

HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Columbia County Law Enforcement Center

John Roche Community Room

Friday, November 9, 2007

9:30 a.m.

Members: Doug Jarzynski, Pat Beghin, Jillene Fehrman, T.O. Boge, Avis Link, Joann Wingers, Laura Andreasson, Eugene Brown, Dennis Linn, Donald White, Robert Andler, Penny Kiefer

Meeting Called to Order: 9:31 a.m. by Doug Jarzynski

Motion to approve previous meeting minutes from 08/10/07 made by Wingers. Seconded by Link. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

1. *Update on speed reduction request on STH 33 from Wisconsin River Bridge to I-39 in the City of Portage.* Fehrman of DOT indicated that a speed study was done on this area and that based on that study, that there was not any justification at this time for a speed reduction in that area. However, she indicated that they have been in contact with the city and that there are a number of signage changes that are going to be undertaken in this area to improve the signage in the area and hopefully this will help alleviate some of the problems in that area. This would include a flashing speed reduction warning sign as well as a relocation of a number of other signs.
2. *Update on STH 78 approximately .5 miles north of Old U for safety improvements.* This was an area where a number of crashes had occurred on a corner and the committee recommended chevrons being placed in that area. These chevrons had been placed around that corner and should alleviate or help alleviate some of the crashes that occurred at that location.
3. *Update on review of CTH V/CTH J/CTH VJ (Lodi to Harmony Grove) in the Town of Lodi for safety improvements.* Boge indicated that they had speed counters out in this area and that the results of those were presented to the committee. There was discussion about this as well as crashes that had occurred in this area since the roadway had been repaired and resurfaced. The data that was taken off the speed counters was done in October at three different locations along the roadway. Jarzynski indicated that the Columbia County Sheriff's Office would be able to use this information to pinpoint some speed enforcement on that roadway noting the times and dates when there was an excessive number of high speed vehicles on this roadway.

NEW BUSINESS

1. *Request for review of proposed street entrance on USH 51 for new subdivision in the Village of Poynette.* Police Chief Don White as well as Dennis Linn from the Village of Poynette provided a synopsis of their request for the support for this entryway to USH 51 indicating that per the village ordinance, any new subdivision needs to have two entrances to it and that this would be the second of two entrances and that they believed the location of the entrance meets the minimum requirements put out by DOT for safe sighting for an entrance to a highway. ***After considerable discussion, a motion was made by Jarzynski to support Poynette in their bid for the entrance out onto USH 51. Seconded by Brown. Motion carried with a number of persons abstaining from the vote.***

FATAL ACCIDENT REPORT by Pat Beghin

Beghin briefed the committee on the fatal accident reports indicating that Columbia County was at a total of 17 for the year and four of them having come since the last meeting in August. The committee discussed at length the breakdown of the fatal accidents that occurred in Columbia County during that time and the large preponderance of alcohol-related fatalities that our county has suffered this year.

BOTS UPDATE: LAURA ANDREASSON

Andreasson provided an update of Traffic Safety Legislation as it is currently been proposed as well as the statewide traffic fatality report information. This was discussed at length.

At approximately 11:22 a.m., a motion to adjourn was made by Link. Seconded by Kiefer. Motion carried.

Next Meeting Date: Friday, February 8, 2008, 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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