

Alliance of Automotive Service Providers, Minnesota (AASP-MN)
Joint Meeting of the Collision Advisory & Government & Regulatory Affairs Committees
Meeting Recap
Thursday, March 7, 2019

Present: Aaron Rolfsrud, Matt Feehan, Andrea Ossowski, Jesse Jacobson, Will Latuff, Ramin Hakimi, Lee Schlosser, Brandon Wistrom, Randy Miller, Jake Moser, Darrell Amberson, Roger Bonn, Carol Keyes, Dan Sjolseth, McKenzie Spalding, Judell Anderson, Tom Kluver, Kevin Walli

WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Matt Feehan. Participants introduced themselves.

2019 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

◆ **OEM Procedure Legislation**

Meeting participants discussed the AASP-MN initiative to ensure that vehicles are properly repaired per OEM specifications. A proposal to streamline and simplify the language was discussed and approved – eliminating language defining “satisfactory repair” and revising language relating to insurer actions that constitute an unfair claims practice. The Association is working with the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers and has received a letter of support from the Automotive Service Association, AASP National and Society of Collision Repair Specialists.

Meetings with insurance industry representatives have provided a basis for continued discussion and the prospect of finding common ground. However, going into the House Commerce Committee hearing in the coming week, there is not yet an agreement with insurers.

We have had meetings with the House Committee Chair – Representative Laurie Halverson (DFL-Eagan) and with the Chief Author of our House File – Representative Ruth Richardson (DFL-Mendota Heights).

We have witnesses prepared to testify before the Commerce Committee. Will Latuff of Latuff Brothers and Darrell Amberson of LaMettry’s.

◆ **Salvage Title**

Legislation to amend the salvage title statute has been introduced once again in the 2019 Session. There is still no consensus on the changes which are being sought by LKQ Parts. Its 2019 initiative is virtually the same as the bill introduced in 2018, with an added exception for owner-retained vehicles.

There was not a clear understanding of their objectives in 2018 and nothing has occurred in the intervening months to provide greater clarity. AASP-MN is continuing to monitor the proposed legislation but is not taking an active role on this measure.

MEETING REPORT: FEBRUARY 11 WITH COMMISSIONER OF COMMERCE

In keeping with our Association tradition of maintaining a good working relationship with the Minnesota Department of Commerce, representatives from AASP-MN met with Commissioner Steve Kelley. Commissioner Kelley formerly served in both the Minnesota House and Senate. The meeting provided an opportunity for AASP-MN to describe the Association and the types of issues on which we interact with the Department. Typically, we are involved in providing information to Department of Commerce investigators when there is evidence that the insurance industry is not complying with the Fair Claims Practices Act.

Will Latuff joined AASP-MN staff in representing AASP-MN, as did Dale Feste and Jerald Stiele, both of whom come from Commissioner Kelley's hometown of Hopkins, Minnesota.

We will continue to communicate with the Commissioner and his staff on issues of interest and concern to the Association.

ROUNDTAKE DISCUSSION – OTHER INDUSTRY ISSUES, NEWS, TRENDS, ETC.

Ever-changing and more advanced technology is disrupting virtually every aspect of the industry, from facility/equipment investments to workflow and the ability to attract and retain technicians. The various tooling requirements associated with OEM certification programs are also presenting challenges.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

- ◆ A/C Update Clinic & Certification Testing: May 7 & 8
- ◆ GM clinics: Beyond the Four Strokes (mechanical) and Advanced Safety Systems: Post Collision Service and Repair (collision) October 16 & 17
- ◆ New Board members: Jesse Jacobson (collision), Tony Newman (mechanical), Loren Feldkamp (associate)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Judell noted four upcoming events:

- ◆ MNCARS outreach – several upcoming events in March and April
- ◆ Annual Meeting & Leadership Conference: April 11
- ◆ SkillsUSA contest at Hennepin Technical College, Brooklyn Park: April 13th
- ◆ Golf Outing: June 18

SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING & ADJOURN

The next meeting of the combined Collision Advisory and Government and Regulatory Affairs Committees is scheduled for May 23, 12:00 noon, at the AASP-MN office.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.