise Network
 - ❖ Representative, General Motors, LLC
 - ❖ Representative, Toyota Motor Sales USA Inc.
 - ❖ Representative, Stellantis

- ❖ Representative, Nissan North America, Inc.

11:40 a.m. Q & A Session
All presenters

Day 2:

10:00 a.m. Introduction of Board Members, staff, and attendees by Bismarck Obando, President, California New Motor Vehicle Board

10:15 a.m. Welcoming remarks from Representative California State Transportation Agency

10:30 a.m. Presentations on Equity and EVs

- ❖ Representative, Greenlining Institute
- ❖ Representative, Access Clean California
- ❖ Representative, National Association of Minority Automobile Dealers (NAMAD)

11:40 a.m. Q & A Session
All presenters

Mr. Obando commented that the Board has been tasked with providing educational content in this regard but it does not have any real policy authority so the idea would be for the Board to invite CalSTA to be a part of the workshops along with the Board's stakeholder. What is learned at the workshops could be brought back with the attendees as they develop their programs and policy work in this area.

Mr. Obando welcomed feedback. Mr. Kassakhian complimented the Ad Hoc Committee members that developed this agenda. He noted that this is a very timely discussion that is important to have, and he is glad the Board is moving forward with the workshops.

8. **INFORMATIONAL UPDATE REGARDING THE NEW MOTOR VEHICLE BOARD'S UPCOMING INDUSTRY ROUNDTABLE ON SEPTEMBER 8-9, 2021 - GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

Ms. Phomsopha provided an update concerning the September 8-9, 2021, Industry Roundtable. She noted that on August 17th, the promotional materials and agenda were sent to the Board's public mailing list, roundtable email list, and the National Associations of Boards and Commissions contact list, which includes a total of about 490 people. On August 26th, the materials and agenda were sent to the Department of Motor Vehicle's Occupational Licensing mailing list. And, the CNCDA also sent out the invitation and materials in its monthly newsletter. So far there were 135 registrations.

On behalf of the Government and Industry Affairs Committee (Mr. Alvarez and Ms. Smith Boland), Ms. Doi thanked Mr. Corcoran, Ms. Phomsopha, and Miss Kindel for putting

together a fantastic agenda and for getting a prominent member of the industry (Rob Cohen) to serve as the moderator for the panel on Day 2. Ms. Doi also noted her appreciation of CalSTA taking an active role in the Roundtable and for Secretary Kim providing an introduction and for another high-level CalSTA employee (Lori Pepper) giving a welcome. Lastly, Mr. Doi thanked the CNCDA who has been very active in participating in all of the Committee meetings and providing excellent feedback on putting this program together.

Mr. Obando thanked Ms. Doi and the Committee Members for their time and work on the Roundtable.

Ms. Phomsopha provided the following overview of the speakers and schedule for Day 1 of the Roundtable:

- 10:00 a.m. Introduction of Board Members, staff, and roundtable attendees by Bismarck Obando, President, California New Motor Vehicle Board
- 10:10 a.m. Keynote address from David S. Kim, Secretary, California State Transportation Agency
- 10:25 a.m. Discussion of Zero Emission Vehicles: Infrastructure, Statistics, Sales Trends and Data
 - ❖ Jesse Gage, Energy Commission Specialist, Transportation Energy Forecasting Unit, California Energy Commission
 - ❖ Hannon Rasool, Deputy Director, Fuels and Transportation Division, California Energy Commission
- 11:05 a.m. Discussion of California Air Resources Board's Advanced Clean Cars Program
 - ❖ Marissa Williams, Manager, Light Duty Vehicle Regulations Section, Advanced Clean Cars Branch, California Air Resources Board
- 11:25 a.m. Discussion of Road Charge Funding and Zero Emissions Vehicles
 - ❖ Lauren Prehoda, Road Charge Program Manager, California Department of Transportation
- 11:45 a.m. Q & A Session moderated by Board President, Bismarck Obando
All presenters

Mr. Corcoran provided the following overview of the speakers and schedule for Day 2 of the Roundtable:

- 10:00 a.m. Introduction by Bismarck Obando, President, New Motor Vehicle Board
- 10:05 a.m. Welcoming remarks from Lori Pepper, Deputy Secretary, Innovative Mobility Solutions, California State Transportation Agency

- 10:15 a.m. Introduction of panelists by panel moderator, Rob Cohen, Esq.
- 10:25 a.m. Panel Discussion: Obstacles and Opportunities for the Automotive Industry and the Future of Alternative Fuel Vehicles
- ❖ Curt Augustine, Senior Director, State Affairs, Alliance for Automotive Innovation
 - ❖ Anthony Bento, Esq., Director of Legal and Regulatory Affairs, California New Car Dealers Association (CNCDA)
 - ❖ Chris Hay, Product and Pricing Director, GMC and Buick
 - ❖ Andrew Koblenz, Esq., Executive Vice President, Legal and Regulatory Affairs and General Counsel, National Automobile Dealers Association (NADA)
 - ❖ Thomas Lawson, Regional Director, Government Affairs, Ford Motor Company
 - ❖ Damon Lester, President, National Association of Minority Automobile Dealers (NAMAD)
- 11:30 a.m. Q & A Session moderated by Rob Cohen, Esq.
All presenters
- 11:55 a.m. Closing remarks from Board President, Bismarck Obando

Mr. Corcoran offered a special thanks to the Dealer Members for their help in reaching out to the automakers they individually work with to secure this panel. Mr. Corcoran also thanked the associations for their help in this regard. Mr. Corcoran noted that Rob Cohen, the moderator for Day 2, has been working with the panel to develop prepared questions with some questions to specific individuals and some questions for the panel at large. Questions can also be submitted in advance from attendees and also during the question and answer session.

Ms. Smith Boland seconded Ms. Doi's remarks and commented that she is very excited for the Roundtable. Mr. Fitzpatrick indicated that he is looking forward to the Roundtable as well and thought the agenda looked great.

Mr. Corcoran thanked Director Gordon and relayed a special thanks to Ailene Short with Occupational Licensing who helped get the word out about the Roundtable via their OLIN (Occupational Licensing Industry News), which resulted in an immediate increase in registrations.

Mr. Obando thanked Mr. Maas, CNCDA, for marketing the Roundtable in their communications to their members.

5. **APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE, BOARD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE, FISCAL COMMITTEE, GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE, POLICY AND PROCEDURE COMMITTEE, AND AD HOC COMMITTEES, BY THE BOARD PRESIDENT**

After a brief discussion off the record, Mr. Obando made the following committee appointments:

ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Ardy Kassakhian, Chair
Ryan Fitzpatrick, Member

BOARD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Nanxi Liu, Chair
Kathryn Ellen Doi, Member

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Bismarck Obando, President
Ardy Kassakhian, Vice President

FISCAL COMMITTEE

Anne Smith Boland, Chair
Nanxi Liu, Member

GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Ramon Alvarez C., Chair
Anne Smith Boland, Member
Kathryn Ellen Doi, Member
Ryan Fitzpatrick, Member

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Bismarck Obando, Chair
Ardy Kassakhian, Member

POLICY AND PROCEDURE COMMITTEE

Inder Dosanjh, Chair
Jacob Stevens, Member

AD HOC DELEGATED COMMITTEE ON EQUITY, JUSTICE AND INCLUSION

Bismarck Obando, Chair
Ramon Alvarez C., Member
Anne Smith Boland, Member
Kathryn Ellen Doi, Member
Inder Dosanjh, Member
Jacob Stevens, Member

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:37 p.m.

Submitted by



TIMOTHY M. CORCORAN
Executive Director

APPROVED:



Bismarck Obando
President
New Motor Vehicle Board