










**Wisconsin Towing Association**  
Board Meeting Agenda  
Great Wolf Lodge, Wisconsin Dells  
October 14, 2023 – 1:00 p.m.

-  **Call to Order**
-  **Secretary's Report**
-  **Membership Report**
-  **Financial Report**
-  **Legislative Report**
-  **TRAA update**
-  **New Business**
  - **2025 Tow Show Location**
  - **2024 Tow Show Planning**
-  **Next Meeting**
-  **Adjourn**

**WISCONSIN TOWING ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES  
June 18, 2023  
Chula Vista Hotel, Wisconsin Dells**

Chairman Jean Wedel called meeting to order at 10:36 a.m.

**In Attendance** Tom Hedglin, Steve Davis, Glenn Meyer, Jean Wedel, Josh Wedel, Ryan Tessman, Chase Leonard, Kyle Gessler, Craig Goldbeck, Aaron Richard, Ben Richard, Guy Richard, Homer Schultz, Betty Parnham, Darrell Parnham, Jai Grunewald, Ken Weber, Pat Kumbier, Jamon Ingelse, Mark Platt, Mark Salentine, Marion Lammert, Wayne Lammert, Geri Roskopf, Jeff Roskopf, Alex Schmidt, Dave Whealon, Dan Johnson

**Meeting Minutes**

Chair Wedel called on Dan Johnson to read the minutes of the March 4, 2023 board meeting. A motion by Junior Merten and seconded by Betty Parnham was made to accept the meeting minutes as submitted. Motion carried.

**Financial Report**

Provided at the Annual Meeting

**Membership Report**

Provided at the Annual Meeting

**Legislative Report**

Provided at the Annual Meeting

**Election of Officers**

A motion was made by Kyle Gessler and seconded by Craig Goldbeck to elect Jamon Ingelse of Lanser Garage and Towing the position of Chairman. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Kyle Gessler and seconded by Alex Schmidt to elect Craig Goldbeck of Goldbeck's Towing the position of Vice Chairman. Motion passed.

**Election of Board Vacancy**

A motion was made by Junior Merten and seconded by Mark Salentine to name Jean Wedel of Dewey's Towing as an Honorary Director. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Jeff Roskopf and seconded by Mark Salentine to nominate Josh Wedel of Dewey's Towing to the vacated seat, which expires in 2024.

A motion was made by Ryan Tessman and seconded by Wayne Lammert to nominate Jai Gruenwald of Ken Weber Truck Service to the vacated seat, which expires in 2024.

Chairman Ingelse called three times for any additional nominations. Hearing none, A motion to close nominations was made by Junior Merten and seconded by Betty Parnham.

An election was held and ballots were tallied. Jai Gruenwald was elected to the WTA Board seat.

### **Other Business**

Aaron Richards mentioned an issue with UTVs and other such vehicles not registering them with the WTA staff at the Tow Show. Mark Platt discussed potential private security for the Show but was not sure about the cost.

Mark Salentine said we may need some more tickets for the Saturday afternoon cookout. Betty Parnham said some of the food was cold and that it should be open to 2:00 p.m. so the truck contest judges have a chance to eat.

Alex Schmidt said some of the registers at the bar were left wide open but wasn't certain if this is something we need to be concerned about since its Chula staff.

The next board meeting will be October 14, 2023 at a location yet to be determined. Hearing no other business, a motion to adjourn was made by Ryan Tessman and seconded by Pat Kumbier. Motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 11:14 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Johnson, Secretary  
Wisconsin Towing Association

**WISCONSIN TOWING ASSOCIATION  
MEMBERSHIP REPORT  
October 14, 2023**

**New Members**

1. Bossert Auto	Towing	6/16/2023
2. Chuck Bauer	Friend of Towing	6/24/2023
3. Soukup's Auto	Towing	7/14/2023

**Total: 3**

**Cancelled Members**

1. Westow Insurance	Friend of Towing	Non payment
2. High Definition Vehicle Insurance	Towing Allied	Non payment
3. RJ's Towing LLC	Towing	Non payment
4. Kayla Stockton	Friend of Towing	Non payment
5. JW Speaker	Towing Allied	Declined
6. Stockton Towing	Out of State Tow	Non payment
7. Pro Towing	Towing	Non payment
8. B&R Roadside	Towing	Non payment
9. Miller Towing	Out of State Tow	Non payment
10. One Stop Service Center	Towing	Non payment

**Total: 10**

<b>Towing Companies</b>	<b>123</b>
<b>Allied</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Out of State</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Friends</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Total members</b>	<b>146</b>

**WI Towing Association  
Treasurer's Report  
October 14, 2023**

Between October 1, 2022 and October 1, 2023, Wisconsin Towing Association revenue was \$114,941 and expenses were \$116,210 with a Fund Balance on October 1, 2023 of \$51,448.

The final expense and revenue numbers for the 2023 Wisconsin Tow Show are \$46,945 in expenses, \$76,129 in revenue with \$13,880 in donations to the Survivor's Fund and Wisconsin Special Olympics.

In addition, \$8,600 of that revenue will eventually be allocated to Electric Vehicle training seminars being held in October and November.

Financial statements are in the packet as well, and this concludes the financial report.

**Wisconsin Towing Association  
Profit Loss Comparison**

	<b>Oct 22 - Sep 23</b>	<b>Oct 21 - Sep 22</b>
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>		
<b>Other Income</b>		
Contribution Income	2,571.50	2,068.00
Convention Income	76,129.62	62,156.50
Dues	36,240.50	35,079.00
<b>Total Other Income</b>	114,941.62	99,303.50
<b>Other Expense</b>		
Administrative Fees	53,400.00	53,400.00
Association Meetings	428.57	0.00
Awards & Prizes	0.00	64.39
Contributions & Scholarships	13,970.00	9,255.00
Convention Expenses	46,945.61	36,880.13
Membership Dues/Subscriptions	1,000.00	1,000.00
Office Supplies	0.00	101.40
Travel Expenses	466.36	465.71
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	116,210.54	101,166.63
<b>Net Other Income</b>	-1,268.92	-1,863.13
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-1,268.92</b>	<b>-1,863.13</b>

Wisconsin Towing Association  
Balance Sheet Comparison

	<u>Sep 30, 2023</u>	<u>May 31, 2023</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
Total Checking	\$ 51,448.99	\$ 67,713.72
Total Checking/Savings	<u>51,448.99</u>	<u>67,713.72</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>51,448.99</u>	<u>67,713.72</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u><b>\$ 51,448.99</b></u>	<u><b>\$ 67,713.72</b></u>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>		
Equity		
Fund Balance	\$ 51,448.99	\$ 67,713.72
Total Equity	<u>51,448.99</u>	<u>67,713.72</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<u><b>\$ 51,448.99</b></u>	<u><b>\$ 67,713.72</b></u>

**WI Towing Association  
Legislative Report  
October 14, 2023**

**AB 274 and SB 271:** Requires the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) establish a commercial driver training grant program that provides grants to persons or other entities that provide training leading to an individual receiving their CDL. The total amount authorized is \$250,000.

We have testified before both the Senate and Assembly committees on the legislation and are very optimistic it will pass and be enacted into law, but know that more work and funding is needed for the program.

**SB 212 and AB-142:** Under this bill, no state agency or local government unit may restrict the use of or sale of motor vehicles based on the energy source used to power the motor vehicle, including use for propulsion or use for powering other functions of the motor vehicle.

This legislation was introduced to prevent Wisconsin from taking the stance that California and other states have to ban the future sale and use of fossil fuel powered vehicles, including CMVs. The bill passed both houses but was vetoed by Governor Evers on August 4, 2023.

**GOP Tax Cut Proposal:** A GOP \$3.5 billion tax cut in the state budget, which was mostly vetoed by Governor Evers, is being followed up with a new proposal by Republicans to return most of the \$4B in state government surplus back to the taxpayers via a substantive middle income tax cuts.

It is estimated the average tax filer in the third income bracket would see an average decrease of \$772 in their taxes. The bill would also end taxes on pensions for retirees over 67, if a couple has an income of less than \$150,000. The Governor has stated he will veto the tax plan, in part over concerns that the state could possibly be required to pay back \$2.5B in pandemic relief dollars to the federal government.



**Wisconsin Towing Industry Awareness Week:** In September, at the request of the WTA, the Governor issued a Proclamation naming September 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> as Towing Industry Awareness Week in Wisconsin with an emphasis on safe and vigilant driving for all motorists and thanking tow operators for their service to Wisconsin.

**National Move Over Day:** Scheduled for October 19<sup>th</sup> this year and the TIME Coalition is asking responders to post to their social media accounts with photos, hashtags and messages about the day and the importance of slowing down and moving over for responders.

This concludes the Legislative Report.





OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

Proclamation

WHEREAS; every day, tow truck drivers help ensure the safety of both drivers and vehicles on Wisconsin roadways by providing vehicle recovery and removal through the use of specialized equipment and technology; and

WHEREAS; tow truck operators nationwide respond to millions of accidents annually, and in Wisconsin, there are more than 100,000 crashes every year, many of which are answered by Wisconsin tow truck operators; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin encourages all motorists to be vigilant of accidents, to slow down, and to move over so that tow truck operators can work in a safe environment; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin joins tow truck drivers, dispatchers, safety advisors, dedicated organizations such as the Wisconsin Towing Association, and the towing industry in encouraging safe and vigilant driving to achieve zero deaths on Wisconsin roads and thanks them for their service;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim September 10 – 16, 2023, as

WISCONSIN TOWING INDUSTRY AWARENESS WEEK

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all our state's residents.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 5th day of September 2023.

Tony Evers
TONY EVERS
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:





# TRAA Report

**TRAA and WTA Member, Dave Whealon, Whealon Towing & Service, Fond du Lac, was Inducted into the Towing & Recovery Hall of Fame Class of 2023 on September 30<sup>th</sup> 2023**

**Federal Register Comments Submitted by TRAA Safe Integration of Automated Driving Sys. (ADS)-Equipped Commercial Motor Vehicles; Doc # FMCSA-2018-0037**

**CMV's and FMCSA-2023\*0071-0013 Exemption Application: parts and Accessories Necessary for Safe Operation.**

**TRAA sent letters to members of congress and to regulators on EV's about un resourced Information and Towing & Recovery**

**TRAA Leading efforts against bigger trucks, Certain business interests in D.C. are pushing for the passage of federal legislation that would increase truck weights on our nation's roads. Most recently, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee passed H.R.3372 out of Committee. The bill would; \*Create a 'Pilot Project' that would allow any State to Increase truck weights from 80,000 pounds to 91,000 pounds for up to 10 years on its Interstates; and Rasing Federal truck weight limits from 80,000 pounds to 88,000 pounds for trucks carrying automobiles.**

**TRAA has long opposed increases in truck weight. Increasing truck weight would only increase the of time our operators would be roadside splitting combinations vehicles and in harm's way. And unfortunately, Congress has failed to enact legislation that would provide an exemption for Towers for both Length and Weight. Note H.R.3372 passing committee does not mean it's passed the House of Representative or been enacted.**

**TRAA has taken an increasingly larger role within the Coalition Against Bigger Trucks (CABT) to fight these provisions. Our Efforts now are focused on preventing the legislation from moving forward TRAA IS ACTIVELY PARTICIPATING IN CABT HILL MEETINGS, AND HAS SENT LETTERS TO CONGRESS on this issue, and is playing a lead role in the CABT with over a Dozen Members in Congress.**

**TRAA APPOSES Federal Report on Consent Towing!**

**The House Committee on Appropriations passed its annual spending bill last Month, Unfortunately, this year's Transportation ,Housing and Urban Development (THUD)bill includes report language that encourages the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMSCA) to consider implementing a "consent towing Fraud prevention outreach campaign "to inform the public about excessive consent towing fees charged by dishonest tow truck operators and educate them on to protect themselves from these predatory practices.**

**While disappointing, it is important to note that report language does not have rule of law. However,FMCSA could choose to move forward with the recommendation ,or it can be used as a foundation for future legislative proposals .TRAA has submitted a formal letter to the House Committee on appropriations on behalf of the Towing Industry in Opposition to the report**



*As you likely recall, last Congress there was an effort to allow States to Regulate Consensual Towing – and TRAA took a lead effort in preventing that provision from being included in the infrastructure bill that was eventually signed into law. Unfortunately, Washington D.C. is not the place bad ideas go to die. the continue push on this issue means we will be keeping a keen eye and working on this issue at the Legislation Action Work shop and Hill Day.*

*TRAA and the Towing Industry Applauds the Introduction of the 'DRIVE ACT' ! US  
Senator Steve Daines (R-MT) recently introduced the "Deregulating Restrictions on Interstate Vehicles and Eighteen-Wheelers (DRIVE)Act "(S.2671) if passed it would prohibit the FMSCA from implementing any rule or regulation mandating large commercial motor vehicles to be equipped with a speed limiting device set to a maximum speed*

*TRAA has actively opposed FMSCA proposals to require speed limiting devices based on our belief that CMV speed limiters would adversely affect roadway safety for motorist and traffic incident management responders.*

*TRAA Joined Coalition opposed to Speed Limiters and along with OOIDA and other stake holders TRAA is currently working to help secure co-sponsors for the bill*

*TRAA along with the TRAA Lobbyist Firm Supported Work Zone Awareness Week- Instrumental in adding language to include TOWING and 'RECOVERY PROFESSIONALS'*

*TRAA continues to educate and Lobby for our weight and length amendments.*

*National Move Over Law Resolution, H.Res.1052 (converted to H.Res.1463)- introduced by Congressman Jim McGovern (D.Mass.) on April 12.2022, and passed the House of Representatives on November 15.2022*

*TRAA Hired counsel to produce a Fair Labor Standards Member Resource Guide – WAGE and Overtime Considerations for the Towing Industry*

*Plus TOP '21' Issues on TRAA's Web Site*

***2023 Dates for the Washington D.C. Legislative Workshop Day  
Hill Day in D.C. March 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> 2023 Focus on Topics that align  
with TRAA's legislative priorities .***

***Early Bird pricing Non Member\$699. TRAA Member\$499.***

***TRAA Education currently accepting nominations for 4  
representatives to serve on the education Foundation,  
Representatives must be TRAA members in good standing***

***TRAA Membership remains steady and consistent with last year, we have gained 22 new members alone in the first Quarter of this year. We are pleased to Welcome 2new State Affiliate State Association Members***

## ***TRAA Report***

### ***Financial Report***

***As of March 31,2023 will be available to TRAA Members if requested.***

***Fall Board of Directors Meeting is set for October 17<sup>th</sup> ,2023***

***Respectfully Submitted to the Wisconsin Towing Association***

***Jeff Raskopf***

***TRAA State Director***