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STATE OF CALIFORNIA

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE BOARD

M I N U T E S

The Committee on Equity, Justice and Inclusion held a meeting on February 19, 2026, at Glendale City Hall, Council Chamber Room, 613 E. Broadway, 2nd Floor, Glendale, California 91206.

Anne Smith Boland, Vice President and Dealer Member, called the meeting to order at 2:45 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Committee on Equity, Justice and Inclusion Members Present:

Anne Smith Boland, Member
Ashley Dena, Member
Garrett Jensen, Member
Shirley G. Jones, Member
Ardashes Kassakhian, Member
Allie Schultheis, Member

Committee Members Not Present: Jake Stevens, Vice-Chair
Bismarck Obando, Member

Board Staff Present: Timothy M. Corcoran, Executive Director
Kim Vaye, Assistant Director and Equity Officer
Robin P. Parker, Chief Counsel

Assistant Director Vaye indicated that a quorum was established.

Vice President Smith Boland welcomed the everyone to the meeting.

3. **WELCOME NEWLY APPOINTED COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Vice President Smith Boland welcomed Garrett Jensen, Public Member, Shirley G. Jones, Dealer Member, and Allie Schultheis, Public Member to the Board and Committee.

4. **DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE BOARD'S VISION AND MISSION STATEMENTS INCLUDING THE ADDITION OF VALUES STATEMENTS - AD HOC COMMITTEE TO REVIEW THE MISSION AND VISION STATEMENTS**

Assistant Director Vaye provided the members with a memo and proposed Vision, Mission and Values Statements the Ad Hoc Committee to Review the Mission and Vision Statements developed. She read the following proposal:

VISION: Building trust, cultivating relationships, and resolving disputes.

MISSION: To be a trusted government resource benefiting all Californians, enriching relations between new motor vehicle dealers and manufacturers, and delivering fair resolutions for consumers.

VALUES:

- Collaboration
- Efficiency
- Equity
- Integrity
- Transparency

Ad Hoc Committee Member Kassakhian remarked on the process for creating the proposal.

The members reviewed the Vision, Mission and Values Statements using the Equity Lens Assessment Rubric, which (1) identified stakeholders, (2) stakeholder input, (3) benefits, burdens, overall impact, (4) access, equity, and inclusion, and (5) measurable outcomes.

Member Kassakhian moved to bring this matter to the full Board. Member Dena seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. This matter will be considered by the Board at its February 20, 2026, General Meeting.

5. **DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF A LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT TO BE READ AT MEETINGS AND ACTION STEPS BEYOND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT - WORKING COMMITTEE ON LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

The members were provided with a memo from Assistant Director Vaye with findings and recommendations from the Working Committee on Land Acknowledgments. Assistant Director Vaye read the proposed Land Acknowledgement:

Proposed NMVB Land Acknowledgment

We acknowledge that the land we now call California is the ancestral lands of the over 109 Nations, Tribes, and Peoples, along with over 60 non-federally recognized tribes located throughout the state. The Indigenous Peoples of this area have a deep, reciprocal relationship with the land as its original stewards. Their ways, methods, and traditions contribute to California's rich biodiversity and impact the transportation network for the state. Our transportation network not only connects us to families, friends, work, and leisure, it connects us to our past and future. We acknowledge that our nation and economy were created using the labor of enslaved African and Indigenous peoples, and the labor of many immigrants which enrich our communities.

We know this statement is only meaningful when coupled with actionable steps and sustained commitment. As such, we embrace our past, and commit to ongoing collective learning, fostering authentic relationships, and practicing inclusiveness and equity for everyone who calls this state home.

Next, Ms. Vaye read the following Actionable Steps:

- ✓ When possible, staff will purchase products and services from BIPOC-owned businesses.*
- ✓ When reasonable, when traveling for Board business, staff and members will stay at BIPOC-owned lodging.
- ✓ Staff will research BIPOC-led organizations and non-profits for possible collaboration with community engagement opportunities.
- ✓ Staff will research state-sponsored events happening and support when possible (Annual California Native American Day at the Capitol, California Native American Caucus events, Native American Heritage month, Missing, Murdered, Indigenous People Awareness Day/Month).

*BIPOC= Black, Indigenous, and People of Color

Member Kassakhian inquired about dealerships owned by Native Americans or that any are on tribal land. Interesting way to build a bridge. Member Dena commented on General Motors stance on tribal lands. Mr. Kassakhian inquired on whether the proposal goes above the state standard. Ms. Vaye indicated that the proposed Land Acknowledgement goes above. In drafting the Board's Land Acknowledgement, Ms. Vaye and the Working Committee referenced the Land Acknowledgements of the California Transportation Commission and reviewed guidelines from Caltrans.

The members reviewed the Land Acknowledgment and findings using the Equity Lens Assessment Rubric, which (1) identified stakeholders, (2) stakeholder input, (3) benefits, burdens, overall impact, (4) access, equity, and inclusion, and (5) measurable outcomes.

Member Dena moved to bring this matter to the full Board. Member Kassakhian seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. This matter will be considered by the Board at its February 20, 2026, General Meeting.

6. **DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF VIRTUAL AND TELEPHONIC ACCESS AND IMPROVING OVERALL ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC MEETINGS - WORKING COMMITTEE ON VIRTUAL AND TELEPHONIC ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS**

The members were provided with a memo from Assistant Director Vaye with findings and recommendations from the Working Committee on Virtual and Telephonic Access to Public Meetings.

Assistant Director Vaye provided the background, steps taken by the Working Committee, and the Recommendations:

- ✓ Transition to hybrid (Zoom) meetings to increase participation for members of the public, staff, and guest speakers.
- ✓ Ensure our public-physical meeting/event spaces are accessible and clearly marked.
- ✓ Create clear directions on all materials sent via email, posted on webpage, or available at physical location (i.e., how to access Zoom, how to access physical meeting location, available parking and transit options).
- ✓ Staff shall create and maintain an “Accessible Meeting and Event Checklist.”
- ✓ Staff shall create and maintain a hybrid (Zoom) meeting checklist.
- ✓ Staff shall create and maintain a list of statewide buildings/spaces that have available conference rooms and AV equipment (no or low cost).

Assistant Director Vaye met with the working committee to discuss alignment of priorities, Board resources, and staff capacity. She shadowed the Racial Equity Commission hybrid meeting on October 14, 2025 and the CalABLE hybrid meeting on December 9, 2025.

Additionally, the language at the end of each agenda would contain the following information in English and Spanish if the Board goes forward with this proposal.

To request disability-related modifications or accommodations, please contact staff at (916) 445-1888 or Alejandro.martinez2@dmv.ca.gov. Providing your request at least five (5) business days before the meeting will help ensure availability of the requested accommodation.

Member Jones inquired how an interpreter would be provided if requested. Executive Director Corcoran indicated that the Board would work the Department of Motor Vehicles to secure an interpreter.

The members reviewed the recommendations using the Equity Lens Assessment Rubric, which (1) identified stakeholders, (2) stakeholder input, (3) benefits, burdens, overall impact, (4) access, equity, and inclusion, and (5) measurable outcomes.

Member Schultheis moved to bring this matter to the full Board. Member Jensen seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. This matter will be considered by the Board at its February 20, 2026, General Meeting.

7. **CHARTER REVIEW**

Assistant Director Vaye discussed the Charter and the Committee's progress on the goals. Assistant Director Vaye will provide the DEI Glossary to the new members and schedule annual review as provided in the Charter. Member Dena discussed recent changes to General Motors' minority and women-owned dealerships.

8. **FUTURE MEETING DATES DISCUSSION**

The dates for future Committee meetings coincide with meetings of the full Board, which will be discussed at the February 20, 2026, General Meeting. After the meeting, dates were set for July 15, 2026, and October 15, 2026.

9. **PUBLIC COMMENT (GOV. CODE § 11125.7)**

No additional public comment was presented.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:29 p.m.

Submitted by

KIMBERLEE VAYE
Assistant Director and Equity Officer

APPROVED:

Jacob Stevens, Chair
Committee on Equity, Justice and Inclusion
New Motor Vehicle Board