

WAUPACA COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION

April 16, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m. by Patrol Captain Todd Rasmussen. The meeting location was the Waupaca County Sheriff's Office, Waupaca, Wisconsin.

Members Present: Patrol Captain Todd Rasmussen, Sheriff Brad Hardel, State DOT Representative Tony Kemnitz, Emergency Management Director Andy Carlin, County Board Chairman Dick Koeppen, State Patrol Sgt. Carrie Johnson, Law Enforcement Committee Representative Bill Jonely, Population Representative Bob Fleese and Town of Mukwa Representative Lee Shaw.

Patrol Captain Rasmussen read the open meeting statement.

Motion by Tony Kemnitz, second by Andy Carlin to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion carried without a negative vote.

Motion by Andy Carlin, second by Bill Jonely to approve the agenda. Motion carried without a negative vote.

Public Input - None

Patrol Captain Rasmussen - See attached Traffic Report. The four fatalities thus far this year were explained. On April 17, Captain Rasmussen will have 6-7 extra squads on the road using distracted driving grant money. Sheriff Hardel said they were going to enforce the county ordinance on cell phone usage and driving, but has been told by the state this is not a valid ordinance. Sheriff Hardel has asked Corporation Counsel to look at the ordinance, but no reply as of this date due to the lack of Corporation Counsel.

Tony Kemnitz – Provided a power point presentation to go over ongoing DOT related traffic safety in the County, upcoming DOT construction projects and gave a summary of the DOT's traffic incident management program activity in the north central region and Waupaca County. Tony shared that over \$4 million of safety money will be coming into Waupaca County. The following information was provided to the Commission.

Update on Hwy 10/cross median crash mitigation project. Safety funding was approved at state level in March 2015. This project will install a barrier in the median of Hwy 10 from Erickson Road to Reek Rd. The barrier is anticipated to be a steel thrie beam (guardrail) from Erickson Road to the Hwy 22/54 & CTY A interchange. The barrier will be a four strand high tension cable from the Hwy 22/54 & CTY A interchange east to Reek Road. Construction is planned for 2018. It was asked where the cable would be installed. Tony indicated it is typically placed two feet off the edge of the graveled shoulder to prevent under running by a small car.

Hwy 10/Vaughan Road -through route activated warning system. Tony shared that the design is complete and the project this is scheduled for the summer of 2015. The lights are tripped by a radar sensor system and activate and set of flashing yellow beacons on a warning sign to alert motorist on HWY 10 that a car is turning onto the highway.

Hwy 45/15 in New London – this was the DOTs top crash intersection based on 2008 – 12 crash figures. The DOT is having its electrician's install new northbound and southbound left turn arrows. Cars wishing to turn left will only be able to turn on a green arrow. The work will be completed this summer.

A speed limit reduction has been requested on Hwy 49 between Main Street and Academy Drive by the Village of Scandinavia. DOT will be conducting a speed study this summer to evaluate if the 40 MPH speed limit can be lowered.

Hwy 45/CTY D – DOT is in the developing a project on Hwy 45 to upgrade the roadway from CTY W to CTY D. The project will place a new asphalt surface from Kanaman Road to CTY D and install new signs and pavement markings. As part of the project DOT was able to obtain safety funds to install grooved in wet reflective edge lines increase night time and low light visibility of the edge of the roadway. In addition to this center line rumble strips will be grooved into the centerline to alert motorists should the deviated from their lane.

Hwy 10/45 – Bridge deck sealing project. DOT has a project on Hwy 45 over WIS 54 which will install a high friction surface to address spin outs on the bridge. The project has a planned start date of May 15, 2015. There will be single lane closures and detours during the project.

Hwy 22 in Clintonville – DOT will be reconstructing the roadway and utilities on Hwy 22 from 11th Avenue to Hwy 156. This year's work will include the Pigeon River Bridge. The highway will be closed with a detour.

DOT highlight – traffic incident management contacts 2014 summary. Tony explained the purpose of the statewide traffic operation center. He thanked Waupaca County for its increased awareness and use of the STOC as a resource in handling roadway closures. In 2014, a total of 395 incidents occurred in the north central region which closed a State or US Highway. Eighty of these incidents were significant enough to require the DOT send out an on scene responder to assist with traffic re-routing and scene management. In 2014, the County had 49 traffic incidents which is a 75% increase over 2013. Tony then discussed three different incidents and how DOT responded to assist law enforcement in the management of the highway closure.

Sheriff Hardel- voiced his concern over the Hwy 10 and Vaughan Road intersection. He felt the DOT proposal was not enough to address the crash problems. Tony explained that DOT was able to provide the warning light system with safety money which was recently made available. This system is intended to provide a first step in addressing the safety concerns brought up by the County. The Sheriff felt turn lanes or a relocation of Hwy 10 was the better solution to the crash issue. Tony advised the Traffic Safety Committee that they have the authority as an

advisory board to draft and send a letter to DOT regarding intersection and their concerns. Tony also mentioned that any relocation of Vaughan Road would most probably encounter DNR issues due to the proximity of the creek.

Barry Tomaras - Nothing

Lee Shaw – Nothing

Dick Koeppen – New Corporation Counsel Diane Meulemans will start April 27. She was previously Corporation Counsel for Green Lake County. The time has come to start planning for a new highway shop office complex. The current shop was built in 1936.

Bob Flease – For Dean Steingraber – highway worker safety. Asked what more can be done. Sheriff Hardel said he has offered that an officer could park a squad with their lights on. Andy Carlin also suggested advising the Sheriff's Office of locations and it could be posted for extra patrol. The Highway Department could e-mail the Sheriff's Office with the next week's schedule.

Sgt. Johnson – Asked who programs detour signs. Tony said he will instruct highway department staff and that it is easy to do.

Andy Carlin – Asked Tony if Hwy 96/45 was being reconstructed? A public meeting has been held, per Tony.

Bill Jonely - Nothing

The next quarterly meeting will be held on Thursday, July 16, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. at the Waupaca County Sheriff's Office.

Motion by Bob Flease to adjourn, second by Dick Koeppen at 11:20 a.m. Motion carried.

Vickie Thoe, Secretary