

HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Friday, February 13, 2004
9:30 a.m.

Members Present: Doug Jarzynski, Mark Jensen, Jim Mitchell, Kirk Konkel, Penny Kiefer, Daniel See, Jerry Smith, Darrell Parker, T.O. Boge, Dan Pulsfus, James Kicmol, Christopher Becker, Pat Beghin

Meeting Called to Order: 9:30 a.m. by Lt. Doug Jarzynski

There were no additions, deletions, or changes to the last meeting minutes. A motion to accept the previous meeting minutes was made by Jensen. Seconded by Konkel. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Update date on the request for speed reduction on South Shore Drive. A letter was received by the Town of Wyocena indicating that they wished to have the speed reduced on South Shore Drive as well as a number of other roads within new subdivisions within the area to 25 mph. Jensen indicated that they had received the requests on the associated speed reductions in the subdivisions and on South Shore Drive and after taking a look at the area, they concurred with the request for speed reduction. The areas were subsequently going to be posted with the 25 mph.
2. Speed reduction request on STH 16 in the vicinity of Silver Lake Drive. Jensen briefed the committee and advised that the speed was going to be reduced to 35 mph zone in that area from the current 45 mph zone.
3. Speed reduction request on STH 33 near I90/94 in the vicinity of Adesa Auto Auction. Jensen indicated that their office was contacted regarding the speed reduction in that area and had made the determination to drop that speed to 45 mph from the current 55 mph zone. The speed reduction would begin on STH 33 in the vicinity of Cascade Mountain Road and would continue to the east past Adesa Auto Auction grounds.

NEW BUSINESS

1. A letter from a concerned citizen regarding a request for a no-pass zone to be extended on CTH P in the Township of Pacific. Bob Schmidt detailed in his letter that the passing zone in this area has had a number of close calls occurring in that area. He indicated in his letter that he felt it was a dangerous intersection with the passing zone continued on CTH P past the intersection of Raymond Road and that with the expanded subdivisions in that area that he felt the no-pass zone should be changed and modified to reduce the risk of any accidents occurring in that area. A motion was made by Boge to have Columbia County Highway to examine the area to determine approaches and the sightings to see if a change should be made to the no-pass zone in that area. Seconded by Konkel. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

Jerry Smith of DOT BOTS completed a briefing to the committee. Smith broke down the information on the 2003 fatalities in the state. There was concern on the increased number of motorcycle fatalities. Smith indicated that there were going to be a number of public service announcements this spring in the state aimed at the motorcycle riders and general public to try to reduce these numbers. Smith also indicated that the state was also concerned on some data that was coming in through their

speed related surveys indicating that they believed the increase of fatality rates were tied in with the increased speeds. Their surveys also showed that usually the winter weather generally reduces the overall speeds, but that with the mild winters these last couple of years, it does not appear as though that reduction is occurring.

FATALITY REPORT

The committee was briefed on the fatality report and informed that three fatal crashes have occurring in the county since the last meeting.

The first was on November 25, 2003, involving a 16 year old, Stephanie M. Wake who was the passenger in a vehicle being operated on River Road in the Township of Columbus. The vehicle in question was being operated by a 14-year-old juvenile who had taken the vehicle without his mother's permission. Two other female juveniles were also injured in this crash.

Two other fatalities occurred on the interstate system within this time period. Due to their recentness, we have not received copies of the accident reports on those accidents yet. We received information from the WSP Sgt. Kicmol that they were still investigating both accidents and that alcohol was believed to be a factor in one of them and the other was still under investigation. Sgt. Kicmol could not provide extensive details on either crash at this time.

There was no other business brought before the committee.

Next meeting date is set for Friday, May 14, 2004, at 9:30 a.m. at the Columbia County Law Enforcement Center.

Motion to adjourn was made by Parker. Seconded by Pulsfus. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick Beghin
Sergeant

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