

**COLUMBIA COUNTY
TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**
Columbia County Law Enforcement Center
Basement Training Room
November 10, 2017 @ 9:30 a.m.

Members: Sgt. Todd Horn, James Foley, Trace Frost, Robert Andler, Chuck Miller, Mike Brouette, Chris Hardy, Joe Davis, Sr., Kathy Johnson, Jerry Blystone, Joe DeBoer, Ryan Mayer, Charles Poches, Richard Hoege

Guests: None

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

Motion to approve the agenda as posted and to add 5. School bus passing Hampden Township and 6. Town of Lodi Cactus Acres concern was made by Hardy and seconded by Blystone. Motion was carried unanimously by the committee.

Motion to approve the August 11, 2017 meeting minutes was made by Hardy. Motion was seconded by Blystone. Motion was carried unanimously by the committee.

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1. Speed zone sign placement on Blackhawk Road, Caledonia Township. Sgt. Horn presented a video showing the area of concern. The 35 mph sign was moved farther away from Blackhawk & Hilltop Roads, then moved back. The 25 mph sign on Hilltop Road is obstructed by pine trees. County Highway to address the issue when brushing this winter for the township. Another 25 mph sign was posted up the hill farther on Hilltop Road. A motion was made by Foley to close the issue and seconded by Miller. The motion was carried unanimously by the committee.***
- 2. Research possible ordinance/permit process for special events using highways, ex. bike rides, etc.. Jerry Blystone stated that he is working on an event/road usage plan that would be good for businesses as well as a useful with guidelines and signoffs. We need to have specific protocol on who pays for signage, cleanup, law enforcement or highway department presence, etc. There was discussion on having possible Tier I, Tier II, and Tier III levels depending on size of event. Would like to have a one stop shop on the web where someone can have access to everything they would need to apply for a permit. Miller stated he has no expertise in this kind of coverage and we should contact an insurance agent that carries special event insurance. Several examples have been collected by Blystone where he can put a plan together. A motion was made by Hoege and seconded by Miller for Blystone to continue to research a plan to begin to develop and keep moving forward with this project. The motion was carried unanimously by the committee.***

NEW 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. *Sgt. Horn presented a video of the area of concern. A discussion continued. The area is missing an end of speed zone sign. Andler explained that the DG/D intersection is very difficult. Hardy explained the sub-division with several new homes on D with another 30 lot sub-division in the area. Hardy presented a traffic study of the area. (See Attachment). Hardy suggested erecting an end of speed zone sign and move the 35 mph sign to DG/D. A motion was made by Hoege to have the Highway Department clean up the signage and was seconded by Miller. The motion was carried unanimously by the committee.*
2. Review speed limit and signage on USH 51 beginning at Ontario Street to Southtown Road intersection. *Sgt. Horn presented a video of area of concern. It was noted that the 45 mph signs were moved closer to the city. Hardy stated that this was completed by the highway department, per State of Wisconsin. Mayer stated that the signage should be 100 feet south of Southtown Road. This was an error and the State will look at moving the signs back to their prior location.*
3. Review "S" curves south of Poynette on CTH Q for possible placement of warning signs. *Sgt. Horn presented a video of the area of concern. Discussion. Sgt. Horn presented information that there have been 12 crashes in the last five years in that area. Miller suggested a rectangle curve sign on Q. There is a 25 mph "S" curve sign on each side of the curve but nothing right on the curve itself. Hardy to review area. Issue to be tabled until next meeting.*
4. Request rumble strip installation on CTH E at STH 73 and Blanecae Road. *Sgt. Horn presented a video of the area of concern. There was a discussion of the two serious crashes recently with one being a fatal. Rumble strips were suggested. Mayer gave statistics of crashes in the area to include: 2012 – 1, 2015 – 1, 2016/17 – 3. A motion was made by Miller to have the Highway Department install rumble strips on CTH E and seconded by Foley. The motion was carried unanimously by the committee.*
5. School bus passing in Hampden Township. *Sgt. Horn reported that a deputy was assigned to follow the school bus and no violations occurred. Andler explained the bus passing problem. Miller stated that Riteway drivers are encourage to report violations. Driver needs to get and report the violator license plate if possible. If more violation complaints are called in Sgt. Horn will bring the issue back to the committee at that time.*

Miller discussed another area of concern, East Albert Street & Hwy 33 in Portage. A recent accident occurred where a dump truck swerved to miss a passenger car and hit the guard rail. A map of the area was displayed for the committee. Discussion only.
6. Town of Lodi Cactus Acres. *Sgt. Horn displayed a map with the area of concern. He stated that a speed board was placed and a deputy had been assigned for extra patrol in the area. There was nothing out of the ordinary observed. The speed boards slow traffic but do not record speed. Hardy suggested a speed study, but would not be until next year, 2018. Hardy explained that improvement funds are not always available for pedestrian walks, etc. Other funding avenues are not out there like they were in the past.*

OTHER BUSINESS:

DOT - Mayer gave an update on the Hwy 51 & 22 project. Officials and public meetings will begin in December 2017 at the Leeds Town Hall. They will be discussing detour routes and the project itself which includes a round-about. The project is supposed to be completed 2022.

FATAL CRASH REPORT:

Sgt. Horn presented a video and photos (from a drone) of the fatal crash on Cty E eastbound to Hwy 73 on August 11, 2017 around 2 PM. The semi was loaded with approximately 25 – 40K pounds of potatoes coming from Alsum Produce. The semi failed to stop at the stop sign and hit a family in a Nissan van pulling a trailer. The driver was killed but all the children survived. The Columbia County Sheriff's Office completed the crash report and the State completes the reconstruction of the crash.

TRANSPORTATION SAFETY REPORT AND HIGHWAY SAFETY INPUT:

BOTS reported that the Governor's Conference on Highway Safety is August 22-24, 2017. (See Attachment)

Davis explained the National Teen Driver Safety Week program and that the Children's Hospital in Madison would like to pair up with local Traffic Safety Commissions to do outreach to kids and schools. Hardy explained that the highway department is working with the driver's education programs on work zone driving

BOTS - Wisconsin 2017 Fatalities = 523 fatalities (2016 = 521 total)

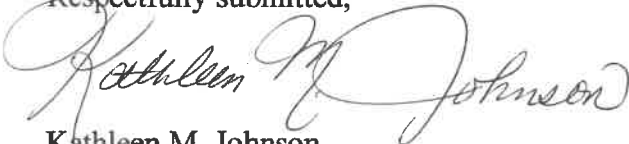
BOTS- Frost presented the community maps for the committee to review and explained how the Tracs info will auto download to the community maps beginning January 2018. It is in the testing stage at this time. After this goes live in 2018, no local agencies will be able to enter information into the community maps. They do not want duplication. Information will be able to be viewed going back several years.

Columbia County Traffic Safety Commission Stationary (See Attachment). A suggestion for the mission was Good, Safe Roads. A motion was made by Hoege and seconded by Foley to have all members look over the proposed stationary and the mission statement will be discussed at the next meeting. The motion was carried unanimously by the committee.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:24 AM was made by Hoege and seconded by Blystone. The motion was carried unanimously by the committee.

Next Meeting Date: Friday, February 9, 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