

Meeting Minutes of the Arkansas Motor Vehicle Commission

Business Meeting
900 West Capitol Avenue, Suite 400
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

May 20, 2026

MEETING ATTENDANCE

COMMISSION CHAIR:	Joy Blankenship
COMMISSION MEMBERS:	Michael Johnson Jerel Saeler Scott Wood Jimmy Jones Michael Moix
AR. MOTOR VEHICLE COMMISSION DIRECTOR:	Daniel Pace
AR. MOTOR VEHICLE COMMISSION STAFF:	Alexus Dunlap Margie Sexton John Aquilino
ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE:	Aaron Lowrey Nathan Scolaro
VISITOR:	Mark Phillips – ADLL IT: Support Analyst Bobbie Johnson – Visitor Trevor Hawkins – Visitor – Mitchell Blackstock PLLC (Virtual) Jimmy Langley – Constituent – Smackover Motors (Virtual) Josh Jenkins – Constituent – Parker Cadillac

* Broadcasted by Arkansas PBS AR-CAN

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CALL TO ORDER

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Arkansas Motor Vehicle Commission was called to order on May 20, 2026, at 9:32 a.m. by Commission Chair Joy Blankenship. Commissioner Clay Maxey was not present at the meeting and was not previously excused.

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of the Wednesday, April 15, 2026, Commission Meeting were reviewed and unanimously approved by the Commission, following a proper motion by Michael Johnson and a second by Jerel Saeler.

REPORTS AND ACTIVITY

Director Pace presented the Financial Revenue and Expenditure Reports for fiscal year 2026. Fiscal year 2026 reflects a revenue deposit total of \$419,442.78 to date, with an additional \$1,368.00 in funds pending deposit. Following a proper motion by Scott Wood and a second by Michael Moix, the Commission unanimously approved the Financial Revenue and Expenditure Reports for fiscal year 2026.

Director Pace presented the Monthly License Activity Report, New License Applicant Worksheets, License Renewal Report, Manufacturer & Distributor License Renewal Summary, Late Fee Invoice Report, and Pending Voluntary License Surrender Report. Director Pace noted the addition of six (6) new licenses (listed below) since April 15, 2026. Additionally, Director Pace noted two Out of State Permit Requests (listed below) that have been approved since April 15, 2026. AMVC staff are working to ensure all licenses are properly renewed for the 2025-2026 licensing period.

Issued Licenses April 15, 2026 – May 20, 2026			
Business Name	License Type	License #	County - State
Tracker Boats & ATVs	New Franchise Dealer – Cycle	F4611	Sebastian - AR
Clear Creek Golf Car & Utility Vehicles	New Franchise Dealer – Auto	F5587	Garland – AR
Titan Camper Sales	New Franchise Dealer – RV/CT	F2571	White – AR
Sharp County Outdoors	New Franchise Dealer – Cycle	F4612	Sharp – AR
Harbinger Motors Inc.	Manufacturer	M10533	Orange – CA
Teko EV Inc	Distributor	D10474	Dallas - TX

Off-Premise & Out of State Permit Requests: April 15, 2026 – May 20, 2026			
Business Name	Event / Site	Dates	County
Classic Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram	Ultimate Four States Shootout	05.02.2026	Miller
Classic Auto Park	Ultimate Four States Shootout	05.02.2026	Miller

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The Investigation Summary Reports compiled by Investigators Margie Sexton and John Aquilino included the timeframe of April 2026 through May 2026. There have been investigations into title issues, unlicensed dealers, warranty disputes, and advertising complaints. In addition, 14 dealer visits have been conducted from April 2026 through May 2026. The Commission has received 80 listed complaints (Formal & Non-Formal) since January 1, 2026. Director Daniel Pace, as well as Investigators Margie Sexton and John Aquilino each provided brief explanations of the Investigation Summary Reports and notable pending investigations to the Commission.

LEGAL BRIEFINGS

Assistant Attorney General Aaron Lowrey provided an update on H#26-012 Arkansas Yamaha vs. Yamaha Motor Corporation, USA, a dispute regarding the proposed establishment of a new Yamaha dealer within the relevant market area of Arkansas Yamaha. A Formal Hearing was set for Wednesday, May 20, 2026, however; Yamaha Motor Corporation, USA requested a continuance of the Hearing and Arkansas Yamaha legal counsel provided a letter of opposition to the continuance request. The continuance was previously granted by Commission Chair Joy Blankenship following a Commission Ad-Hoc Committee meeting. The Commission unanimously approved the request for a continuance of the Hearing and rescheduled the Hearing for August 26, 2026, to occur on the same day as the Commission Meeting, following a proper motion by Scott Wood and a second by Michael Johnson.

Assistant Attorney General Aaron Lowrey provided an update on the status of the Proposed Consent Agreements presented to Bale Chevrolet, Red River Ford, & Superior Ford pertaining to NF#25-163, an investigation into unauthorized off-premise vehicle displays outside of the relevant market area for all three dealers. The three dealers involved, Bale Chevrolet, Red River Ford, & Superior Ford responded in writing to the proposed Consent Agreements, and all three declined to accept and sign the initial proposed consent agreements. After an open discussion among all the Commissioners present, Scott Wood made a proper motion to revise the proposed consent agreements for Bale Chevrolet, Red River Ford, & Superior Ford, with a reduction of the penalty for each dealer to \$100.00 and authorization for Director Pace to include a formal letter with each consent agreement explaining the Rule 7 violation to each dealer. The proper motion was seconded by Jimmy Jones and then the Commission unanimously approved the proper motion.

Assistant Attorney General Aaron Lowrey provided an update on C#26-008 AMVC vs. Sherwood Tractor. The Commission approved for Sherwood Tractor to be presented with a Consent Agreement at the April 15, 2026, Commission meeting, following several Rule 3 advertising violations that led to the current formal complaint. The owner, Bart Sherwood, accepted and signed the consent agreement as proposed and is in the process of correcting his advertising to comply with the terms of the consent agreement. Following a proper motion by Michael Moix and a second by Jerel Saeler, the Commission unanimously approved the signed Consent Agreement for C#26-008 AMVC vs. Sherwood Tractor.

Assistant Attorney General Aaron Lowrey provided an update to NF# 25-165 AMVC vs. Lone Star Golf Cars. The Commission approved for the dealer to be presented with a Consent Agreement at the April 15, 2026, Commission meeting following repeated instances of advertising and selling unlicensed Dach LSV (low-speed vehicles) motor vehicles to the public from their licensed North Little Rock location. Lone Star Golf Cars CFO, Austin Halpern, responded to the proposed Consent Agreement with an email message rejecting the proposed Consent Agreement and asserting that the vehicles in question were not LSVs. Director Pace and Assistant Attorney General Aaron Lowrey provided additional analysis and information to the Commissioners with respect to the Dach LSVs

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and Lone Star Golf Cars' initial response. After discussion among all Commissioners present, a proper motion was made by Michael Moix and seconded by Scott Wood, to present the same consent agreement to Lone Star Golf Cars with an updated response deadline of May 31, 2026, and authorization for Director Pace to send an accompanying letter which includes the statutory definition of Low-Speed Vehicles (LSVs) under Arkansas law. The Commission then unanimously approved the proper motion.

Assistant Attorney General Aaron Lowrey provided the Commission with background and relevant information to the Commission on C#26-005 Smackover Motors vs. Ford Motor Co. The dealership (Smackover Motors) alleges the Manufacturer executed an unlawful chargeback of funds from his account in violation of the AMVC Act, and the Manufacturer (Ford Motor Co.) maintains through outside legal counsel that no violations of the AMVC Act statutes have occurred with respect to this dispute. Commission Chair Joy Blankenship opened the floor to Smackover Motors' owner Mr. James Langley, who provided insight into the complaint dispute from his perspective to the Commission. Assistant Attorney General Aaron Lowrey provided additional information to the Commission on specific warranty statutes within the AMVC Act, which have been referenced by Ford Motor Co, and Mr. James Langley. Following a discussion of the complaint and the responses from both parties involved, a proper motion was made by Scott Wood and seconded by Jimmy Jones to schedule a Formal Hearing for September 16, 2026, for C#26-005 Smackover Motors vs. Ford Motor Co. The motion was then unanimously approved by the Commission.

Assistant Attorney General Aaron Lowrey provided background information on the Commission's previous business with Gentry Chevrolet as it relates to C#26-016 – General Motors (GM) vs. Gentry Chevrolet. GM provided the Commission with a written request for early termination of Gentry Chevrolet's franchise agreement with General Motors. If approved, the termination would be immediately in effect, as opposed to the original date established in the written notice of termination sent to Gentry Chevrolet. Following a review of the Commission Ad-Hoc Committee recommendation on this matter, a proper motion was made by Michael Moix and seconded by Jimmy Jones to deny the early termination request of Gentry Chevrolet's franchise agreement with General Motors. The Commission then unanimously approved the motion.

Assistant Attorney General Aaron Lowrey provided an update to NF#26-016 AMVC vs Dach Vehicle Corp. The Commission approved for Dach Vehicle Corp. to be presented with a Consent Agreement at the April 15, 2026, Commission meeting, after Commission staff presented evidence of Dach Vehicle Corp. providing a local dealer with unlicensed Low-speed vehicles (LSVs) to sell to the public without first obtaining a Manufacturer license from the Commission. Prior to the issuance of the proposed Consent Agreement, Dach Vehicle Corp. submitted a Manufacturer license application through the AMVC licensing platform for approval. Dach Vehicle Corp met all licensing requirements and Director Pace approved the Manufacturer license, which has been issued and is active. Following brief discussion, a proper motion was made by Scott Wood and seconded by Michael Moix to rescind the proposed consent agreement for Dach Vehicle Corp. The Commission then unanimously approved the motion.

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ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Commission Chair Joy Blankenship opened the discussion to Josh Jenkins, representative of Parker Cadillac, who presented the Commission with a request from the dealership to approve the temporary relocation of Parker Cadillac's sales and dealership operations to a facility location approximately 1.94 Miles away from the current dealership location for an estimated 18 months. This move and timeframe will allow for the completion of remodeling and construction work at the original Parker Cadillac facility location. General Motors has approved of Parker Cadillac's temporary relocation plan, and the General Motors approval letter was presented to the Commission. Following a proper motion by Scott Wood and a second by Michael Moix to approve of the temporary relocation request from Parker Cadillac, the Commission unanimously approved the motion.

Director Pace presented one (1) Voluntary License Surrender Agreement from a license holder no longer conducting business in the state of Arkansas (listed under Section 6B on the agenda). The listed license holder requested that the license presented be terminated, and they acknowledged that if they wish to engage in business in the state of Arkansas after the license has been terminated, they must apply for a new license through the Arkansas Motor Vehicle Commission. A proper motion to approve of H#26-011, a Voluntary License Surrender Agreement for White River ATV was proposed by Michael Moix and seconded by Michael Johnson. The Commission then unanimously approved of the proper motion.

Director Pace provided an update to the Commission with respect to the rule promulgation process for the AMVC Rule 4 Amendment – 23 CAR § 410-403 & AMVC Rule 5 Amendment - 23 CAR § 410-501.

Director Pace presented funding recommendations to the Commission with respect to the 2026 Automotive Technologist Education Grant Program (ATEGP), which included a list of recommended programs and funding amounts for each program. As per AMVC Act requirements, the Division of Career and Technical Education, the Division of Higher Education, and the Office of Skills Development have jointly reviewed all nineteen (19) grant applications submitted to the Commission with Director Pace and recommended to the Commission that twelve (12) programs receive funding for Fiscal Year 2026. The total amount of funding recommended for Fiscal year 2026 is \$250,000 split between all 12 programs in the recommendation list. After review and discussion by the Commission of the funding recommendations, a proper motion was made by Scott Wood and seconded by Michael Moix, to approve for the full funding of \$250,000.00 to be split between the 12 programs according to recommendations from the Division of Career and Technical Education, the Division of Higher Education, and the Office of Skills Development for the Fiscal Year 2026 Arkansas Technologist Education Grant Program. The Commission then unanimously approved the proper motion.

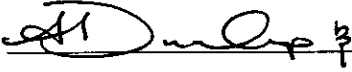
Director Pace presented the Commission with a reallocation of funds request from South Arkansas College (ATEGP SFY25-006). South Arkansas College has purchased each product requested in their approved grant application and after a change in the price of supplies, has been left with remaining grant funds. The current request is to utilize the remaining funds to purchase additional training equipment. Following a proper motion by Jimmy Jones and a second by Jerel Saeler, the Commission unanimously approved for South Arkansas College to reallocate the remaining grant funds to purchase additional training equipment.

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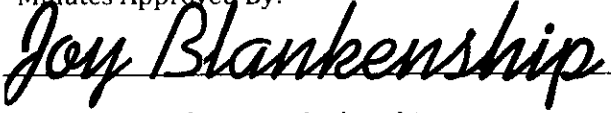
ADJOURNMENT

Following a proper motion by Jimmy Jones and a second by Scott Wood, Commission Chair Joy Blankenship thanked everyone for their attendance and adjourned the meeting at 11:24 A.M. on May 20, 2026, and the Commission unanimously approved the motion.

Minutes Submitted By:

  17 June 2026
Alexis Dunlap and Daniel Pace Date

Minutes Approved By:

 17 June 2026
Commission Chair Joy Blankenship Date