

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

**PRESENT:** Jack Peters, Coordinator; Barb Villwock, Assistant to the Highway Commissioner; Sergeant Tim Huibregtse, WI State Patrol; Chief Dean Schmidt, Slinger Police Department; Tom Heydel, WI D.O.T.; Pam Monroe, R.N.; Norbert Neuser, Chairman; and Sheriff Dale Schmidt, Washington County Sheriff's Department.

**ABSENT:** Mike Panosh, D.O.T.-W.S.P.-BOTS, Ken Pesch, Washington County Highway Commissioner

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Washington County Traffic Safety Commission meeting of **September 5, 2007** was held at the Washington County Sheriff's Department, and was called to order by Chairman Norbert Neuser at 9:02 a.m.

The Traffic Safety Commission Meeting Minutes of **June 6, 2007** were approved as presented on the motion of Jack Peters, and seconded by Norbert Neuser. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Problems with backups on the off ramp from USH 41 northbound to STH 167/Holy Hill Road.

Tom Heydel reported a 4-way stop has been installed. During peak periods approximately 348 northbound vehicles exit onto the ramp. The 4-way stop has been functioning well, and D.O.T. will monitor the area.

Update membership list.

The Commission welcomes Pam Monroe, Registered Nurse, to the committee. Pam will represent the medical field as a member.

Jack Peters asked for the status of the traffic signals at STH 60 and CTH C. Tom Heydel reported the interim signals have been installed as part of the construction project. The intersection is to be rebuilt in four years. Tom Heydel also reported at STH 60 and STH 164 the timing signals were during the construction only.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Speed limits on STH 164.

Barb Villwock reported on behalf of the Highway Committee. Barb reported the Highway Committee took action in 2006 and forwarded a resolution to the County Board to recommend the speed limit be dropped to 45 miles per hour or posted as 45 miles per hour throughout Washington County on STH 164. The Highway Committee will not change or make any other recommendations.

Sheriff Schmidt reported of a mistake in the Draft Corridor Speed Management for STH 164, section 3) Engineering-Initial (Immediate). It reads: -PCMS for announcement only (e.g. Speed reduced to 50, Starts Nov. It should read: Speed reduced to 45.

Tom Heydel advised this is a pilot speed zone proposed by D.O.T. Tom can only accept comments at this meeting to report back to D.O.T.

Sheriff Schmidt advised he will send a letter on behalf of the Sheriff's Department with concerns about the resources and where the funding will come from.

There was a discussion regarding the speeds and crash data.

Jack Peters recommends no proposal; this is not a safety issue. Sheriff Schmidt agreed no action should be taken. Jack Peters made the motion for the Commission to take no action. Motion seconded by Norbert Neuser. Motion carried.

A committee member's request for minutes to be sent via e-mail.

The agendas with attachments will still be sent via U.S. mail. If an agenda has no attachments, it will be sent via e-mail. The minutes will also be sent via e-mail. For those who do not wish to have agendas and/or minutes sent via e-mail, please contact Merrilu Wright at the Sheriff's Department or by e-mail [merrilu.wright@co.washington.wi.us](mailto:merrilu.wright@co.washington.wi.us).

The agendas and minutes are also posted on the Washington County website and can be accessed by the follow:

[www.co.washington.wi.us](http://www.co.washington.wi.us) Meetings: Minutes and Agendas: Other Boards and Committees:  
County Traffic Safety Commission

## **REVIEW OF FATAL ACCIDENTS**

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

On 06/10/07 Jeremy Jeranek, age 24, died as a result of a motorcycle versus car accident at the intersection of Clover Road and Ernst Drive in the Town of Hartford. The accident occurred when the car traveling west on Clover Road attempted to turn south onto Ernst Drive. At that time the car collided with the eastbound motorcycle. Jeremy was ejected from the motorcycle. A witness at the scene advised the motorcycle was traveling at a high rate of speed just prior to the accident. Alcohol was not a factor, and Jeremy was wearing a helmet. Jeremy was pronounced dead at the scene.

On 07/16/07 William Rourk, age 67, and Arlene Rourk, age 65, died as a result of a two vehicle accident in the Town of Addison. They were traveling in a motorcycle with a side car westbound on STH 33. When the vehicle in front of them slowed to avoid a collision, the motorcycle crossed the center line and entered westbound traffic near the intersection of CTH WW. They were struck by a vehicle traveling eastbound on STH 33. Both the driver and passenger were wearing helmets and were thrown from the bike. The motorcycle was forced off road into the ditch where it caught fire and burned completely. They were both pronounced dead at the scene. Neither speed nor alcohol appeared to be a factor.

Germantown Police Department:

On 08/25/07 Martha Johnson, age 40, died as a result of a one vehicle accident in the Village of Germantown. Martha was a passenger in a vehicle which was traveling southbound on USH 41/45 .2 of a mile north of CTH Q at a high rate of speed. The driver lost control and struck the guard wire, then the steel traffic barrel in the median, coming to rest in the northbound lane of USH 41/45. Both subjects were ejected from the vehicle. Martha was pronounced dead at the scene. Accident reconstruction was completed by Wisconsin State Patrol.

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

There were no reports.

### **ADJOURN**

The Commission Meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m. upon motion by Chief Dean Schmidt, and seconded by Norbert Neuser. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be held on **December 5, 2007 at 9:00 a.m.** in a meeting room at the Washington County Sheriff's Department.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lt. John C. Peters, Coordinator