

**COMMISSION ON VASAP
QUARTERLY MEETING**

Friday, March 26, 2021

Minutes

Attendance:

Commission Members:

Mr. John L. Saunders, Vice Chairman
Senator Scott A. Surovell
Delegate James A. Leftwich, Jr.
Delegate Mark H. Levine
Delegate Don L. Scott, Jr.
The Honorable George D. Varoutsos
The Honorable Gino W. Williams
Sheriff Stacey A. Kincaid
Ms. Pat Eggleston
Mr. Anthony Carmichael
Ms. Robyn Allen

Absent:

Senator Richard H. Stuart, Chairman
The Honorable Mary Jane Hall

Commission Staff

Ms. Angela Coleman, Executive Director
Ms. Queenie Bradley
Ms. Rosario Carrasquillo
Ms. Shelby Edwards
Mr. Richard Foy
Mr. Christopher Morris
Ms. Charlene Motley
Ms. Nicole Patrick-Eason
Mr. Richard Phillips

Office of the Attorney General

Ms. Janet Baugh

VCU Performance Management Group

Dr. James M. Burke
Ms. Linda L. Pierce
Ms. Sherida Davis-Bryan
Mr. Wheeler Wood

Time and Place

The quarterly meeting of the Commission on Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program (VASAP) was conducted in person at the Virginia Crossings Hotel and via electronic communication in accordance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, § 2.2-3708.2, Section 3, on March 26, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. Mr. John L. Saunders, Vice Chairman, presided for Senator Richard H. Stuart, Chairman, who was unable to attend. Ms. Angela Coleman, Executive Director, conducted a roll call to confirm member attendance. Mr. Saunders welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Approval of the Minutes

Judge Williams moved that the minutes from the December 11, 2020 Commission meeting be approved. The motion was properly seconded. All were in favor; none opposed.

Executive Director's Report

Appreciation of Commission Staff

Ms. Coleman expressed her appreciation to the members of the Commission staff for their dedication and hard work. The staff continued to support the ASAPs and citizens of the Commonwealth while dealing with the challenges presented by the pandemic and flooding of the office.

Virtual Services

Adjusting to the COVID-19 restrictions has enabled the Commission to identify new ways to be more efficient. Online education classes is one such example. The Commission would like to institute a hybrid education model to give offenders the option of attending classes in person or online. It is believed that this will be helpful to persons with transportation barriers. To accomplish this, upgrades to the electronic infrastructure will be necessary. Grant funding is

being solicited to provide the local ASAPs with the tools necessary to implement the hybrid-learning model. Higher risk offenders will receive more direct contact with case managers. Recidivism rates will be monitored to determine the best balance between in-person and virtual interaction with offenders.

ASAP Certification

Ms. Charlene Motley reported that the certification of the local ASAPs began on January 11, 2021. It is anticipated that the process will be completed by April 19, 2021. This year, due to the pandemic, certification is being conducted remotely. The review consists of the ASAPs' processes, offender case reviews, and interviews with the program directors and selected staff. Special attention is being given to customer service. A report, with recommendations, will be provided to the Commission at the June meeting.

Ignition Interlock Report

Mr. Christopher Morris presented a summary of ignition interlock activity. He noted that in April 2020, there began a decline each month in the number of ignition interlock installations due to the pandemic. Installations reached a low point in September 2020 when approximately 6,000 devices were in use. As the courts have opened back up, there has been a slight, steady increase in the number of installations each month. As of February 2021, there are approximately 6,700 ignition interlocks installed in Virginia.

Presentation of VASAP Business Analysis

The Performance Management Group from the L. Douglas Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs at Virginia Commonwealth University presented their findings and recommendations from their recently conducted, VASAP Business Analysis. The presentation was made by Dr. James M. Burke, Ms. Linda L. Pierce, Ms. Sherida Davis-Bryan, and Mr. Wheeler Wood. The PMG Group gave an overview of the core elements in their business analysis (which is attached to these minutes) and answered questions.

Mr. Saunders thanked the PMG Group for their report, and stated that the Commission desires to give due consideration to the recommendations in the analysis. Therefore, in consultation with the Chairman of the Commission on VASAP, Senator Stuart, a small working group will be established to review the themes, opportunities and recommendations contained in the report. Mr. Miles Bobbitt, President of the VASAP Directors' Association (VASAPDA), will be asked to participate in this working group to represent the local ASAPs. In addition, Ms. Coleman will contact Commission members to request volunteers willing to serve. The Commission will consider information and recommendations provided by the working group at its meeting on September 17, 2021. Prior to this, the opportunity to make public comment on the recommendations contained in the PMG Group's business analysis will be afforded at the June 4, 2021 Commission meeting.

VASAP Directors' Association (VASAPDA) Report

Mr. Miles Bobbitt reported that the Virginia DMV has approved the National Safety Council's online curriculum. The ASAPs will now be able to offer NSC's online driver improvement program to persons seeking to meet court or DMV requirements. There will be no charge to the ASAPs for use of the NSC's driver improvement program, so this will be a potential source of revenue for the local programs.

The VASAPDA annual meeting will be held virtually on May 27-28, 2021. The NSC will be presenting at the conference, covering details of their driver improvement curriculum and providing information on how to become an NSC Driver Improvement Program provider.

In the future, VASAPDA plans to increase the use of shared education instructors among the ASAPs, especially for reckless/aggressive driving classes and Spanish classes.

Meeting Dates

Mr. Saunders reminded everyone of the remaining Commission meeting dates for 2021:

June 4th

September 17th

December 10th

Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Delegate Scott and properly seconded by Delegate Levine. All were in favor; none opposed.

DRAFT