

Attendees: Paul Clark, FDOT Richard Easley, E-Squared Engineering Jeff Jordan, DACS Lynn McElroy, DOR Jeff Sanderson, FMCSA Tim Rutherford, DACS Audrey Tyner, MCSAW Craig Wilson, MCSAW

Mickey Davis, FMCSA Sharon Easley, E-Squared Engineering Richard Mechlin, DHSMV CVE Roger Norris, DHSMV CVE Jerry Scott, MCSAW Marie Tucker, FDOT Keith Westphal, MCSAW

#### AGENDA ITEMS:

#### Welcome and Introductions

Paul Clark welcomed everyone to the meeting and everyone went around the room and introduced themselves. Mickey Davis then introduced Jeff Sanderson as the new Florida Division Administrator for Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA).

#### **Current Project updates and/or discussion**

#### **Pre-Clearance at Motor Carrier Compliance Weigh Stations**

Keith Westphal reviewed the numbers for March and April for bypass and pull-in activity at the weight stations. He then reviewed the open percentage for the same months and stated that the national average is 45% closure time so Florida is well above the average at 97 - 98%. Lastly he reviewed the pull-in percentage and stated that the national average is 31% and Florida is below this at 28%. Complete statistics for the weigh stations can be found in the meeting handouts.

#### **Pre-Clearance at Agriculture Sites**

Major Tim Rutherford reviewed the number of applications received for AgPass for March, April and May. He went on to state that they are receiving a steady stream of applications each month. He then reviewed the bypass and pull-in activity at the agricultural interdiction stations. Complete statistics for the agricultural interdiction stations can be found in the meeting handouts.

#### Permitting System Enhancements Project

Bryan Hubbard was unable to attend the meeting but reported that his project is ongoing.

## Automated Permitting System Utilization

Veronica Martin was unable to attend the meeting but provided utilization statistics in the meeting handouts.

#### **BOL Program**

Lynn McElroy reviewed the totals collected for March and April and went on to state the Department of Revenue (DOR) has surpassed \$10 million in collections for this fiscal year which is the most that has been collected in at least seven years. DOR is hoping to have \$1 million in CVISN collections for this fiscal year and is working with Department of Agriculture (DACS) in doing more training which has helped. She reported that DOR now has someone that is dedicated to heading up CVISN and trying to make it better and getting in contact with the trucking companies. There are now people in Marianna, Jacksonville and Lake City but they are all reporting to one person which will streamline the process.

#### E-Credentialing System Usage Stats

P. Clark stated that David Helton was not able to attend the meeting but he did provide statistics for Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) that will be sent out with the meeting notes.

## **VWS Deployment**

Craig Wilson reported that the last virtual weigh station (VWS) that was deployed is in Marion County at CR 484 and CR 475; they are both working and are currently under acceptance performance test (APT). He then reported that Motor Carrier Size and Weight (MCSAW) is working on procuring the first unmanned weigh station which does not use CVISN dollars at US 1 (Palm Coast). P. Clark asked the procurement status of the USDOT cameras. K. Westphal responded that there is now a protest to the bid stating that the Department wrote the scope to narrow and now the Legal Office is involved to get the resolved.

## **Port of Entry Study**

P. Clark stated that he had an opportunity to meet with K. Westphal, D. Helton and Mary Lou Rajchel and they are going to go back and change some of the methodology that was initially utilized in the document. The group believes that we do not need to deploy kiosk or anything at the weigh stations and believes that there are other avenues that we can take to accomplish this and it might be through some policy changes. We will be working together to fine tune this document so it can be taken to the next level. For example if we have some smaller carriers say a straight truck coming from Georgia or carriers coming in that are not apportioned that we can give them an opportunity to possibly become legal at those first weigh stations by maybe using some type of com data or something similar where the permit is sent directly to the weigh station so that we are not in the business of selling the permit. He continued to state that there will be some issues to work out and this will be his major focus for the next three weeks to get the document completed and to the next level.

## Container Number Database & LPR System Hosting (O&M) Updates

Clay Packard was unable to attend the meeting and did not provide an update for this project.

## LPR/PRISM Project (MCSAW)

Clay Packard was unable to attend the meeting and did not provide an update for this project.

# LPR/PRISM Project (DACS)

Jeff Jordan reported that TDS is almost complete with installing the software at the interdiction stations which should be done by the end of the month. We are now waiting on getting the protocol in place and getting the officers trained. P. Clark stated that it sounds like Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) and DACS are working together on that and it all seems to be coming together.

## Florida Expanded CVSIN Program Plan / Top Level Design Document Update

Marie Tucker stated that she sent an email out to the group requesting updates to their projects and those are due on May 17<sup>th</sup>. She continued to state that she will have the Procurement Section complete soon and will send that to E-Squared. She then asked E-Squared if they had any updates on how the document is progressing. Richard Easley stated that there is no update to this point, there are eight sections and six of them rely on input from the group. The other two sections are currently being worked on at this time and they will be sent back to the group for review.

P. Clark stated that the Program Plan / Top Level Design (PP/TLD) Document has not been touched in years so we are updating it to ensure that it measures up to all of the new projects we have that are ongoing, that way when we send it in to FMCSA on the next grant cycle it will be in compliance with our program.

## **Trucking Industry Update**

FTA was unable to attend the meeting and did not provide an update.

## **CVISN Grants**

P. Clark stated that due to some modifications on two projects in the FY2011 grant there is \$280K that needs to be reallocated. M. Tucker and I have had discussions and meetings with MCSAW and the Permits Office regarding several existing projects under the grant to see if those funds can be utilized elsewhere. We will be submitting an amendment to FMCSA in the near future; we are not changing the scope but just want to move some funds.

#### Weigh Station Equipment Utilization

M. Davis stated that when the grant package is written it states what equipment will be deployed at weigh stations but it does not say what you are going to do with that equipment, but the way that I understand it is that it is there to sort vehicles by out of service or needs to be inspected and so on. He continued to state that his issue is how much is this equipment being utilized. We are spending hundreds of thousands of dollars in these weigh stations and since FDOT merged its officers with DHSMV there are not officers there 24/7 anymore. How much are we utilizing this equipment or is it just sitting there gathering dust. We do not want to just keep putting money into the weigh stations if the equipment is not being utilized. He stated that his question is since the merger what is being done to make sure we are getting the most out of the money for all of this equipment.

Captain Roger Norris stated that FHP is assigning officers to the scales to inspect trucks when they are available. M. Davis that stated that statistics are provided by PrePass, DACS, DOR and Permits; is there any way to capture some information on how often the equipment is being utilized for example how many trucks are being pulled to be inspected. Captain Norris stated that he is sure there is but will have to look into it further. M. Davis stated that this will never come up unless Florida is audited but if they see all the information for AgPass and Permits, etc. and nothing stating the utilization of the equipment at the weigh stations for safety it will raise a red flag. Jeff Sanderson stated that from a software standpoint a code can be put into ASPEN that can track the inspections that occur because they were sent back from PrePass. Also the officer in the weight facility could keep a log of the trucks that were sent to the back for an inspection.

M. Davis then asked how often this stuff was being utilized. K. Westphal then asked for clarification on what stuff he was referring too. M. Davis stated the he is referring the license plate readers (LPR)s and USDOT cameras. K. Westphal stated that only one set of LPRs have been purchased through the CVISN grant, however MCSAW is getting ready to purchase new USDOT readers that will be able to connect to the current system and then all of the information can just be pulled from the site. C. Wilson stated that software is being developed so that MCSAW can sort by violation, not saying the FHP will be there but we will be able to tell you how many PRISM violators that the system saw. M. Davis stated that the group all knows what the GOA audit did several years ago and they was just looking at how the money was distributed if they go looking further into the grant projects and there is no data to support how the equipment is being utilized it will throw up red flags.

K. Westphal stated that data can already be pulled from PITS and this is probably something we should be doing on a monthly basis. There are 20 weigh stations that have barns and we could run reports on all of them and that will produce some of the data. M. Davis stated that it would be good to have that information so that when they come we can say we have been using this equipment 40% of the time and have that information ready and not have to prepare it to find out that it is only 3%. We need to show that we are effectively spending the grant money. P. Clark stated that this is why we have cancelled the thermal imaging project because we knew that we would not be able to utilize the system due to the merger. We are slowly seeing a lot of our systems coming together. M. Davis stated that in a nutshell all he is asking is to produce the numbers to show that we are using this equipment so that it is included in our meeting handouts just in case someone were to come looking.

K. Westphal stated that it will be much easier to collect data from the new cameras moving forward rather than the older cameras because of the two independent systems. He continued to state that there are meetings scheduled to develop the size and weight enforcement plan and that should help because it is tied to the weigh stations.

R. Easley stated the showing of information for return on investment is certainly a part of the PP / TLD document in the performance monitoring. He went on to describe a DACS project that shows the return on investment very clearly and asked if all Florida needed to look at was the safety benefits since that is what was referenced. M. Davis stated no Florida needs to look at utilization in general not just for safety; but at this time there are not currently any statistics for safety which is why it was brought up. R. Easley stated that he just wanted to make sure that as E-Squared is working on the PP/TLD document and coming up with performance measures that FMCSA was not just expecting ones in regards to safety. M. Davis stated that yes they want to see performance measures other than safety because all of the funds come from FMCSA. FMCSA is looking at where in the state is the largest concentration of vehicles and we have the technology at the weigh stations to

sort those vehicles depending on what their CSA scores are, we view it as a waste of utilization if we do not use it for that. We can get more unsafe vehicles off the roads at the weigh stations by utilizing this equipment and collecting the data.

R. Easley stated that it sounds like what needs to happen is the CVISN team needs to have a workshop and lay out what needs to be measured and what changes in policy and procedures that need to be put in place to be able to capture that. He continued to say that he does not want to see the funding cut because of the lack of return on investment just because we did not figure out how best to get the numbers. M. Davis stated that he understands where R. Easley is going with his comment but all he is asking for is tell FMCSA if Florida is utilizing the equipment or not that is at the weigh stations. They are not going to cut your funds because you are doing what you said you would do but it is good to have some statistics to include in the report so that is covers everything we do with these CVISN dollars.

R. Easley thanked M. Davis for the clarification but stated that he still thought that team should still discuss and articulate those performance measures so that when there are new projects the performance measures will already be in place to show what Florida is trying to accomplish.

# Other Items

M. Davis stated that an extension was given for the FY2007 grant but it really needs to be closed as quickly as possible. The longer these grants stay open the more chance that they will start digging around looking for issues. P. Clark stated that the camera purchase is the last purchase for the FY2007 grant. He continued to say that FDOT requested a six month extension and was granted a year extension but the goal is to have this grant closed in September 2013.

P. Clark stated that he hoped everyone has seen that having M. Tucker in the office has made things a lot more efficient. E-Squared has been so helpful over the years and we could not have accomplished what we have without them and they will continue to support us but having someone in the office with a pulse on the day to day financial side of things to assist the project managers and M. Davis has been very beneficial. We have discussed the goal of closing the FY2007 grant out and we are really pushing toward that goal. We even have a plan of when we can start the procurement process prior to the funds becoming available in July. You will also see a lot of the FY2011 grant projects start in July when the funds will be available and when the gaming opens back up we will start shifting money for the FY2012 grant as well. M. Davis stated he was glad that this was brought up because what is being looked at when you request a new grant is how many grants you currently have open and what is being done on those grants and this will determine how much money they will give you.

With no further items for discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 2:15 pm.

# Next CVISN Meeting

August 22, 2013, 10:00 am to noon, Conference Room 308, 3rd Floor in the Rhyne Building, 2740 Centerview Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32301. Call in Number: 850-414-4971; Toll Free: 866-374-3368 ext 4971