

**COLUMBIA COUNTY
TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**
Columbia County Law Enforcement Center
John Roche Community Room
February 9, 2018 @ 9:30 AM

Members: Sgt. Todd Horn, James Foley, Trace Frost, Robert Andler, Chuck Miller, Mike Brouette, Chris Hardy, Kathy Johnson, Ryan Mayer, Richard Hoege, Marie Darling Ellis, Avis Link, Vern Gove, JoAnn Wingers

Guests: Karen Kronberg, Bob Kronberg, Jan Bennett, Brock Graber

Meeting called to order: 9:32 AM by Todd Horn. Introductions were made by all present. An attendance sheet was distributed.

Hardy asked if the Speed Study – Town of Lodi Cactus Acres and the Columbia County TSC stationary items be added to the next meeting agenda for further discussion. They will be on the May 2018 agenda.

Motion to approve the agenda as posted was made by Foley and seconded by Miller. Motion was carried unanimously by the committee.

Motion to approve the November 10, 2017 meeting minutes was made by Hoege. Motion was seconded by Miller. Motion was carried unanimously by the committee.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Town of Fountain Prairie Board members and citizens request a possible extension of the 35mph zone from the Fall River Village limit out to CTH DG on CTH D. *Hardy stated this will be taken care of after the construction project is completed. Andler stated there are concerns on DG as well. Discussion followed.*
2. Review speed limit and signage on USH 51 beginning at Ontario Street to Southtown Road intersection. *Mayer stated that this was resolved and the signs were moved.*
3. Review “S” curves south of Poynette on CTH Q for possible placement of warning signs. *Hardy stated that a large arrow board was placed at the corner approximately 3-4 weeks ago.*
4. Request for rumble strip installation on CTH E at STH 73 and Blanecae Road. *Hardy stated that the rumble strips were installed.*

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Newly placed CTH C and STH 60 Rumble strip noise complaint (Bob and Karen Kronberg). *Discussion. A map of the area was displayed. Hardy stated that a Sound Peak Decibels Study and a 2-day Traffic Study were completed and the results were displayed. (See Attachment). Hardy stated that Columbia County follows the DOT which has a standard drawing consistent throughout the state. A map with the standard detail was displayed. Rumble strips were installed*

in 2002, removed in 2007 when the road was under construction and never re-installed. Hardy displayed a rumble strip presentation which included a map showing the location of the old and new rumble strips as well as other rumble strip locations throughout Columbia County. (See Attachment). Local residents Kronberg's, Bennett, and Graber were present to express their concerns and read letters to the commission. (See attachment). DOT gave crash/fatal history since 2011. Brouette stated that he talked to a friend that has rumble strips directly in front of his residence as well. The friend stated that you get used to it after some time. The options discussed to correct the problem included: changing the speed limit to a 45 mph zone which would then change the location of the strips, a four way stop on Hwy C & State Hwy 60, double stop signs, flashing stop signs, removal of rumble strips completely, fill in grooves so they are not so deep, or install a strobe warning light prior to the intersection. Hardy explained that some options come at a higher cost as well as more maintenance. Hardy explained that the present strip grooves are not installed to standard, and that they have tried filling them in but had problems with the material and temperatures. Brouette made a motion that the Highway Department fill in the grooves to meet the specs when the material becomes available and weather permits. This issue will be revisited and re-evaluated after the work is completed. Andler seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried unanimously by the committee.

2. Town of Pacific – Speed complaints on CTH P. Horn to place a speed board in the spring.

FATAL CRASH REPORT

Horn discussed the fatal crash on December 19, 2017 on Schwantz Road. 45 year old driver missed curve and struck tree. Waiting on toxicology report.

TRANSPORTATION SAFETY REPORT AND HIGHWAY SAFETY INPUT

Frost gave fatal report of 62 so far for 2018 as 50 at the same time last year. There were a total of 603 fatalities in 2017 vs. 588 in 2016. Columbia County had 6 fatalities in 2017 vs. 20 in 2016. Frost displayed and gave an overview of the Community Maps and explained how all TRACS data automatically downloads to the maps.

He stated that the Governor's Conference will be held 8/22-8/23, 2018 at the Grand Geneva.

OTHER BUSINESS

Horn stated that Charles Poches will be resigning from the TSC and replacement Margaret Rudolph will be attending to replace him. Kathy Johnson explained the replacement procedures.

Horn discussed the School Safe Driving Project and explained that Portage High School FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) students will be constructing a safety video on school parking lot safety.

Hardy stated that the Highway Department night dispatcher is sending out a road report between 2:30 AM – 4:00 AM to all the schools and Highway Committee during weather events.

Hardy stated that some bridge weight limit postings will be changing around the county which will effect truck traffic. One change in particular is the bridge on County Hwy CS which will eliminate

the detour route off the interstate which will result in the truck traffic coming through the City of Portage.

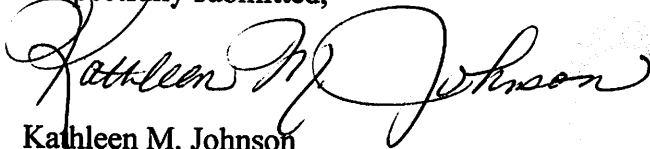
Andler questioned whether a bridge deck project on CTH V bridge in the Town of Lodi was still scheduled? Hardy stated it is scheduled to be replaced in the summer of 2019 and that the funds are still sitting in the Highway Department funds/WisDOT STP program.

Miller stated that we should reflect back on and be thankful for all the work that has been done by the County Highway Department, Police Departments, Columbia County Sheriff's Deputies, the State for all the tools and grants, traffic safety education, public service advertising, and how all these things together are changing behaviors which are creating less fatal crashes.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:33 AM was made by Hardy and seconded by Foley. The motion was carried unanimously by the committee.

Next Meeting Date: Friday, May 11, 2018 at 9:30 AM at the Columbia County Law Enforcement Center, 711 E. Cook Street, Portage, WI.

Respectfully submitted,



Kathleen M. Johnson
Columbia County Emergency Management