

MINUTES
WASHINGTON COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION

PRESENT: Jack Peters, Coordinator; Jon Edgren, Washington County Highway Commissioner; Tom Heydel, WI D.O.T.; Ken Pesch; Sheriff Dale Schmidt, Washington County Sheriff's Dept.; Norbert Neuser, Chairman; Lt. John Buck, Washington County Sheriff's Dept.; Andrea Loeffelholz, D.O.T.-W.S.P.-BOTS; John Schrader, Radio Systems Administrator- Sheriff's Dept.

ABSENT: Chief Dean Schmidt, Slinger Police Dept., Trooper Kris Perales, WI State Patrol

CALL TO ORDER

The Washington County Traffic Safety Commission meeting of **December 1, 2010** was held at the Washington County Sheriff's Department, and was called to order by Chairman Norbert Neuser at 9:05 a.m.

The Traffic Safety Commission Meeting Minutes of **September 1, 2010** were approved as presented on the motion of Ken Pesch, and seconded by Jon Edgren. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Ken Pesch requests a discussion of the new two-way radio system, its implementation process, and an analysis of the effects the system will have on emergency responses to traffic crashes by law enforcement, ambulance, fire, highway shop, etc. John Schrader, the Radio Systems Administrator for the Sheriff's Department, will explain this, followed by a tour of the new radio room

John Schrader reported the old system is a single site transmitter with four different receiver sites. The old system is about 20 years old and has given about 75 percent coverage. The new system has several different transmitter sites, but all transmit at once, and eight receiving sites. The coverage testing was 98.75 percent coverage. It is portable on the hip, in building, signalated. The Sheriff's Department has gained a lot more coverage. It is newer technology and a lot more tower sites to run and maintain; the main purpose is increasing in coverage. There County decided on this radio system due to the legal issues with the FCC with narrow banding where the equipment would have had to have been narrow banded, program it, and that it could be mandatory that the new system already had, in addition the County wanted to have better interoperability between all of the different agencies. This system has share talk groups on everybody's radio where it can be switched to and have interoperability and talk with each other.

The tower sites are located in Kewaskum, Farmington, Slinger, West Bend, Erin, Germantown, Wayne, and Richfield. It is a digital radio system, P25. P25 is an open standard radio system, that all manufactures manufacture P25 radios. It does not matter who the manufacture is, the radios are compatible with the Sheriff's Department radio system. If applying for any federal grants, it is required to be P25 capable. The radio system works with WISCOM (state wide radio system being currently installed). It is about 60 percent up and running, and it runs throughout the whole state. The County's equipment is compatible with this system as well. In the County currently there is 800 megahertz overlay so there are some frequencies and infrastructure in the County right now that allows Milwaukee County, Ozaukee County, and Waukesha County to help respond with us and be interoperable with them. Even though they are on a difference frequency than the County's, we have tower and receivers to handle 800 megahertz frequencies.

As the radio system moves forward, they are trying to increasingly make it better for bigger responses, more people to come into the County, and for us to go out of the County and help with assistance and with everyone being more interoperable. The County purchased about 1,500 radios distributed throughout the County between the Highway Departments, the DPW's, all Law Enforcement, Fire Departments, and Sheriff's Department County employees. Also purchased on a grant was a Gateway System that interconnects the County's radio system with Ozaukee County's radio system, which will help Newburg, Trenton, and Jackson where there are a lot of people crossing the borders giving each other assistance. This allows gateway between the two systems. The installation is on track and there is about another six to seven month installation process converting everybody from the old radio system over to the new radio system.

The County already has interoperability with Dodge and Fond du Lac Counties. Their equipment is capable of doing both analog and digital.

The new Radio Room has a lot more capabilities than the old system with new consoles that give a lot more capabilities than before as far as patching things together and interoperability. All Dispatch Centers are set up together and they all have the same equipment so if one Dispatch Center went down for any reason, personnel can be sent to another Dispatch Center to dispatch our County assets from that department.

REVIEW OF FATAL ACCIDENTS

There were 14 fatalities in Washington County for the year.

On 09/01/2010 John P. Porkert, DOB 12/21/1968, died as a result of a pedestrian vs motor vehicle accident in the Village of Slinger. It appears John stepped out or moved into traffic while on Commerce Boulevard (STH 60) 500 feet west of Bonnie Lane. He was then struck by a passing motorist. John was transported to Aurora Medical Complex where he was later pronounced dead. Alcohol and speed were not a factor for the drivers of the vehicles. This was handled by Slinger Police Department.

On 09/ 12/2010 Scott A. Schoen, DOB 03/10/1992, died as a result of a head on collision on STH 33 west of Riesch Road in the Town of Barton. Scott was eastbound on STH 33 and for some unknown reason drifted across the center line and collided head on with a westbound truck. Scott was the sole occupant in his vehicle. The three occupants in the truck were transported for injuries, and Scott was pronounced dead at the scene. Scott was not wearing a seatbelt. Alcohol and speed were not a factor.

On 09/14/2010 Patricia A. Dineen Ladd, DOB 06/12/1968, died as a result of a motorcycle vs semi accident, which occurred on 09/13/2010, on STH 167/Holy Hill .5 mile east of Friess Lake Drive in the Village of Richfield. Patricia was a passenger on the motorcycle that was traveling eastbound on STH 167 when it entered a curve in the roadway and went left of center striking a westbound semi tractor trailer. Patricia was taken by Flight for Life to Froedtert Hospital, and on 09/14/2010 passed away due to her injuries. Patricia was not wearing a helmet. Alcohol was a factor for the driver of the motorcycle; waiting on drug screening. Speed is likely a factor.

On 09/21/2010 Stephen P. Schmoker, DOB 12/20/1959, died as a result of a single motor vehicle accident on Western Avenue .5 of a mile east of CTH P in the Town of Jackson. It appears Stephen was westbound on Western Avenue and for unknown reasons his vehicle entered the north ditch line for a short distance striking a culvert and overturning. Stephen was pinned in the vehicle. Once extricated, it was found that he died as a result of his injuries. Stephen was wearing his seatbelt and speed does not appear to be a factor. Alcohol was a factor.

On 10/23/2010 Daniel C. Goodreau, DOB 04/24/1962, died as a result of a motorcycle vs deer accident, which occurred on 10/19/2010. Daniel was traveling westbound on STH 167 (Holy Hill Road) .5 miles west of CTH

K when his motorcycle collided with a deer in the roadway. Daniel was ejected from the motorcycle and was found lying face down in the roadway. Daniel was transported to Aurora hospital and later flighted to Froedtert Hospital where he passed away on 10/23/2010 due to his injuries he received as a result of this accident. Daniel was not wearing a safety helmet. Neither speed nor alcohol appears to be a factor.

On 10/27/2010 Judith Citowitz, age 68, died as a result of a three car accident in the Village of Germantown. Judith was driving on Mequon Road when she crossed the center line just east of Fond du Lac, sideswiping one of the vehicles. The other vehicle had a family of four pinned in it. They were all extricated and transported. It appears the third vehicle did not have any injuries. Alcohol does not appear to be a factor; however, it is still under investigation by the Germantown Police Department.

On 11/29/2010 Mary B. Schneider, age 63, died as a result of a single vehicle accident. Mary was traveling southbound on Paradise Drive from Valley View Road when for unknown reasons went off-road right. She went into the ditch and up the embankment where her vehicle overturned and re-entered the roadway. Rescue personnel used the Jaws of Life to gain access to Mary. Mary was pronounced dead at the scene by the Medical Examiner. The roadway was heavily covered with frost and was a contributing factor to the cause of the crash.

REPORTS AND OTHER BUSINESS PERTINENT TO THE COMMISSION

Andrea Loeffelholz reported to the Commission on the Transportal System. The Transportal System is crash data for your community, down to the intersection, city, broken down by OWI crashes or deer crashes. Added to this is a community map. The MV4000 information is entered into the system with accuracy of the exact location of the crash and the information regarding the crash. The MV4000's will also be scanned in the system for retrieval at any time. Andrea Loeffelholz will demonstrate the Transportal System at the next meeting.

Andrea Loeffelholz reported the texting law is in effect as of 12/01/2010.

Andrea Loeffelholz submitted to the Commission the Weekly Fatality Report as of November 28, 2010. Andrea reported there were 519 fatalities in 2010 and 499 fatalities in 2009.

2010 Fatalities		2009 Fatalities	
Bicyclist	9	Bicyclist	7
Driver	260	Driver	281
MC Driver	97	MC Driver	76
MC Passenger	7	MC Passenger	8
Passenger	96	Passenger	93
Pedestrian	49	Pedestrian	32
Unknown	1	Unknown	2

Andrea Loeffelholz submitted to the Commission the Fatalities by County report. Washington County had 14 fatalities in 2010 as of this date, and 14 fatalities in 2009. Five year average is 11.

Andrea Loeffelholz submitted the 2009 Deer Crashes by County and Severity report. Washington County had no fatal crashes, 12 injury crashes, and 474 property damage crashes, for total crashes of 486.

Andrea Loeffelholz submitted the Total Crashes by Severity with Licensed Drivers and Registered Vehicles report. This report is dated 1912 to 2008.

Andrea Loeffelholz also submitted the Preliminary Year-End 2009 Crash Statistics. This report is dated 1999 to 2009.

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Jon Edgren will discuss the 2011 construction projects at the next meeting.

ADJOURN

The Commission Meeting was adjourned at 10:22 a.m. for a tour of the Radio Room upon motion by Jack Peters, and seconded by Norbert Neuser. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be held on **March 2, 2011 at 9:00 a.m.** in a meeting room at the Washington County Sheriff's Department.

The 2011 schedule for the Traffic Safety Commission meetings is as follows:

March 2, 2011
June 1, 2011
September 7, 2011
December 7, 2011

Respectfully submitted,
Lt. John C. Peters, Coordinator

JPC/mew
quarterly traffic safety minutes12/01/2010