

MINUTES
WASHINGTON COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION

PRESENT: Jack Peters, Coordinator; Ted Meagher, WI State Patrol-Waukesha; Kris Perales, WI State Patrol District 2; Sheriff Brian Rahn, Washington County Sheriff's Dept.; Mike Panosh, W.S.P.-BOTS; Chris Quesnell, WI D.O.T.-SE Region; and Ken Pesch, Washington County Highway Commissioner.

NOT PRESENT: Norbert Neuser, Chairman and Tom Heydel, WI D.O.T.

CALL TO ORDER

The Washington County Traffic Safety Commission meeting of **March 1, 2006** was held at the Washington County Sheriff's Department, and was called to order by Jack Peters at 9:05 a.m.

The Traffic Safety Commission Meeting Minutes of **December 7, 2005** were approved as presented on motion of Ken Pesch, and seconded by Sheriff Rahn. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Kathy Fies, 5308 STH 175, Hartford, is concerned about increasing crash rates at the intersection of STH 175 and CTH S. Changes, if any, to signage and stop bars at intersection of STH 175 and CTH S. Chris Quesnell, WI DOT-SE Region, reported signing was completed January 13: advanced curve warning signs with advisories, intersection warning signs, night arrows, and traffic on STH 175 does not stop sign. The stop bars have not been up due to weather and will be completed this summer.

NEW BUSINESS

Washington County Board Highway Committee proposed changes to intersection STH 144 and CTH H. Ken Pesch reported he is working with DOT on this project. The DOT authorized the installation of crossroad warning signs, and they have been installed. DOT also authorized the installation of stop signs on the left hand side of the road for both approaches to the intersection, and they have been installed.

Washington County had installed, and will leave them up, the yellow reflective strip on the stop ahead sign post. Washington County also cut rumble strips on both approaches on CTH H to the County standard at 2 inch grooves, not DOT standard at 4 inch grooves. Washington County will in the future be painting a center island on CTH H to force people to approach the pavement on STH 144 on more or a right angle. This has all been authorized by the Highway Committee a couple weeks ago and everything is installed except the paint lines. This will be completed mid to late May.

Ken Pesch reported the re-surfacing of CTH 144 will not start until the 2009 construction season.

Update on new enhanced 9-1-1 telephone system. Sheriff Rahn reported everything is signed. RA Smith is presently doing the point referencing and addressing for locations in the County for our GIS map overlay that will go over the CAD system map. Captain Schmidt followed up with them and they are ahead of schedule. April 24, Positron, who will be the equipment vender, will be here to install all the equipment. Training with all of the staff will also take place. The week after the enhanced 9-1-1 will be up and running.

Update on new radio system. Sheriff Rahn reported March 16 is the next committee meeting. RCC is our consultant. The packets will be out and delivered shortly. Some decisions should be made at this meeting on what system we are going with. There are three systems that will work well in Washington County. The VHS trunk or the 800 trunk are being considered for a County-wide system. In 2006 the money should be set aside for the planning, in 2007 the engineering, and in 2008 implementation. The hold up is the consolidated County-wide dispatch center. The County has \$9 million set aside for this project.

Replacements for Chief Jones, Hartford Police Dept., and Sherry Abbott, a nurse with the West Bend School system. Jack Peters reported he spoke with Kelly McAndrews, Medical Examiner, and she agreed to be on the committee. Sheriff Rahn raised the issue at the Chiefs' meeting. Chief Dean Schmidt, Slinger Police Dept. advised he would be interested, Chief Jed Dolnick, Jackson Police Dept. e-mailed if no one else is interested he would be willing, and Chief Pete Hoell advised he would be willing to put his Lieutenant, who is in charge of their traffic safety program, on the committee. Ken Pesch asked who appoints people for this committee. Jack Peters advised the Chair from the County Board appoints.

Sheriff Rahn made the recommendation that this committee move forward for the appointment to the County Board Chair for Chief Dean Schmidt. Jack Peters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

One required representative is supposed to be a medical representative designated by the County Board (e.g., doctor, nurse, hospital administrator, paramedic, etc). Medical Examiner Kelly McAndrews has no medical background, only a law enforcement background. More consideration needs to be done for a committee member as a medical representative.

REVIEW OF FATAL ACCIDENTS

Sheriff Rahn reported as of today's date there was one fatal accident in Washington County.

On 01/10/06 Jodine Waldhardt, age 47, from the City of West Bend, died as a result of injuries sustained from a two vehicle accident. This occurred when the vehicle she was riding in (traveling SB on STH 144) was struck by a vehicle traveling EB on CTH H. The vehicle traveling EB failed to stop at the stop sign posted on CTH H and STH 144. Jodine was the passenger in the vehicle traveling SB and was pronounced dead at the scene. She was wearing a seatbelt and alcohol was not a factor.

REPORTS AND OTHER BUSINESS PERTINENT TO THE COMMISSION

Mike Panosh, WSP-BOTS, submitted a copy of the Wisconsin County/City Traffic Safety Commission Guidelines.

Also submitted was the weekly fatality report from DOT as of February 27, 2006. In 2005 there were a low number of fatal accidents (77), but a large number of fatalities (91). In 2006, there were 91 fatal accidents and 94 fatalities. The 2005 year end fatalities were 801; the 2005 year end fatal accidents were 700. There was an increase of motorcycle-passenger fatalities compared to prior years. In 2004 there were 2 and in 2005 there were 10. The use of motorcycles is increasing.

Mike Panosh reported on a brief legislative update. The booster seat bill, AS-618, is now Wisconsin Act 106. The law goes into effect June 1 with a six month waiting period for citations. Education is stressed, not enforcement. Wisconsin is the 34th state to enact a seat bill.

AB658: Increase trailer loads for loggers.

The 32nd annual Governor's Conference on Highway Safety in 2005 was in Green Bay. In 2006 it will be held in Madison at the Marriott West, August 23 and 24.

Ken Pesch reported CTH A will be out of service from about July 1 through November 25 for total reconstruction. CTH M will also be out of service south of Pleasant Valley Road to replace a bridge and some curves. This will start about July 1 through November 25. CTH P will be out of service to replace a bridge south of CTH PV. This will start about Labor Day and end about November 25. CTH M will be closed for approximately one week north of CTH NN to replace a box culvert over Deer Creek. The purchase of right-of-way is still in the works for CTH W south of Allenton to replace a box culvert. They are hoping to have this done by July 1. CTH W south of Wayne a hill will be knocked down just south of Wayne Center Drive and bring up the road bed about a foot through the marshy area. This will be done late this year, approximately October.

Ken Pesch also reported on the repaving program this year. They will pulverize and repave all of CTH K from CTH Q north to STH 60. Also pulverize and repave all of CTH O that runs from the Dodge County line to STH 83, and CTH H from USH 45 to STH 144.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 9:56 a.m. upon motion of Ken Pesch, seconded by Jack Peters. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be held on **June 7, 2006 at 9:00 a.m.** in a meeting room at the Washington County Sheriff's Department.

Respectfully submitted,
Lt. John C. Peters, Coordinator