

MINUTES
WASHINGTON COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION

PRESENT: Jack Peters, Coordinator; Norbert Neuser, Chairman; Sheriff Dale Schmidt, Washington County Sheriff's Department; Captain Steve Gonwa, Washington County Sheriff's Department; Chief Dean Schmidt, Slinger Police Department; Sgt. Tim Huibregtse, WI State Patrol-District 2; Trooper Kris Perales, WI State Patrol; Mike Panosh, D.O.T.-W.S.P.-BOTS; Jon Edgren, Washington County Highway Commissioner; John Haug, WI D.O.T. SE Region.

GUEST: Rollin Krafft, Juli Benedum, and David Stacey, West Bend Mutual Insurance Company; Scott MacFarlan, Hartford Police Department.

CALL TO ORDER

The Washington County Traffic Safety Commission meeting of **March 4, 2009** was held at the Washington County Sheriff's Department, and was called to order by Chairman Norbert Neuser at 9:03 a.m.

The Traffic Safety Commission Meeting Minutes of **December 3, 2008** were approved as presented on the motion of Kris Perales, and seconded by Norbert Neuser. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

There was a discussion on the March 2008 meeting handout entitled 'Improved Safety Culture in the United States.'

Sheriff Schmidt advised this is more than just an enforcement issue.

Guests: Rollin Krafft, Juli Benedum, and David Stacey of West Bend Mutual Insurance Company shared with the Commission the insurance industry. There are many regulations the company abides by, and there are serious limitations on what they can do before they can deny claims. It is very difficult to mandate a person's conduct. There were several questions asked by Commission members on many different topics. There is a need for more education and/or to market ramifications of traffic offenses.

This issue has been tabled until the next meeting so Ken Pesch could attend.

Status on road repairs for CTH H and STH 144 East, Town of Farmington.

John Edgren reported on the status of the following projects:

We are expecting construction of the following County projects in 2009:

- CTH Y: CTH Q to STH 175
- CTH P & PV: Roundabout Intersection, and 2,000 feet south on CTH P
- CTH M Bridge over Cedar Creek: North of STH 60 in Jackson

There is also the potential for the following County projects in 2009:

- CTH Q: US-41 to Pilgrim Road
- CTH W Bridge over Rock River: South of STH 33 in Allenton

We are expecting construction of the following WisDOT projects in 2009:

- STH 144: Resurface South of STH 33
- Cabela's Area: Roundabouts – One each at the On-ramp & Off-ramp of US-41 & US-45, and at then Cabela's entrance. (Five total.)
- STH 164 & CTH Q: Roundabout Intersection

The following projects are also in process, and will be considered in the future:

- CTH H & XX – CTH H from the Milwaukee River to CTH XX & CTH XX from CTH H to the Milwaukee River: Designed, but delayed for construction. Expected to be constructed when CTH H is reconstructed.
- CTH H – STH 144 to the Milwaukee River: In preliminary design with real estate acquisition scheduled for 2009/2010. Construction scheduled for 2010 or 2011.
- CTH D Bridge over Rock River: West of US-41 in Wayne. Scheduled for 2010 construction.
- Richfield Park & Ride: Southwest of US-41 & Pioneer Road intersection. Scheduled for 2010 construction.

REVIEW OF FATAL ACCIDENTS

Sheriff Dale Schmidt reported as of today's date there was one fatal accident in Washington County for the year.

On January 13, 2009 Jennifer Hardgrove, age 27, died as a result of a car vs. semi accident. This occurred on USH 41 .4 miles south of Mohawk Road in the Town of Wayne. Jennifer was traveling northbound in her SUV when she passed a semi tractor/trailer using the left passing lane. The roadway was partially snow covered and slippery. Her SUV drifted on the median shoulder, at which point she lost control of the vehicle. The vehicle slid out of control and crossed both the northbound lanes and struck the guard rail on the right northbound shoulder. The vehicle then slid back into traffic where her vehicle (driver's side) was struck by a northbound semi tractor/trailer. Both vehicles came to rest in the median. Jennifer was not wearing her seatbelt and alcohol was not a factor. Her passenger and the semi driver were not injured; both were wearing their seatbelts.

REPORTS AND OTHER BUSINESS PERTINENT TO THE COMMISSION

Mike Panosh reported traffic fatalities are down statewide. Watch for Traffic Safety legislation, and AB-79-Ignition interlocks. More information will come in the future.

There was a discussion on racial profiling by the State Patrol.

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The Commission welcomed John Edgren, the Washington County Highway Commissioner.

ADJOURN

The Commission Meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m. upon motion by Mike Panosh, and seconded by Dean Schmidt. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be held on **June 3, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.** in a meeting room at the Washington County Sheriff's Department.

Respectfully submitted,
Lt. John C. Peters, Coordinator

JPC/mew
quarterly traffic safety minutes 03/04/09