

AVS Liability Subcommittee
Meeting Minutes for July 16, 2019

Attending: Harris Clarke and Lonnie Johns-Brown, co-chairs; David Forte, Larry Shannon, Rebecca Johnson, Dan McGrady

On the phone: Jean Leonard, Kenton Brine, Mike Ennis, Drew Wiler & Veronica Vanslyke

1. After introductions and updates, the group reviewed the options (see attached) for minimum liability requirements for AVs vehicles being tested in Washington State.

Action: The group agreed that we want to make a recommendation to the full AVS Workgroup that is a version the second option, which currently reads:

“The Liability Subcommittee recommends that language be adopted in the RCW that requires persons or entities wishing to test or operate automated vehicles shall maintain with the Department of Licensing proof of an umbrella insurance policy in an amount not less than five million dollars per occurrence for damages by reason of bodily injury, death, or property damage, in addition to the financial responsibility requirement in accordance with RCW 46.30.020.”

Action: A work group has been formed to perfect the language of this recommendation and bring it back to our subcommittee for final review and approval at our August 16, 2019 meeting.

The volunteers for perfecting this language are: Harris Clarke, Jean Leonard, Kenton Brine, Melanie Smith, Mike Ennis, Larry Shannon, and David Forte.

***If you wish to have input on this, please contact Harris Clarke at: Harris.Clarke@pemco.com

The next meeting of the full AVS Work Group is the week of September 23rd. Harris will present our recommendation there, on behalf of our subcommittee.

2. We agreed that to further expand on the idea of how best to verify that companies testing AVS in our state actually have the minimum five million dollar policy, further discussion is needed with DOL and/or the licensing subcommittee of the AVS Work Group.

Action: at our next meeting we will identify members of our work group to meet with /attend the Licensing subcommittee and have a discussion of this item/question there.

3. Access to Data for determining responsibility in the event of an accident:

Action: there is a Data subcommittee for the AVS work group, and while this specific topic has not been raised there yet, we agreed that we should identify members of our group to attend the Data subcommittee to specifically begin the discussion of this issue with them. We need to identify those individuals at our next meeting and also agree on an initial list of the types of data questions we have.

4. Platooning of Semis etc.

Action: The group is not prepared to make any recommendations on this topic. We agreed we needed to learn more about what is actually happening in our state. Steve Boyd, of Peloton, and Paul Fenster, of PACCAR, graciously agreed to provide an overview at our next meeting.

5. The Washington Transportation Commission requested that all the AVS Work Group subcommittee's present updates on their work at their meeting on July 16th. Lonnie Johnson-Brown provided an overview there for our subcommittee. The Commission is actually the body given authority to take recommendations from the full AVS work group and move them forward to action by the legislature or agencies. They can also decide NOT to move them forward. The Commission has requested that subcommittees of the AVS Work Group provide attend some of their future meetings and provide them updates on their work.

Action: LJB will get the dates of the upcoming meetings they want presentations at and provide them at our next meeting.

Next meeting:

Tuesday, August 13th
10 AM to Noon
PEMCO Mutual Insurance
1300 Dexter Avenue North, Seattle
(Main Sail Room, 5th Floor)