

## HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Columbia County Law Enforcement Center, John Roche Community Room  
Friday, February 13, 2009 @ 9:30 a.m.

Members: Doug Jarzynski, Pat Beghin, Darrell Parker, Avis Link, Eugene Brown, E. Kevin O'Neill, Doug Klapper, Graham Heitz, Robert Andler, Jerry Blystone, Kurt Dey, Chuck Miller, Charles Poches, Joe Ruf, Andy Ross, Andrea Loeffelholz, Dennis Weiner

Meeting Called to Order: 9:34 a.m. by Doug Jarzynski

***Motion to approve the February agenda was made by Link. Seconded by Brown. Motion carried.***

Previous meeting's minutes were formally reviewed. ***Motion to approve previous meeting minutes from November meeting made by Link. Seconded by Brown. Motion carried.***

### OLD BUSINESS

1. *Update on speed reduction request from 35 mph to 25 mph on STH 22/North Washington Street in the Village of Wyocena.* This topic was turned over to the State to Graham Heite of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation. They will be doing a study on this area and will be reporting back to the committee at the next meeting.

### NEW BUSINESS

1. *Request for review of speed limit signage on STH 33 west of the Wisconsin River Bridge in the City of Portage.* Discussion ensued on the STH 33 speed in the City of Portage and a possible reduction in this area. Portage Alderman Klapper was requesting a speed reduction in that area due to concerns of constituents that are in that area. Graham Heite from Wisconsin DOT indicated that a speed study was done in 2007 and believes that the past DOT's stance of not reducing the speed in that area will continue to be the same and that a speed reduction is not justified in that area. ***After further discussion, a motion to support a speed reduction to 45 mph on STH 33 west to I39 from the 25 mph zone in the City of Portage was brought up as well as to have the State look at any and all signage improvements on the highway as well as a no-passing zone to be extended in this area by Beghin. Seconded by Brown. Motion carried.***
2. *Request for speed reduction from 45 mph to 35 mph on STH 33 near the intersection of East Albert Street in the City of Portage.* There was discussion regarding the speed reduction request, and the impact of East Albert Street coming out at that intersection. After discussion, Heite from DOT indicated that the State would do a speed study of the intersection area and report its findings back to the committee after it has been completed.

### FATAL ACCIDENT REPORT by Pat Beghin

Beghin briefed the commission on the two fatalities that had taken place from our previous meeting.

### BOTS UPDATE: Andrea Loeffelholz

The BOTS report was given to the committee by Loeffelholz from Wisconsin Department of Transportation BOTS. She provided a number of handouts to the committee members detailing some of the activities that were taking place and indicated that preliminary data indicates that 2008

was the safest on the roads in Wisconsin since 1948. She further added that the State hopes to continue with that trend.

A number of other items were brought up to the committee's attention. One was a concern by commission member Bob Andler about farmers that are taking slow-moving vehicles on USH 51 in the Leeds area and potentially causing traffic problems there. No action was taken on this item.

Another concern was brought up about a missing hospital sign on STH 33 at the Cook and Dewitt Street intersection that had been in place prior to the construction project there but was now missing. Heite informed the committee that the sign is on order and will be installed once it has arrived.

***Motion to adjourn was made by Link at approximately 10:42 a.m. Seconded by Brown. Motion carried.***

**Next Meeting Date:** Friday, May 8, 2009, at 9:30 a.m. at the Columbia County Law Enforcement Center, John Roche Community Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick Beghin  
Emergency Management Coordinator  
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Approved