

ROCK COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION

**January 13, 2010, @ 9:00 a.m.
at the Rock County Sheriff's Office Conference Room**

The quarterly meeting of the Rock County Traffic Safety Commission was held on January 13, 2010, at the Sheriff's Office at 9 a.m. Present were: Capt. Jude Maurer-RCSO, Chief Deputy Barbara Tillman-RCSO, Jeff Kuglitsch-Rock Co. Corporation Counsel, Andrea Loeffelholz-DOT/BOTS, Hank Brill-Co. Board, Dennis Ryan-City of Janesville, Dan Pruess-WIDOT, Mike Flesch-City of Beloit, Shirley Connors-Rock Co. Emergency Management, and Grace Becker.

Capt. Maurer called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

Shirley Connors made a motion to approve the minutes of October 14, 2009. Mike Flesch seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Fatal accidents reviewed

- 10/21/09 East Highway 14 75 feet west of South Kemp Road. There was no clear indicators of the reason for the crash.
- 10/25/09 West Highway 11 at South Highway 213. The driver of the semi truck ran a stop sign and crashed into the Mountaineer. It was noted that the rumble strips on the eastbound lane were worn down and will be replaced. Dan Pruess stated that overhead stop signs are scheduled to be put at this intersection some time in 2010.
- 11/17/09 East Highway 67 at South Clinton Corners Road. An elderly driver failed to yield the right-of-way.
- 11/24/09 Old East Highway 59 at Old East Highway 59. This area had just recently had new construction completed and had only been open for approximately one week. At the time of the accident, it was still dark and it was raining. Since the accident, more signage has been added to help identify the curve in the road.
- 11/24/09 I-39 northbound .10 miles south of Newville Road. At the time of the accident it was still dark out and it was raining. No other clear indicators were noted.
- 12/06/09 Center Avenue/Highway 51 399 feet south of Kellogg Avenue. Driver of vehicle in parking lot pulled out in front of traffic. Failure to yield right-of-way and inattentive driving are possible contributing factors.

Old Business

Dan Pruess stated that there would be an audit done on CTH B to South Footville Road to analyze speeding and possible solutions. This audit had been requested by Mr. Klusmeyer from the Village of Footville. There has been no official date set at the time of this meeting.

The toxicology report for the Sands accident on 08/22/09 was reviewed. Alcohol was a contributing factor in this crash.

Mr. Brill mentioned that he felt the timing for the lights on CTH J should be extended and that the time for the green light was very short. It was noted that when the new hospital is

completed that the timing on the lights in that area will be changed to accommodate the expected increase in traffic.

Mr. Brill also mentioned that he felt the island area across from the Department of Motor Vehicles on Highway 11 is in an awkward place and impedes drivers trying to turn into local parking lots. Dennis Ryan from the City of Janesville will bring a diagram of this area to the next meeting for review.

New Business

Ms. Connors wondered if there was any way to make it safer for snowmobiles to cross over bridges without being on the roadway and impeding traffic. By statute snowmobiles can operate on bridges in order to navigate trails disrupted by terrain features. No solutions could be offered by committee members.

It was noted that the westbound lane of the new Highway 59 did not have clear signage and signs did not correlate near the roundabouts. Mr. Pruess will check the area and report back at the next meeting.

There had been rumors heard that Prairie Avenue near East Townline Road would have the speed limit changed to 45 miles per hour. No one present had heard anything regarding this issue.

Mr. Brill asked if there would be a way to indicate you had a living will on your driver's license. After some discussion, it was suggested that he contact his legislator regarding this issue.

DOT Information Packet and Highway Safety Input

Andrea Loeffelholz distributed the DOT information packet for the quarter and reviewed it with the committee. She mentioned the new OWI laws that will make installing interlock devices on some cars mandatory. It is unsure how reporting for this will be done or who will be responsible for tracking these devices. Sue Hackworthy, who is the chief of the Chemical Testing Lab, was the contact given to Captain Maurer as a person who may have information on how this will be reported. Andrea also stated that starting July 1, 2010, Wisconsin residents will be requested to have proof of insurance with them to show if needed. She also asked for any highway safety input from the members of the committee. No one had a specific suggestion at this meeting.

Andrea Loeffelholz moved to adjourn the meeting. Dennis Ryan seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The next meeting is set for April 14, 2010, at 9 a.m. at the Rock County Sheriff's Office.

The meeting adjourned at 10:37 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Grace Becker
LES Administrative Secretary