

**Minutes of Board Meeting
March 9, 2011**

Present

Trummie Patrick, Chairman
Virginia Galloway
Hunter Hill
T. Gamble
Carolyn Roddy
David Connell (via teleconference)
Doug Chalmers (via teleconference)

Not in Attendance

Lynda Coker
Kelly Gay

Also present was Angelique McClendon, Assistant Attorney General; and numerous DDS staff members.

Establish Quorum / Call to Order

Chairman Patrick confirmed the presence of a quorum and called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Patrick called for a motion regarding the minutes from the February 10th board meeting. Hunter Hill motioned to approve the minutes as presented; T. Gamble seconded the motion with unanimous approval by the remaining board members.

Mr. Patrick introduced and welcomed the new board member, Carolyn Tatum Roddy, who was appointed to replace Linda Evans by Speaker David Ralston.

Chairman Patrick recognized Mary Dillard, Manager of the Dalton/Whitfield County Customer Service Center (CSC) who was named "Examiner of the Year" by the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA).

Mr. Patrick also recognized Rob Mikell, who recently received the "Governor's Outstanding Customer Service Leadership Award." He was honored for his leadership and implementing the Internet Services project at DDS which enhanced and expanded on-line transactions available to Georgia licensed drivers and allowed for over \$500,000 in direct annual cost savings.

Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Dozier reviewed the annual report as well as the press package that had been provided to the board members. He pointed out a situation with the Cherokee County Court citation processing where their new computer vendor thought the citations were being electronically submitted, however they had not. Mr. Dozier stated that the similar DeKalb County Court situation is coming to an end and should be completed within 6-8 months.

Mr. Dozier briefly updated the board on Real ID. He stated that last week he had been informed by Department of Homeland Security that the May 11, 2011 deadline has been extended to January 15, 2015 because the infrastructure was not available for some of the electronic verification systems. So far, only six states have decided to be Real ID compliant. If the Governor and Legislature make the decision for Georgia to be compliant, that would entail bringing all licensed driver's into a CSC to revalidate their identification by providing birth certificates, marriage licenses, etc. that would have to be scanned into the system. This would undoubtedly increase customer wait times, as well as the number of petitions for board waiver.

Legislative Update – Ray Higgins gave a brief update on the Legislative session and reviewed and summarized all bills that the Department is following, including the agency's bill, HB 269, which is currently held up in committee. This bill is mainly for clean-up; however, there are some things that need to take place in order to maximize business. He concluded by saying March 16 would be the "crossover day" which means any bills that had not been brought to the floor for a vote, would not get through this year.

On-Line Services – Rob Mikell gave a review of the new on-line services programs which allow customers to perform multiple tasks and pay for multiple items at once. Since December 10, over 18,000 customers have been able to do transactions on line that could not have been done before. The annual cost savings to the agency is estimated to be \$500,000 . The agency is currently working on a marketing plan to get more customers to use the new on-line services.

Rule Changes for Final Approval

Ms. Ammons reviewed and presented the following rules for final board approval:

1) 375-3-1-.27– Proving Identity Using a Birth Certificate from Puerto Rico

The government of Puerto Rico has declared that all birth certificates issued there prior to July 1, 2010 are invalid as of October 31, 2010. The purpose of this regulation is to clarify that the Department will not accept an invalid birth certificate from Puerto Rico as proof of identity for any services.

2) 375-3-3-.02 – Review of Withdrawals Resulting from Out-of-State Conduct

The purpose of this regulation is to operationalize the authority granted by the General Assembly in its enactment of House Bill 396 in the 2010 Session.

3) 375-3-5-.09 – Incapacitated Drivers; Procedure. Amended

The purpose of this proposed amendment is to modify an existing regulation to clarify the procedure for reviewing a customer’s medical status to determine if he or she remains safe to drive and reinstating a driver’s license revoked due to the customer’s medical condition.

4) 375-3-8-.03 – Access to Driving Record Information. Amended

The purpose of this proposed amendment is to modify an existing regulation to clarify the renewal cycle of bulk access agreements.

5) 375-5-2-.29 - Minimum Requirements for Testers. Amended

The purpose of this proposed amendment is to decrease the amount of time between driving skills tests conducted by third party testers from one hour to 45 minutes.

Upon conclusion, Ms. Ammons stated that public hearings were held for these rules and there were no comments.

Virginia Galloway motioned to approve all rules as presented; T. Gamble seconded the motion with unanimous approval by the remaining board members.

Petitions for Rule Waiver

Ms. Ammons presented the following petitions for a waiver from Ga. Admin. Comp. Ch. 375-3-1-.24 – Name on License or Identification Card:

Genevieve M. Brehme – She is 80 years old and has moved to Newnan, Georgia from Florida to live with her daughter and wants to transfer her driver’s license. As a child, her family essentially “Americanized” her first name and did not go through the legal process to have it changed. She has provided her birth certificate showing her birth name, and also her marriage certificate from 1953, Florida driver’s license, Social Security and Medicare card, and a bank statement all showing Genevieve. Ms. Ammons stated that Genevieve is the name she has used her entire life and there is legally not a way for her to go back to change her name now since it would create discrepancy between all the documents that have been created over the years; therefore, the department recommends approval.

Virginia Galloway motioned to approve the request for waiver; Hunter Hill seconded the motion with unanimous approval by the remaining board members.

Paulette K. Barne – She is 65 years old and recently moved to Georgia from California and seeks to transfer her driver’s license. She has been unable to obtain a copy of her marriage license from Los Angeles County, California. Ms. Ammons reminded the board that this had also been the same problem last month for a waiver that had been presented to them. Ms. Barne has provided her birth certificate; California driver’s license; her mother’s death certificate; her aunt’s death certificate; her father’s death certificate; conservator for her father; a letter regarding her father’s Veteran benefits naming her as conservator due to his illness; a letter from the bank and an accountant; and letter from the attorney who handled her aunt’s

estate and documentation from her previous employer. She stated the department recommended approval of the waiver.

Doug Chalmers moved to approve the request for waiver; David Connell seconded the motion with unanimous approval by the remaining board members.

Sara Stewart Register - She is petitioning to change the name on her driver's license to reflect her common-law married name. She was common-law married in 1995; however, with a common-law marriage, there is no documentation to show formalization of the marriage. She has provided a copy of her Georgia driver's license; an insurance card; her AARP card; a bank statement in her late husband's name and showing her married name; a property deed; and statements from numerous friends and neighbors showing they have known her back into the mid 1990's which was before Georgia repealed the common-law marriage statute. All of the common-law marriages in place at that time remain in effect; therefore, the department recommends approval.

Virginia Galloway motioned to approve the request for waiver; Hunter Hill seconded the motion with unanimous approval by the remaining board members.

Asselah Dawan – She is 60 years old and is moving to Georgia from Arizona. She also has been unable to obtain a copy of her marriage license from Los Angeles County, California. She has provided a copy of her birth certificate; a court ordered name change that was entered after her marriage; her Social Security card, and her Arizona driver's license. Ms. Ammons pointed out that the court ordered name change document includes a reference to her maiden name which is particularly compelling. The department recommends approval.

T. Gamble motioned to approve the request for waiver; Hunter Hill seconded the motion with unanimous approval by the remaining board members.

Old/New Business and Adjournment

Chairman Patrick reminded the board that the next scheduled meeting is April 13 at 10:00 A.M.

As there was no further business to discuss, he called for a motion to adjourn.

Virginia Galloway so motioned; T. Gamble seconded the motion with unanimous approval by the remaining board members.