

**Carnival and Amusement Ride Safety Advisory Board
Meeting, May 12, 2011**

Board Members Present:

Edward M. Smith, Chair
Geoff Rogers,
Debbie Henderson
Nancy Sheridan
William Gehlhaus
Lawrence Cohen

DCA Staff Present:

Michael Baier, Acting Chief, Bureau of Code Services
Michael Triplett, Carnival and Amusement Ride Safety Unit
Andreas Lichter, Carnival and Amusement Ride Safety Unit
Carrie Battista, Carnival and Amusement Ride Safety Unit

Members of the Public:

Ed McGlynn NJAA
Lary Zucker, NJAA
Anthony Casale, ROAR

A. The meeting was called to order at 11:00 am.

B. Approval of the Minutes of March 24, 2011 A motion was made by William Zumsteg seconded by Lawrence Cohen to accept the minutes of the 3/24/11 meeting. The minutes were approved without change.

C. Old Business

1. RCMT Sub-committee – the subcommittee met on May 5th there were no reported problems with implementation of the rule. The committee recommended two changes to the rules. The first is that the current rule does not differentiate between mechanical rides and rides at water parks. The Department reported that it has accepted, through the variation process, Aquatic Facility Operator Certifications and Certified Pool Operator Certifications for work at water parks only. Those certifications would not be transferable to amusement parks and would be limited to water parks.

The committee also discussed the grandfathering provisions. The Department clarified at the committee meeting that the intent of the grandfather provision was to allow people who were currently supervising the repair work on rides (at the time of the rule adoption) to maintain their jobs. The Department is interested in having all new applicants for RCMT certification pass a test. The Department has agreed to

accept Pennsylvania Level 2 and General Certifications and has also agreed to consider other tests that might be appropriate like Massachusetts.

Finally, the committee discussed having the option of passing the NAARSO or AIMS test but then having the continuing education for the RCMT administered by the State. The committee felt that would allow people a greater variety of training and would allow them to take training that was more appropriate for the work that they do.

The committee discussed if some smaller simpler rides should be exempt from the RCMT requirement, if they are as simple as essentially detaching the ride trailer with very little set up involved. Staff reported that the only operation that they have interpreted as not requiring an RCMT is the assembly of trackless trains. Staff reported that other, similarly simple operations would have to be considered on a case by case basis.

2. Staff reported that the committee that was formed to reconcile the New Jersey rules with the ASTM F 2291 standard had not met since the last committee meeting. The goal of the committee is, as much as possible, to have the New Jersey rules for the design of amusement rides match the ASTM standards. Mr. Gehlhaus asked if he could be added to the committee.

D. New Business

No new business was considered by the Board.

E. Information:

1. The ride statistics were presented. A Board member asked if it were possible to get a breakdown of the non-serious incidents by ride type. Staff reported that they will try. The Board expressed an interest in comparing New Jersey's statistics to other States. There was discussion that those comparisons are difficult to make due to differences in what is reported, and how diligent the State is in collecting data. The Board requested that New Jersey's statistical report be mailed to them quarterly.

2. Rule proposals – Staff reported that the proposal regarding disconnects and emergency stops has not been forwarded to the Governor's Office for publishing in the New Jersey Register yet but will be shortly. The Board asked that it be redistributed so that they can take a final look at it before it is published. The Board will be given 60 days to review the proposal once it has been sent.

E. Public Comment:

1. Anthony Casale stated that he was happy that the Department had made some progress on the training issues. He stated that the Department needs to continue to look at whether an RCMT makes sense for smaller simpler rides. He also asked

about the need to have a repair procedure from the manufacturer. Staff responded that they would be happy to go over the need to have a repair procedure after the meeting.

F. Adjournment: A motion was made by William Gehlhaus seconded by Edward Smith to adjourn. All were in favor the meeting adjourned at 12:46 pm.