



COLUMBIA COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Columbia County Law Enforcement Center
John Roche Community Room
May 11, 2018 @ 9:30 AM

MOVING FORWARD WITH SAFETY

MEMBERS

Robert Andler
Jerry Blystone
Michael Brouette
Eugene Brown
James Foley
Joe Davis
Chris Hardy
Richard Hoegge
Sgt. Todd Horn
Kenneth Hutler
Kathy Johnson
Scott Klicko
Avis Link
Ryan Mayer
Chuck Miller
Dennis Richard
Joseph Ruf
Sgt. Mike Vasquez
JoAnn Wingers

MISSION

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

Members: Sgt. Todd Horn, Robert Andler, Chuck Miller, Chris Hardy, James Foley, Ken Hutler, Trace Frost, Jerry Blystone, Sgt. Dwaine Pixler, Susan Fisher, Michael Vasquez, Charles Poches, Michael Brouette, Ryan Mayer

Guests: Atty. Matt Fleming, Bob and Karen Kronberg, Jonathan Stefonek, Jordan Brown, Kyle Brown, Clayton Simonson, Craig Ratz, Penny Kiefer, Janice Bennett, Eric Fisher, Dan Dolson, Bill Sellner, Jon Erdmann, Randy Koehn, Josh Hecht, Rick Wendt, Paul Sauer, Tim Gaffney, Marty Platt, Joel Christopherson, Craig Ness

Meeting called to order: 9:35 AM by Todd Horn. Introductions were made by all present. An attendance sheet was distributed.

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

Motion by Blystone to approve the 02/09/18 meeting minutes. Seconded by Foley. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Newly placed CTH C and STH 60 rumble strip noise complaint (Bob and Karen Kronberg). Chris Hardy spoke of the newly placed rumble strips and 45mph speed limit set. More work needs to be done but work was delayed due to excessive rainfall.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Membership Update – Portage School District Representative Replacement (Poches/Rudolph). The new district administrator is effective as of 07/01/2018. ***Motion by Foley to approve Margaret Rudolph to replace Charles Poches. Seconded by Kiefer. Motion carried.***

2. CTH C and STH 60 rumble strip noise complaint (Bob and Karen Kronberg; Attorney Matthew Fleming). Attorney Fleming spoke on behalf of the Kronbergs. Even after the modest improvements were made to the rumble strips site, additional work may still be needed. Rumble strips vs. lighted signs were discussed. Due to expense, rumble strips are and have always been used by County Highway. The possibility of shifting from rumble strips to lighted signs would create a change in policy, or a commonly used practice, and will have a fiscal impact. Would changing

from rumble strips to lighted signs set county precedence for future occurrences with others in similar situations? Would deviating from the norm create liability issues? Would the cost create a disproportionate burden on the landowners for the additional costs associated with installing lighted signs in lieu of rumble strips? Discussion. The State advised that rumble strips are typically used first but are sensitive to the effects of the strips and the beacon would be a reasonable alternative. Andler suggested the use of shrubbery as another possible sound barrier. Attorney Fleming advised that the Kronbergs want lighted signs near their property and are willing to pay for and maintain them. ***Motion by Horn to forward this topic onto the Columbia County Highway Committee with the Traffic Safety Commission's recommendation to consider utilizing lighted signs on a case by case basis as an alternative to rumble strips. Seconded by Poches. Motion carried.***

3. Speed study on CTH V/Cactus Acres. Hardy provided handouts and viewed map overhead of this area. This has been an ongoing situation. Per Sgt. Horn, the speed board will be placed out there and enforcement will once again be stepped-up now that the speed study has been completed.
4. Traffic Safety Commission Letterhead. Sgt. Horn explained and passed around a sample letterhead that Kathy Johnson designed. ***Motion by Frost to approve the Traffic Safety Commission letterhead as presented. Seconded by Foley. Motion carried.***
5. Traffic Safety Budget. Sgt. Horn discussed the possibility of creating a budget and accepting donations to be used for upcoming traffic safety matters. Currently no monies exist, but would seek donated funds to help offset already established programs (ex. POPD Bike rodeo). Discussion. ***Motion by Miller to move forward with establishing a donations-type budget for use in future traffic safety programs. Seconded by Kiefer. Motion carried.***
6. Speed board update. Sgt. Horn updated the commission about the Stalker speed board data being collected. Recent placement locations discussed.

FATAL CRASH REPORT:

Sgt. Horn presented information regarding the three fatal accidents for the first quarter 2018.

TRANSPORTATION SAFETY REPORT AND HIGHWAY SAFETY INPUT:

National Click-It or Ticket campaign: 05/21/18-06/03/18.

It was reported that there have been 170 fatalities in Wisconsin in 2018 to-date. Totals for 2017 and 2016 were 594 and 588 respectively.

Governor's Conference is in Walworth County 08/22/18-08/23/18.

Effect 04/04/18 - New Legislative Bill Act 228. Discussion. This bill involves animal drawn vehicles must have one white forward facing light, two rear-facing red lights and one rear-facing yellow light. Effective 04/04/18. Trace Frost emailed this update to the commission prior to the conclusion of the meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS:

General topic of discussion: Exit ramp 85 from I39. Drivers mistake the Cascade Mountain Road exit for an I90/94 on ramp. The possibility of better signage or placement thereof may improve the confusion was mentioned. Or could that particular exit be eliminated altogether and have drivers gain access from STH 33? Discussion. The State advised that the area is signed as it should be.

Community Maps Update: Frost advised that the search page on the first screen is accessible to all

citizens/public, but with limited info. Advanced levels requires a sign-in and then they can view full crash reports and will also include a teen driver flag. Old reports from the year 2000 forward are now in the system.

All crash reports from Wisconsin including car vs. deer crashes will be in this program. Any suggestions for improvements should be sent to Trace Frost.

Chris Hardy advised that he has been working with Federal Highway to develop a plan. Different levels of need and focus based on location. This topic will be re-addressed at the August and November meetings.

WELCOME GUESTS - COLUMBIA CO POLICE, FIRE, EMS, AND TOWING COMPANIES

Sgt. Horn began by thanking all entities for being present today. The idea behind including law enforcement, Fire, EMS and towing companies was to come together to communicate, collaborate, and develop even better ways to work together. Sgt. Horn advised that the August meeting will have a similar format but will include school personnel and bussing companies.

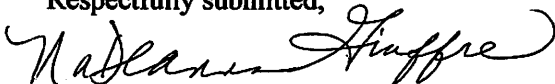
The roundtable discussion was opened up for any problems, questions, or concerns for any of those present. The general topics of discussion included the following:

- communication is key during scene set-ups;
- scene safety;
- tow companies feel very much supported by law enforcement and Fire;
- tow company wishes for quicker communication from dispatch;
- cell phone photos at scene;
- mutual aiding of police departments could be used more frequently—specifically on PM shift;
- the use of an emergency trailer on scene;
- the quicker the tow companies can arrive on scene, the better;
- younger/less experienced deputies/officers should be better instructed on squad placement at crash scenes;
- crosswalk safety and concerns;
- establishing scene incident command and shifting that command as relevant personnel arrives;
- EMS sometimes having difficulties locating a scene—are dispatchers giving enough info?
- scene management and scene staging—movement of pertinent vehicles on and off scene;
- DSH EMS gave kudos to Craig Ratz regarding a recent incident with scene staging;
- recent issue involving a one-vehicle rollover on interstate which included MedFlight, EMS, extraction/Jaws of Life where Fire managed the scene;
- kudos to Traffic Safety Commission for this topic, inviting all the entities, and bringing this group together;
- number of members on the commission. Ordinance indicates nine members are required, but can more be appointed?

Motion by Kiefer to adjourn the meeting at 11:35 a.m. Seconded by Hutler. Motion carried.

Next Meeting Date: Friday, August 10, 2018 at 9:30 AM at the Columbia County Law Enforcement Center, 711 East Cook Street, Portage, Wisconsin.

Respectfully submitted,



NaDeanna Giuffre
Columbia County Sheriff's Office
Executive Secretary