



**MINUTES**  
**Indiana State School Bus Committee**  
**December 7, 2021**

The Indiana State School Bus Committee met for a regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, December 7, 2021, at the Indiana State Police Commercial Motor Vehicle Division office, Indianapolis, Indiana with the following members in attendance:

**VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Michael Mentzel – Chairman  
Ron Chew – Ind. Assoc. of School Bus Drivers  
Dr. James Hanna – Pub. Sch. Superintendent  
Dwayne Vandiver – Sch. Trans. Assoc. of Ind.  
Randall Boone – Ind. Dept. of Revenue  
Melissa Lechner – BMV

**NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Sgt. Chris Kath – ISP  
Kelly Moore – Ind. Assoc. of Sch. Bus  
Dist.  
Julia Goon – Ind. Twnshp. Assoc.  
Todd Edwards – Ind. Trans. Assoc.  
Loren Evans – IASBO

**VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Terry Butler – Ind. School Boards Assoc  
Dr. Joseph O’Neil – Governor’s Council on  
Impaired & Dangerous Drivers  
Todd Malone – Indiana School for the Deaf &  
Indiana School for the Blind

**NON-VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**COMMITTEE SECRETARY PRESENT:**

Lisa Callihan – Office of School Transportation

**INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION PRESENT:**

Mike LaRocco – Office of School  
Transportation

The meeting was presided by Chairman, Michael Mentzel. The committee meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. Roll call was taken, and a quorum of voting members was present for voting purposes.

**Indiana State School Bus Committee**  
**Minutes of December 7, 2021**  
**Page 2.**

Guests that were present: Al Chami- AirLabs  
Stuart Walker-AirLabs  
Christie Beck-Levicki-AirLabs  
James Bonomauly-AirLabs  
Ryan Campbell-MacAllister

**Approval of Minutes**

Dr. Hanna made a motion to approve the September 14, 2021, minutes with Dwayne Vandiver seconding the motion. Motion passed and minutes were approved.

**ITEMS OF ACTION**

Proposed 2022 Meeting Dates:

Tuesday, March 1, 2022  
Tuesday, June 7, 2022  
Tuesday, September 13, 2022  
Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Dr. Hanna made a motion to accept the 2022 meeting dates. Dwayne Vandiver seconded the motion. Motion passed and meeting dates for 2022 were approved.

Appeal request for AirLabs air purification system.

AirLabs presented their product to the committee and explained the mounting, location, noise level, tying into the noise suppression switch, wiring, height from floor, etc. After the presentation the committee has requested additional information from AirLabs. The committee tabled this item until the March 2022 meeting.

Side turn signal language

Sgt. Kath advised the committee that FMVSS does allow for red side marker lamp to flash. Dr. Hanna made a motion to amend IAC 575 1-9-16 C to read: Each bus must be quipped with side-mounted turn signal lamps that meet FMVSS 108. Melissa Lechner seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**Indiana State School Bus Committee  
Minutes of December 7, 2021  
Page 3.**

Under body lighting – special purpose bus

Sgt. Kath advised the committee that there are some buses in the state that have under body lighting. The committee members discussed the lighting. Melissa Lechner made a motion to allow the under-body lighting on Special Purpose Buses only and for them to only turn on when the parking brake is set. There will be official language to follow.

Aluminum rims

Sgt. Kath advised the committee that there was a request to allow aluminum wheels without being required to be painted or anodized to gray or black. The committee discussed the request and Dwayne Vandiver made a motion to allow the aluminum wheels without being required to be painted gray or black. Dr. Hanna seconded the motion. Motion passed.

LIDAS installation options.

It was brought to the committee's attention that there is a different install for the LIDAS system. The committee looked at the information and Dr. Hanna made a motion to deny the new/different install. Melissa Lechner seconded the motion. Motion passed.

## **ITEMS OF DISCUSSION**

Lift wheelchair curtain report

There has been no contact from the company, and this will not be back on the agenda until the company makes contact.

Roof Mounted Solar Panels

There are no aftermarket installs currently. The OEMs are considering offering this as an option.

Extra tiedown requirements for heavy wheelchairs

There is a delay on language so that Mike can run a survey with districts.

Collins 9 passenger MPV

Mike wanted to let the committee know that this bus does not meet specs as it is not built to standards and is not allowed for any reason.

**Indiana State School Bus Committee  
Minutes of December 7, 2021  
Page 4.**

**Correspondence**

Yellow card revocations.

There were 7 yellow card revocations.

**Next meeting date: March 1, 2022 at the Indiana State Police Commercial Motor Vehicle Division.**

**Adjourn**

Chairman, Michael Mentzel adjourned the meeting at 11:51 a.m.

---

Chairman

---

Secretary

---

Date