

ROCK COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

October 16, 2013 – 9:00AM

Rock County Sheriff's Office – Large Conference Room

The quarterly meeting of the Rock County Traffic Safety Commission was held on October 16, 2013, at the Sheriff's Office at 9:00AM. Present were: Hank Brill, Dennis Ryan, Ryan Mayer, Barbara Abraham, Matthew Aslesen, Tom Dunkin, Ben Coopman, Madelyn Glaeden, Tom Boguszewski, Jude Maurer, Pat Swartout, Jess Billmeyer

Capt. Maurer called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. and asked for introductions around the table.

Ben Coopman motioned to approve the updated minutes of July 17, 2013. The motion was seconded by Madelyn Glaeden. Motion passed unanimously.

Fatal accidents reviewed

- July 11, 2013 – 7 vehicles/1 deceased. Video reviewed. Prior traffic accident caused traffic backup. Tractor trailer driver inattentive to stopped traffic. Ben advised message boards were present for 1st accident, but unsure of what the board messages included.
- July 14, 2013 – 2 vehicles/1 injured/1 deceased. Video reviewed. Driver of pickup fell asleep, crossing centerline. Capt. Maurer advised that neither drugs or alcohol must have been present as the driver would have been cited for homicide. When asked if installing centerline rumble strips may be considered, Ryan advised that rumble strips are only being installed on new roadway projects.
- July 17, 2013 – 1 vehicle/1 deceased. Video reviewed. Driver lost control on loose gravel, sliding into ditch causing a rollover. The deceased, a backseat passenger, was not wearing safety harness. After discussing the roadway conditions at the time of the accident with the deputy on scene at the fatality, Capt. Maurer advised the group the road was not technically closed during construction.

Diverging Diamond Interchange (DDI) Presentation

Ben introduced Jess Billmeyer, WIDOT. Jess presented a PowerPoint presentation of the dynamics of a diverging diamond interchange, proposed for the 39/90 project. Jess advised the group a public meeting is scheduled at the Town of Turtle on October 17. Barb asked if Jess would also be available to present the proposed interchange to a retiree group she is involved in. The DDI presentation can be found on the WIDOT website at <http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov>.

Old Business

Dennis Ryan provided the group a schematic of the reconfiguration of Racine Street/I90/STH 11 interchange that includes 2 new roundabouts.

New Business

Hank Brill advised he had a constituent complain about the new bike paths being installed on all new roadways, stating the paths provide no revenue to offset costs. Dennis explained that the addition of bike paths is a State requirement on new roadway projects.

Matt Asleson distributed informational documents which included year to date fatality data by County as well as proposed legislative bills of interest. Ben referred to Bill AB-389, which will raise interstate highway speed limits to 70mph. Ben suggested the Traffic Safety Committee oppose this bill. Ben motioned to have the Rock County Traffic Committee notify local representatives of their opposition to Bill AB-389. Barb Abraham seconded the motion. Motion failed – 1 Yes, 9 No.

Public Input

None

The next scheduled meeting of the Traffic Safety Committee will be held on Wednesday, January 22, 2014 at 9:00AM at the Rock County Sheriff's Office (large conference room).

Ben Coopman motioned to adjourn the meeting. Dennis Ryan seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia Swartout
LES Secretary