

**MINUTES**  
**WASHINGTON COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION**

**PRESENT:** Jack Peters, Coordinator; Norbert Neuser, Chairman; Mike Panosh, W.S.P.-BOTS; Chief Dean Schmidt, Slinger Police Dept.; Ken Pesch, Washington County Highway Commissioner; Sheriff Brian Rahn, Washington County Sheriff's Dept.; Kris Perales, WI State Patrol District 2; and Tom Heydel, WI D.O.T.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Washington County Traffic Safety Commission meeting of **June 7, 2006** was held at the Washington County Sheriff's Department, and was called to order by Norbert Neuser at 9:05 a.m.

The Traffic Safety Commission Meeting Minutes of **March 1, 2006** were approved as presented on motion of Sheriff Rahn, and seconded by Tom Heydel. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Chief Dean Schmidt, Slinger Police Department, will replace retired Chief Tom Jones of Hartford Police Department on the Highway Safety Committee. The committee welcomed Chief Schmidt.

**NEW BUSINESS**

A retired Sheriff says he has received many complaints about people confusing the 60 mile marker off ramps to STH 145 and USH 45 with the STH 60 exits off both highways, which are only about 3 miles north of these exits. He thinks that some kind of signage could make this less confusing.

Jack Peters explained to the committee citizens are confusing the 60 mile marker for the STH 60 exit. Tom Heydel reported the mile marker is number 59 before the exits. The 60 mile marker is after STH 60 exit. It was reported the exit panel is the problem; it indicates Exit 60 for STH 145. Extra signage could be confusing. The decision to monitor the area was made.

Supervisors and Deputies from the Washington County Sheriff's Department want to know detailed plans for STH 60 reconstruction for Jackson to Slinger, and who to contact for any suggestions.

Tom Heydel reported the following projects will take place in 2011: STH 60/CTH C, the STH 60/USH 41-45 interchange, and the STH 60/USH 45 will include the expansion to four lanes. The STH 60/USH 45 area will have three roundabouts. There is a public information meeting in late July tentatively scheduled. The concept plans will be completed at this time.

The person to contact is Doug Cain, Project Manager with D.O.T., 414-548-5902.

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Can anything be done to improve the intersection of STH 60 and CTH C (Hillside Road) before major STH 60 reconstruction?

Tom Heydel advised he has the preliminary plan. What is proposed now is putting two jug handles in, which is the ultimately design, and then either signals or a roundabout at STH 60 and CTH C at that time. Tom reported their office is working on the interim. The main problem for safety is the left turns. There is no bypass lane. There is a right-of-way issue. Installing the left turn lanes will help with the crashes. Tom reported some advanced warning signs of the intersection will be installed. The stop bar will also be refreshed.

Chief Schmidt reported the Village Hall was notified there will be a meeting on June 19 at 2:00 p.m. to discuss this issue.

Ken Pesch reported the interim was pushed back to 2011 from 2010 due to the STH 60 project combined with the STH 60/USH 41 project. Right-of-way is needed for fill to be brought in before left turn lanes can be installed.

Timeline for round-about on CTH P at CTH PV. Ken Pesch reported they are using federal safety funds to construct the project. The D.O.T. process is being followed. They have selected the consultant to do the design work. The design has to be completed by the fall of 2007 for construction in 2008. The design firm selected is RA Smith.

Report on highway improvement projects and detours for the summer of 2006. Ken Pesch submitted a sheet with the projects planned in the county.

CTH A will be total reconstruction from STH 144 to the Ozaukee County line. Start date July 1.

CTH E will be to replace a guardrail on the hill east of CTH K.

CTH H will be pulverizing the existing pavement and repave from USH 45 east to STH 144. Start date June 7 or 8.

CTH HH will be removing trees, clean ditches, reconstruct shoulders and shape slopes from STH 144 north to CTH H.

CTH K will be pulverizing the existing pavement and repave from CTH Q to STH 60 with shouldering and pavement markers. This is half way completed.

CTH M will be replacing a bridge over Cedar Creek south of Pleasant Valley Road starting July 1. The reconstruction of the curves south of the bridge over Cedar Creek will start June 12. Also will be replacing a box culvert over Deer Creek north of CTH NN with an aluminum box culvert and reconstruct a quarter-mile of road sometime during the dry season, but before July 1.

CTH O will be pulverizing the existing pavement and repave from the Dodge County line east to STH 83 starting July 1.

CTH P will have a bridge replaced over a branch of Cedar Creek south of CTH PV will start September 5, 2006 through November 24, 2006.

CTH W will have a box culvert replaced with a concrete pipe about 1.5 miles south of Allenton. Reconstruction of 2000 feet of roadbed south of Wayne including lowering a crest vertical curve at Wayne Center Drive and raising the road through a marsh. This will start in late summer/Labor Day, depending on permits.

Tom Heydel reported on the state's highway improvement projects for the summer of 2006.

STH 33 is a wetland mitigation project between STH 175 and the Rock River. This is almost completed.

STH 28 from USH 41 to USH 45 will start in late August through October. This is a resurfacing project.

### **REVIEW OF FATAL ACCIDENTS**

Sheriff Rahn reported as of today's date there were two fatal accidents in Washington County for the year.

Trenton Police Department: On 04/05/06 Steven R. Swanson, age 38, 12-06-67, from West Bend, died as a result of injuries sustained in a two vehicle accident. Swanson was traveling eastbound on STH 33 in the Town of Trenton when he passed into oncoming traffic between the airport and Oak Road. The westbound vehicle swerved to avoid collision. Swanson's vehicle struck the westbound vehicle in a T-bone fashion. Alcohol was not a factor and it is unknown if he had his seatbelt on.

### **REPORTS AND OTHER BUSINESS PERTINENT TO THE COMMISSION**

Mike Panosh, WSP-BOTS, submitted a copy of the weekly fatality report. Washington County for 2006 has two fatalities. In 2005 there were 17 fatalities. 2006 year to date fatalities is 263; 2006 year to date fatal accidents is 248. 2005 year end fatalities were 801; 2005 year end fatal accidents were 700.

Fatalities by role year to date:

Bicyclists	2
Drivers	165
Motorcycle-drivers	20
Motorcycle-passengers	1
Passengers	60
Pedestrians	14
Unknown	1
Total	263

### **LEGISLATION**

Mike Panosh reported on new laws enacted in the 2005-2006 session.

Act 106 (eff. 06/01/06): Strengthens child passenger safety restraint law and seat belt law.

1. Specifies use of infant seat, child seat, booster seat based on age/size.
2. Repeals "personal needs" exception for removing infant from seat.
3. Repeals "reasonable belief" defense for driver and expands previous age limit to make driver responsible for ALL unbuckled passengers.

NOTE: 6-month "warnings only" period (06/01/06 – 12/31/06) on all child safety seat law violations, except for repeat offenders

The Click It or Ticket mobilization has just ended. It occurred from May 22 through June 4. More agencies participated than before. Wisconsin ranks in the bottom 10 in the nation for safety belt use.

Act 466: Creates a 45 second rule at traffic signals. Allows a motorcyclist, moped, motor bicyclist to proceed through a red traffic signal at an intersection under the following circumstances:

1. Stopped at a red light for at least 45 seconds
2. No other vehicles are present to actuate the signal
3. Operator reasonably believes the signal is vehicle actuated
4. Yield right of way

This has been signed and in effect October 1.

USH 41 Enforcement grant program starts the end of July through September 30 from the north side of Milwaukee to Marinette.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Ken Pesch updated the Commission on USH 45 and Cabela's construction. D.O.T. will be getting a consultant for five round-abouts to be constructed in 2010.

Ken Pesch reported on University Drive at Decorah Road there is a Girl Scout Camp. There is a stop sign for southbound traffic. Citizen would like a stop sign at the end of the driveway. A driveway stop sign cannot be enforced. There was no recommendation to the Commission to change anything at this time.

### **ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:23 a.m. upon motion of Ken Pesch, seconded by Norbert Neuser. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be held on **September 6, 2006 at 9:00 a.m.** in a meeting room at the Washington County Sheriff's Department.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lt. John C. Peters, Coordinator