



MOVING FORWARD WITH SAFETY

MEMBERS

Robert Andler
Jerry Blystone
Michael Brouette
Roger Brandner
Joe Davis
James Foley
Chris Hardy
Richard Hoege
Sgt. Todd Horn
Kenneth Hutler
Kathy Johnson
Scott Klicko
Avis Link
Ryan Mayer
Chuck Miller
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
John Roche Community Room
August 9, 2019 @ 9:30 AM

Commission Members Present: Sgt. Todd Horn, Chris Hardy, Ken Hutler, Joe Davis, Sr., Ryan Mayer, Robert Andler, JoAnn Wingers, James Foley, Barry Pufahl, Rich Hoege, Chuck Miller, Penny Kiefer

Commission Members Absent with Notice: Roger Brandner, Kathy Johnson, Joe Ruf

Commission Members Absent: Avis Link, Sgt. Mike Vasquez, Margaret Rudolph, Jerry Blystone, Michael Brouette

Guests: Trace Frost (BOTS), Daniel Kontos (BOTS), Brad Allen (Portage Daily Register, Tom Borgkvist (District 3), Jeremiah Johnson (State Patrol), Jacob Devries (State Patrol), Logan Stevens (WIS DOT), Susan Fisher (Corp. Counsel), Marie Darling Ellis (Emergency Management), Craig Cawley (Town of Pacific)

The meeting of the Columbia County Traffic Safety Commission was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Sgt. Todd Horn. Introductions were made by all present. An attendance sheet was distributed.

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

Motion by Foley to approve the May 10, 2019 meeting minutes as written. Seconded by Andler. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Review area of Cascade Mountain Road at Fox Glen on the Baraboo River for a possible guardrail or security cable

The guardrail/barrier device has been installed with reflectors. Lt. Horn showed squad video footage of the project. Discussion followed with members stating they were very impressed with the construction and the length of the barrier. Chuck Miller advised that Rob Walz, owner of Cascade Mountain, thanked the commission for completing this project.

2. Review STH 33 and Albert Street Intersection Traffic Study Results

Chris Hardy advised that the average speeds were in the 85th percentile, with speeds of 51.5 mph for eastbound traffic and 56 mph for westbound traffic. Mayer

reported sight distance at 15 seconds from the intersection on Albert St. Discussion followed in regard to additional issues at the intersection, especially for drivers that are not from the area and are unfamiliar with the intersection. Due to the narrow bridge with tight guardrails it is difficult to do traffic enforcement in the area. Placing a speed board in the driveway across from Albert street was discussed. The need for additional signage identifying the intersection was discussed. ***Motion by Miller to request signage stating intersection ahead both directions and 35mph cautionary yellow warning signs in both directions. Seconded by Kiefer. Motion carried.***

The area of Hwy 33 near CTH F and CTH EE was discussed. The eastbound passing lane abruptly ends just prior to the Fort BP. The additional lane/shoulder is already in place and the safety issue could possibly be improved by having the pavement marked/painted to extend the passing lane out further or creating a center turn lane. ***Motion by Horn to look in to extending the passing lane out further or creating a center turn lane. Seconded by Hardy. Motion Carried.*** Mayer will follow up with DOT reference the pavement marking option.

3. STH 22 Construction for 2019 to continue to place 6-foot paved shoulders for buggy traffic from CTH CM to STH 33

Mayer discussed the construction project to start in 2020. The project will actually extend the three foot paved shoulder to a five foot paved shoulder with one foot gravel shoulder. Per DOT, the gravel shoulder is needed to keep the pavement from falling away and for safety of drivers. The current shoulder is three feet of pavement and three feet of gravel. Discussion followed. The committee voiced concern for safety as buggy traffic needs 6 foot of pavement to safely travel and with the five feet they would still need to other travel in the lane of traffic or in the gravel portion. The road is heavily traveled including a large amount of semi traffic. Another area of concern is the hill between Turner Road and CTH CM and students traveling to and from school. Mayer will voice the commissions concerns to DOT.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Request to review Manthe Road for a speed reduction

Manthe Road consists of approximately 1 mile of roadway between Hwy 51 and Harvey Road. The westbound lane belongs to the town of Leeds and the eastbound lane belongs to Windsor. There is currently a 55 mile per hour speed limit on Manthe Road. There are no speed limit signs posted. Discussion to lower the speed limit from 55 to 45 due to school bus stopping and the hill. Per DOT the jurisdiction can change the speed limit from 55mph to 45mph without DOT approval. In 2016 Leeds and Windsor both placed school bus signs on Manthe Road on the hill and the far east end. Discussion in regards to doing a speed study once school is back in session, possibly in October. ***Motion by Horn to move forward with the speed study and sign/not sign based on the results of the study. Seconded by Wingers. Motion carried.***

2. Review area of North Main Street (STH 22) and Morton Street for possibly one or two crosswalks

Pardeeville DPW already has plans to install crosswalks along with flashing crosswalk signs near Carol's Cones and near the intersection of Main Street and Morton Street. No action needed by the commission at this time.

3. School Traffic Safety Video Contest and prize monies

Discussion in regards to putting information out to local high schools about making videos in regard to traffic safety topics. The TSC could do the judging and offer prize money. Johnson spoke with the Columbia County Comptroller in regard to using donated funds for prize money. We could also reach out to businesses in Columbia County for additional prizes. Discussion followed and consensus was that this would be a great opportunity to bring attention to important issues such as seat belt use, distracted driving, and speed. *Motion by Horn to move forward with the Traffic Safety Video Contest for high school students and offer prize money for winning video. Seconded by Kiefer. Motion carried.*

4. Review area for motorist visibility and pedestrian safety on CTH G near West Bush Road in Pacific Township

Discussion in regard to cars parking along the shoulder causing visibility issues for drivers coming up to the stop sign. Also concerns were brought up about campers parked on county/township property within right of way (33 feet from center of roadway) within the vision triangle. Per Hardy surveying is already being done of the northwest corner with the trailer in question. Also plans to cut back and clear brush within vision triangle as well. Discussion of no parking signs on the north side of CTH G. Concerns of causing a hazard at another location if this is done and also discussed the issue of enforcement of the no parking area. Ideas shared in regards to inviting the owner of the campground to a meeting to see if we can work out better parking options for visitors of the campground. *Since the township and the county are already working on the sight line issues a motion was made by Horn and seconded by Pufahl to table the consideration of no parking signs until next meeting. Motion carried.*

FATAL CRASH REPORT

- Sgt. Horn reviewed the fatal crashes for Columbia County.
May 14, 2019: Hwy 151 south of Hwy 73 in Columbus. State Patrol handled crash. 1 Fatal - driver fell asleep.
Second Crash June 9, 2019 County Highway J south of Richards Road in Lodi Township. 2 Fatal – driver crossed center line and struck another vehicle head on.
- Trace Frost advised there have been 302 fatalities in the state, which is down from 350 that we had last year at this time. There were 576 fatalities in 2018 and 594 in 2017.

TRANSPORTATION SAFETY REPORT AND TRAFFIC SAFETY INPUT

- Davis discussed the Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over campaign running from August 16th to September 22nd. Portage PD and Columbia County Sheriff's Office will be participating.
- The 45th Governors Conference on Highway Safety is being held at The Wilderness in Wisconsin Dells on August 21-22, 2019.
- New TSC Brochure and legislative update to be emailed.
- Frost introduced Dan Kontos, new Law Enforcement Liaison WI DOT – Bureau of Transportation Safety

- Frost spoke about having an analyst attend meetings if there is a need to break down data further or for any data breakdowns law enforcement would like to see. Also, once crashes are submitted the data gets put into community maps the next day.

OTHER BUSINESS

Accident STH 89 between Columbus Road and Sydo Road

A vehicle crashed into the residence at N279 STH 89 near curve. It appears vehicle was traveling at a high rate of speed and hit berm which caused the vehicle to launch approximately 95 feet and crash into the side of the home. There is currently a 35mph curve advisory sign posted and the curve is posted with reflective chevrons. Discussion in regard to the need for additional signage to make it more obvious that there is a sharp curve ahead. *A motion was made by Horn to add this to the agenda for next meeting and address the need for additional signage at this location, seconded by Miller, motion carried.*

- Hardy reported Haynes Road Bridge to open on Wednesday afternoon
- Two other bridges, CTH E and CTH J saw repair after flooding
- Culvert replacement on CTH G 1000 ft. East of Hwy 146
- Approximately 24 town culverts have been replaced after flooding events this year

A motion was made by Foley to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Andler. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Next Meeting Date: Friday, November 8, 2019 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