

Automotive Advisory Committee Meeting

Minutes

March 31, 2010

AT 129

6:30-9:00pm

Members present: Ryan Thomson, Marco Freitas, Ken Rocha, Jose Castillo, Kenneth Johnson, College personnel present: Michael Richards, Paul Hidy, Steve Brown, Prudence Ratliff, and Joe Mulleary. Members absent: Keith Hodge, Robert Barerra, Joe. Wasetis.

Action Items:

1. Approval of Minutes, motion to approve made by Ryan Thomson, seconded by Marcos Freitas, motion carried unanimously, minutes approved.

Discussion Items:

1. Program Update

Program received NATEF Master Automobile Training Program Recertification; Mike Richards thanked all committee members for their participation and support of this important process. The committee reviewed results of the NATEF site visit and discussed changes to the program since the visit. Comments were made by various members about safety recommendations from the NATEF documents. Michael presented the newly developed student education plan and tracking document that explains how students can matriculate through the automotive program in a timelier manner. This new plan is a direct result of the addition of a second full time faculty member in automotive, Instructor Paul Hidy. Many members commented this was long overdue and various members that are former automotive student of the program had favorable comments in strong support of this effort. Member Jose Castillo asked if CR had plans to offer future Hybrid training. Michael indicated that we have previously pursued funding to tool up for Hybrid training through grant offerings. Those efforts were not successful. Automotive faculty continue to pursue funding for Hybrid training.

2. BAR Update

Paul Hidy explained the process he is going through to become BAR Certified to teach update classes and possibly smog classes at C/R. He further explained the equipment needs relating to be able to offer those classes. Ken Rocha indicated that our efforts in this area were long overdue. Ken also reinforced the current financial burden placed on technicians that must go out of the area to receive current smog update training. Ken Johnson was also supported of our effort to pursue offerings of smog update training.

3. Vehicle Fleet Review

Richards informed the committee that as a result of their input and the NATEF team that C/R has launched a Public Service Campaign to acquire 1996 and newer OBD II compliant vehicles for use in the AT training program. Ryan Thompson indicated that the City of Eureka committed to donate 2 surplus police vehicles to the College of the Redwoods automotive program. The group was unanimously in support of our campaign to acquire newer training vehicles.

4. Facilities Review

The committee took an evaluative look at the AT facility and were asked to comment on the overall condition and possible improvements. Hazmat disposal, coolant, brake fluid, oil & filters, spillage and possible use of absorbent, disposal of absorbent? Members Ryan, Ken, and Jose offered current information on Chico Drain Oil recycling services. Recommendation was to contact Chico Drain Oil regarding disposal of current CR automotive Hazmat materials.

5. Equipment Review

The committee reviewed the new Modis, FGA, Genesis, Solarity, 5 gas bench, DTAC, and Smoke Machines. Comments: Richards then explained a CTEA Grant had been submitted for 3 new Enviro Star Smoke testers capable of doing pressure and vacuum testing as is required of newer vehicles and gas cap testing. Members Ken Johnson, Ken Rocha, Jose, and Ryan agreed that the smoke tester would be a great addition for the program. Committee toured facility and reviewed newly acquired equipment. Members commented on facility condition with positive results. Member Ryan Thomson recommended the purchase and addition of 20" flat screen monitors for the Modis Scan tools. Recommendation noted.

Adjournment (approximately 8:45pm)