

MINUTES
WASHINGTON COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION

PRESENT: Jack Peters, Coordinator; Kris Perales, WI State Patrol; Mike Panosh, D.O.T.-BOTS; Dean Schmidt, Slinger Police Department; Lt. Bruce Theusch, Washington County Sheriff's Dept.; Tom Heydel, WI D.O.T.; Daniel Nysse, Washington County Highway Dept.; Norbert Neuser, Chairman,; Sgt. Cedric Rembert, WI State Patrol; Ken Pesch; Sheriff Dale Schmidt, Washington County Sheriff's Dept.

GUESTS: David Wronski, City of West Bend

CALL TO ORDER

The Washington County Traffic Safety Commission meeting of **June 6, 2012** 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 **March 7, 2012** were approved as presented on the motion by Jack Peters. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Election of Officers (Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Recording Secretary).

Ken Pesch made the motion to nominate the current Officers positions for re-election. Dean Schmidt seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Tom Heydel will report on placement of signs on STH 144 south of CTH H possibly blocking site distance.

Tom Heydel reported the route markers for both northbound and southbound were moved back by the turn lane. Westbound on CTH H the right-turn bypass stop sign was moved further east. There is better vision for someone on the side roads.

Jon Edgren will report on a speed study on CTH XX north of CTH H after a request for a speed limit reduction.

Dan Nysse reported for Jon Edgren on the speed study. A handout of the speed study was submitted to the Commission. The 85th percentile does not warrant reduction in the speed limit due to the speeds in which the general public is traveling in this area. The speeds have not changed much in two years. The Highway Department is recommending the reduction sign not be installed and the speed limit remains as it currently is. There have been no crashes which would support the reduction of the speed limit. No action will take place by the Commission.

Tom Heydel to report on WisDOT Warrants & Safety Analysis on area of USH 41 & STH 33.

Tom Heydel submitted to the Commission a Collision Diagram and Multiway Stop Analysis. The crash rate is .27. A multiway stop analysis was completed to look at if traffic should be stopped on STH 33. None of the warrants were met for an all-way stop at this location. The construction project for this area will be around 2019.

Ken Pesch will report on accident history of off ramps from USH 45 to Paradise Drive and STH 33 intersection with North River Road and CTH G.

Tom Heydel reported USH 45 southbound at Paradise Drive signals are under the City's jurisdiction. The State has jurisdiction of the ramps. The yield was changed to a stop sign for USH 45 at Paradise Drive for right turn bypass. There was an issue with rear-end crashes. Northbound at the same location there were 55 accidents, according to West Bend, in a three year period; 21 were northbound vehicles wanting to make a right turn. Northbound was changed to a No Turn on Red for both lanes instead of just the left lane.

David Wronski reported for the City of West Bend on STH 33 and CTH G (North River Road). The crash rate is 1.53. Westbound left turns to River Road are a major issue and northbound right turns from CTH G.

Jon Edgren or Tom Heydel to report on Safe Routes to School funding applications.

This item has been tabled for the next meeting for Jon Edgren to report.

REVIEW OF FATAL ACCIDENTS

There were 6 fatalities in Washington County for the year.

Washington County Sheriff's Department:

On 03/08/2012 Moises R. Castaneda-Rogel, DOB 10/25/1992, died as a result of a two vehicle accident in the Town of Farmington. This occurred on Orchard Valley Road approximately .3 of a mile south of CTH H. Moises had been northbound on Orchard Valley Road when he unsuccessfully tried to pass another northbound vehicle. In the process his vehicle careened directly into the path of a southbound vehicle driven by a Town of Farmington female. She along with three children were all transported via ambulance to St. Joseph's Hospital with non-life threatening injuries. Preliminary information suggests that alcohol did not appear to be a contributing factor.

On 04/07/2012 Patrick Gillespie, DOB 07/31/1978, died after the vehicle he was driving ran into the back end of a stopped semi tractor trailer. This occurred on USH 45 northbound near the STH 145 exit, in the Town of Polk. The semi had been traveling northbound along STH 145 and pulled over onto the shoulder to discuss their next stop. The hazard warning lights were activated. Patrick was traveling at what they believe to be highway speeds, drove into the back end of the stopped semi trailer. He was the only occupant and was trapped in his vehicle. He was extricated from the wreckage and was pronounced dead at the scene.

On 06/04/2012 James R. Beaudoin, DOB 01/28/1964, died as a result of a two vehicle accident on STH 33 west of STH 175, 983 feet east of CTH U-west of STH 175, in the Town of Addison. James was traveling westbound on STH 33 when he crossed the center line and hit a large industrial vacuum Veolia truck head on. As a result of the collision and fire, James was trapped in his vehicle and was pronounced dead at the scene. It is unknown why James crossed the center line. The driver of the truck was uninjured. Alcohol does not appear to be a factor.

Germantown Police Department:

On 04/25/2012 Miles P. Leppla, DOB 06/16/1920, died as a result of a one vehicle accident in the Village of Germantown. Miles had been reported missing on 10/04/2011. Miles and his vehicle were located in a pond on 04/24/2012 at W148 N12919 Pleasant View Drive, Germantown.

REPORTS AND OTHER BUSINESS PERTINENT TO THE COMMISSION

Mike Panosh reported on behalf of Andrea Loeffelholz, who has taken a different position. Good luck Andrea!

Mike Panosh submitted to the Commission the Weekly Fatality Report as of June 3, 2012. Year to date there were 210 fatalities. Mike reported there were 182 fatalities in 2011.

2012 Fatalities		2011 Fatalities	
Bicyclist	1	Bicyclist	0
Driver	129	Driver	107
MC Driver	24	MC Driver	17
MC Passenger	3	MC Passenger	1
Passenger	40	Passenger	37
Pedestrian	13	Pedestrian	18
Unknown	0	Unknown	2
Total	210	Total	182

June 2012: 7 fatalities

May 2012: 46 fatalities

As of June 3, 2012, Washington County had 4 fatalities. In 2011 at the same time, there were 13 fatalities.

Legislation

There was no legislation to report.

Other Business

There was a question to Tom Heydel regarding rumble strips over the center line. Tom reported there is a State-wide initiative of 500 plus miles of center line and shoulder rumbles. In some cases there will be just center line rumbles and no shoulder rumbles because the shoulders are not wide enough. Where there are wide enough shoulders, shoulder rumbles are being installed. Federal Highways is funding this project.

For agenda items, please contact Jack Peters by telephone (262) 626-4633 or Merrilu Wright by email merrilu.wright@co.washington.wi.us or telephone (262) 335-4381.

ADJOURN

The Commission Meeting was adjourned at 10:06 a.m. upon motion by Jack Peters, and seconded by Ken Pesch. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be held on **September 5, 2012 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 06/06/2012