

# HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Columbia County Law Enforcement Center  
John Roche Community Room  
Friday, February 10, 2006  
9:30 a.m.

Members Present: Doug Jarzynski, Robert Andler, Dennis Hughes, Darrell Parker, Jim Mitchell, Pat Fitzgerald, Jill Fehrman, Avis Link, Tom Knoop, James Kicmol, Dan Pulsfus  
Meeting Called to Order: 9:35 a.m. by Doug Jarzynski

***Motion to approve previous meeting minutes from 11/10/05 made by Andler. Seconded by Parker. Motion carried.***

## OLD BUSINESS

1. *Update on safety improvements at intersection of STH 23 and CTH O in the Town of Newport.* Jill Fehrman reported to the committee that she has reviewed accident crash data for this intersection and had determined that there were 16 crashes in the past five years. Ten of those involving overturning vehicles. Fehrman stated that DOT would be placing high intensity chevrons around the curve at this intersection and was still investigating this intersection for possible other improvements which have not yet been determined.
2. *Update on safety improvements on STH 89 near N279 STH 89 in the Town of Columbus.* Jill Fehrman reported to the committee that she has reviewed accident data for this area of STH 89 and had determined that there had been 13 accidents reported in the past five years. Most of which involved northbound vehicle movement. Fehrman stated there are speed advisory signs for the curve at this location at 40 mph. Fehrman stated that previous culvert markers at this location were going to be removed and that high intensity chevrons would be installed in this area to assist motorists in recognizing the curve. This location will also continue to be monitored for other improvements if needed.

## NEW BUSINESS

1. None.

## FATAL ACCIDENT REPORT by Doug Jarzynski

1. Jarzynski reported to that there had been a total of four fatal accidents involving four fatalities since the last meeting on 11/10/05. Jarzynski provided committee members a synopsis of each accident and a copy of the accident reports were reviewed by the committee members. No questions were received.

## OTHER BUSINESS:

Jarzynski reported to the committee that he had been notified by the Bureau of Transportation Safety and was advised that the Columbia County Sheriff's Office was eligible to receive \$10,000 of highway safety grant money for enforcement of speed and aggressive driving which is a federally funded grant.

Pulsfus reported to the committee that the STH 33 Project in the City of Portage scheduled for 2008 had been pushed back to 2011.

Kicmol, Sergeant for Wisconsin State Patrol, stated he would be leaving the Columbia County Troop and moving to the Southern Dane Troop.

Kicmol also reported that a new sergeant would be appointed in Columbia County. Kicmol further reported that the Crawford River Bridge on USH 151 would be under construction from June to October 2006.

Thomas Knoop introduced himself to the committee members as the new Regional Program Manager for the Bureau of Transportation Safety which includes Columbia County. Knoop provided committee members several handouts to include a review of fatalities statewide. It was noted that Columbia County had 22 fatalities in 2005 with a five-year average of 14.

Knoop provided to committee members information regarding Wisconsin Act 106, Wisconsin's new booster seat law. It was noted that the law goes into effect on 06/01/06 and requires a child between the ages of four and eight to be properly restrained in a booster seat instead of a safety belt. Booster seats will not be required if a child weighs more than 80 pounds or taller than 4'9" tall. Knoop reported that there will be a six-month warning grace period for any violations under the new law and that citations may be issued starting 01/01/07 by law enforcement agencies. Knoop also stated that Wisconsin would also be eligible for approximately \$625,000 in federal funding from passing this new law.

Andler reported to the committee that he had recently reviewed the Town of Arlington Board minutes that noted discussion regarding a four-way stop at the intersection of WIBU Road and Meek Road. It was noted in the Arlington Town Board minutes that the matter would be referred to the Columbia County Highway Safety Committee. Jarzynski reported to the committee that he had received no correspondence from the Town of Arlington regarding this matter.

***Motion to adjourn at approximately 10:50 a.m. by Pulsfus. Seconded by Link. Motion carried.***

**Next Meeting Date:** Friday, May 12, 2006, at 9:30 a.m.  
Columbia County Law Enforcement Center, John Roche Community Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Jarzynski  
Lieutenant

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