

Automotive Technology Program Advisory Committee Meeting

Meeting Minutes May 11, 2016

Members present: Oliver Taylor, John Miller, Ryan Thomson, Ken Rocha, Jose Castillo, John Neely, Michael Richards. Absent: Will Mobley, Lacey Cunningham, Dan Williams, Jeremy Rasmussen.

Call to order 6:30 pm.

Action items:

1. Approval of Minutes; motion to approve by, Ryan Thomson seconded by, John Miller approved unanimously.

Discussion Items:

1. NATEF Mid-Term Compliance Review

Mike explained the NATEF process required advisory committee review of 10 applicable NATEF Standards and must be reviewed and approved by the committee before November 3, 2016. He passed around copies of the NATEF evaluation instrument and asked if there were any questions. Committee members were familiar with the process and had no questions. He suggested the formation of an ad-hoc committee to conduct the evaluation and report out at the next full advisory meeting. Ryan Thomson, John Miller, and Ken Rocha volunteered to serve and Jose Castillo offered to be an alternate if needed.

2. Measure Q Equipment Updates, Annual Facility and Equipment Review

Questions and/or comments:

Mike reviewed current plans to improve facilities involving replacing a worn and sometimes dangerous above ground lift and installing an additional in-ground, space saving lift. Bids from Snap-On and Rotary were reviewed and Rotary had the winning bid. NAPA Auto Parts is a local distributor of Rotary and we currently have 4 Rotary in-grounds that are 15 years old and have provided excellent service.

- Ryan Thomson said he remembered when the original in ground leaky lifts were replaced and what a significant difference it made in the ability to perform lift related work. He supported the addition of the 6th lift as he noted the program normally has 6 work groups and often 1 group had to work with jack stands and creepers.

- Ken Rocha asked about the cost of the lifts.

Mike informed the group that the in-ground cost \$17,600 and the above ground cost \$4700, both prices included installation and removal of existing equipment. The higher cost of the in-ground was necessary to save space as the shop has very limited space available.

Mike informed the group the shop was changing out our Safety-Kleen solvent base parts washers for Microbial Ozzy Juice Mobile Parts Washers. The move would save the college a significant sum of money and reduce the environmental hazardous waste generation capacity as well. The initial cost would be about \$6400 but the maintenance and upkeep can be done in house saving the college several thousand dollars a year.

- John Miller stated that the new machines would not work as well as the solvent machines but he understood the need to upgrade.

Mike informed the group the old Hoffman tire changing machine would be replaced with 2 new machines, a Coates Machine that is found in many local shops and a high-end John Beam 2 Speed Machine sold thru Snap-On Industrial. The Hoffmann is just worn out and the 2 new machines will allow us to expand student usage and exposure as well as allowing expanded coverage of current tire and rim technology.

- Jose and Oliver expressed support for the expanding student exposure and training as the use of this equipment is a very common entry level task and it will be good for students to be able to do more current popular tires and wheels as well.

Mike informed the group the program will be upgrading the lab scopes to state of the art Pico Scopes with Pressure Transducers, laptops, Line SPI's, Power Probes, at a cost of about \$36,000. He explained that the Pico's have rapidly become the industry standard due to their range and flexibility, reliability and extreme sampling range. While a significant initial expense the program expects to get many years of service. The scopes will be used for advanced engine performance and electronics training.

- Ken Rocha said he uses the Pico's in his shop and agreed they are industry standard. He also said he uses the pressure transducers and has found them to be very effective diagnostic aid particularly with respect to intake valve seating and variable valve timing issues and concerns. He specifically referenced Shannon Lindsey who's been posting on IATN a lot lately. Mike stated he attended a seminar by Shannon at CAT Conference and was also very impressed with this technique but would need more training and information before introducing it to students. Mike plans to start off with the more familiar concepts that have been promoted for a few years by John Thornton and work up to Shannon's stuff down the road.
- Ryan said he was a big fan of the Power Probes and used them regularly down at the City Garage and was glad to see them included in the curriculum. Jose also supported using them for training as he felt it was a valuable diagnostic aide as well.

- Oliver Taylor said he was a big fan of power probes and expressed strong support for their use in the training program.

Mike informed the group that as per their recommendation at the previous meeting the college decided to go with the Snap-On-Solus Edge for updating and expanding the program's scan tool collection. Snap-On is an industry leader in this field and these scan tools are found in many local shops.

The group came to a consensus and very much approved of the decision to go with Snap-On Solus Edge.

Mike informed the group that the program is acquiring 6 new True Cut on-car brake lathes, 2 state of the art Snap-On Battery Chargers a John Beam Bench Type Lathe and 2 multi-charging stations for storing vehicle batteries over Summer break and fluid exchangers. Mike wanted to know if anyone had any recommendations on the fluid exchangers.

- Ken Rocha said he uses an RTI unit but thinks the company was brought by MAHLE and he believes they retained to original design which works well in his shop.
- John Neely stated that on the car brake lathe was the only acceptable way to machine rotors at Lithia now. Ken and Jose both stated that they also used the True Cuts extensively and strongly supported the expanded training students will be getting on this industry standard equipment.

Mike informed the group that other shop modifications would include replacing old worn air hose reels, droplights, exhaust removal hoses adding much needed tools to each of the boxes and possibly carts. First we need to see what's left on measure Q Bond Funds and compare that to cost of upgrading to see how far we can go with it. The committee was very impressed with the program upgrades made possible by measure Q.

3. Skills Gaps

Mike informed the group that CTE Dean Marla Gleave requested this item be added to the agenda. He asked if local employers were experiencing skills gap issues. John Neely and Ken Rocha both stated that soft skills such as punctuality, dress code, and communication have been ongoing issues with young new hires. Ryan Thompson, John Miller, Oliver Taylor all indicated that Mike has always encouraged timeliness, communication skills, and proper work attire throughout the program. While a perplexing issue no one had any suggestions for program improvement at this time and they fully supported the current effort by Mike to encourage such behavior.

Motion to adjourn made by Ryan Thompson, seconded by John Miller approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm