



MOVING FORWARD WITH SAFETY

MEMBERS

Robert Andler
Jerry Blystone
Sheriff Roger Brandner
Michael Brouette
Joe Davis
James Foley
Chris Hardy
Lt. Richard Hoega
Sgt. Todd Horn
Kenneth Hutler
Kathy Johnson
Penny Kiefer
Scott Klicko
Avis Link
Ryan Mayer
Chuck Miller
Barry Pufahl
Margaret Rudolph
Joseph Ruf
Sgt. Mike Vasquez
JoAnn Wingers

MISSION

Columbia County strives to make our roads the safest they can be.....

COLUMBIA COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES Columbia County Law Enforcement Center Law Enforcement Training Room February 14, 2020 @ 9:30 AM

Commission Members Present: James Foley, Kathy Johnson, Robert Andler, Ken Hutler, Margaret Rudolph, Michael Brouette, Chuck Miller, Chris Hardy, Richard Hoega, Todd Horn, Ryan Meyer

Commission Members Absent with Notice: Roger Brandner, Joseph Ruf

Commission Members Absent: Jerry Blystone, Joe Davis, Scott Klicko, Avis Link, Barry Pufahl, Mike Vasquez, JoAnn Wingers, Penny Kiefer

Guests: Susan Fisher (Corp Counsel), Marie Darling Ellis (Columbia County EM), Mark Staven (CTH JV), Daryl Hall (CTH J & CTH V), Susan Nast (WisDOT)

The meeting of the Columbia County Traffic Safety Commission was called to order at 9:32 a.m. by Lt. Todd Horn. Introductions were made by all present. An attendance sheet was distributed.

Motion by Foley to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Hutler. Motion carried.

Motion by Hutler to approve the November 8, 2019 meetings as written. Seconded by Foley. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Review area of motorist visibility and pedestrian safety on CTH G near West Bush Road. Chris Hardy showed a diagram of locations of the proposed no parking signs. Discussion followed. ***Motion by Horn to add one additional sign to the area so that they are equal on both sides of the roadway, then forward to the Highway Commission for approval. Seconded by Miller. Motion approved.***

2. Review area of Hwy 51 to CTH B on CTH JV for a possible speed reduction to 45 mph. Chris Hardy advised speed study has not been done due to weather conditions. Discussion followed in regards to it being advantageous to do the speed study during the summer months when traffic is at peak volume. Discussion followed in regards to extending the 45mph speed zone past the two driveways to the east of the zone. ***Motion by Horn to conduct the speed study prior to the August Meeting and have the results ready for discussion at the August meeting. Seconded by Miller. Motion carried.***
3. Review the area of CTH V/J/Richards Road for a traffic study and safety concerns at the intersection. Chris Hardy talked with an engineer regarding signing southbound stop on CTH V and stop on Richards Road. Both have rumble strips. Visibility is an issue as vehicles come down the hill on Richards Road. County Highway J is in the grant process for upgrades on CTH J from between CTH CS and Hwy 113. Discussion followed in regard to center line and edge line rumble strips near curve and additional turn lane signage for right turn only. ***Motion by Horn for Chris Hardy to speak with the engineer to find out what the original intention by the designer was and discuss ideas to increase the safety of the intersection and report findings at May meeting. Second by Hoege. Motion carried.***
4. Construction of extended passing lanes on STH 33 eastbound at CTF F/CTH EE and beyond. Ryan Mayer discussed the issues at this location with passing on the right. Ryan sent the concerns to the safety engineer in La Crosse to look at the best way to eliminate the issues at this location. Discussion followed. ***Motion by Horn to table this issue until the May meeting so Ryan can gather the information from the engineer and bring it back to the committee. Seconded by Foley. Motion carried.***
5. Discuss Traffic Safety Plan for County Roads. Chris Hardy discussed the Traffic Safety Plan for County Roads. Each issue shows a list of counter-measures based on the best result for the dollars spent. The Safety Plan uses the data gathered from crashes and meshes it all together and looks at all the different options and lays out a roadmap throughout the county.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Review intersection of CTH CS and CTH V for any possible safety measures that can be added. After a crash that resulted in a fatality on January 10, 2020, the Town of Dekorra sent a resolution in support of measures to make the intersection of CTH CS and CTH V safer. Discussion followed including adding advanced warning of the stop sign ahead with an intersection ahead sign, cutting back foliage in area if it is in within the vision triangle, re-painting the white lines that are no longer visible at the stop signs as they have worn away, additional stop sign at the intersection on CTH V, lowering the speed limit, and addressing some of the signs near intersection that are possibly distracting drivers from seeing the stop sign. Additional discussion followed as to vehicles making u-turns onto CTH V/CTH CS intersections to park on Whalen's Grade as there is no parking on one side of the Grade. Chris Hardy recommended doing a traffic speed study of area during peak time to gather data. ***Motion by Horn to conduct a speed study and gather more data in regards to options for improving the intersection. Seconded by Miller. Motion carried.***
2. Request to review STH 33 between Portage and Baraboo for additional speed zone signage. Current signage was discussed. Ryan Mayer will have the DOT signage experts look at the area and advise. ***Motion by Horn to table until the May meeting so more information can be gathered. Seconded by Hoege. Motion carried.***

FATAL CRASH REPORT

Lt. Horn advised of one fatal crash on January 10, 2020 at 9:16 a.m. at CTH CS and CTH V between a line truck and passenger car. The line truck was westbound on CTH CS and did not stop for the stop sign as the passenger car was turning westbound on CTH V causing a t-bone accident at the intersection. The driver of the passenger car was killed.

TRANSPORTATION SAFETY REPORT

Trace Frost spoke about the transportation safety report. There have been 33 fatalities in the state of Wisconsin since January 1, 2020. The same time last year there were 54 fatalities. Preliminary number of fatalities in 2019 equal 552. In 2019 Columbia county had nine fatalities as a result of seven crashes. Trace discussed the TSC Resource Page in County Maps being open for the public to search. He also discussed the new TSC Resource Tab in Community Maps that includes legislative summary that is updated every Friday.

OTHER BUSINESS

Lt. Todd Horn advised that he went to the State Capital reference Assembly Bill 746 and was able to speak to/address the committee reference safety measures for first responders.

Lt. Rich Hoege discussed accident involving excessive speed where a vehicle missed the corner on CTH CX and went over the on and off ramp for I39 and rolled multiple times. He requested to have the area of the NB offramp from I39 to EB HWY 16 looked at reference roll-off crashes, speed and slope at the off ramp, and possibility of installing guard rail with chevrons added to next month's agenda.

A motion was made by Miller to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Hutler. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Next Meeting Date: May 8 2020 at 9:30 a.m. at the Columbia County Law Enforcement Center, 711 E. Cook Street, Portage, Wisconsin

Respectfully Submitted,



Marie Darling Ellis for Kathleen M. Johnson
Secretary, Columbia County Traffic Safety Commission.

