

## ROCK COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION

### Meeting Minutes - UPDATED

April 23, 2014 @ 9:00 a.m.

Rock County Sheriff's Office – Large Conference Room

The quarterly meeting of the Rock County Traffic Safety Commission was held on April 23, 2014, at the Sheriff's Office at 9:00AM.

In attendance: Hank Brill, Mike Flesch, Jeff Kuglitsch, Barbara Abraham, Adam Pritchard, Dennis Ryan, Madelyn Glaeden, Tom Dunkin, Ryan Mayer, Tom Boguszewski, Ben Coopman, Dan Davis, Corey Foster, Jude Maurer, and Patricia Swartout

Absent: Robert Spoden, Gary Groelle

Capt. Maurer called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Capt. Maurer updated the group on the recent hit and run fatality accident on April 20 involving 2 motorcycles. The Sheriff's Office is continuing the search for an Infinity SUV, black in color.

The Capt. asked for introductions around the table.

Tom Dunkin motioned to approve the minutes of January 22, 2014 with the following corrections:

- Add Ryan Mayer to those present at the meeting
- Spelling of Cathy Izeda (Gazette)
- Ryan Mayer 6 year study of collisions: Intersection USH 14 and 14 should be included

The motion was seconded by Mike Flesch. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Fatal accidents reviewed**

- 1/21/14 – 2 Vehicles/1 Deceased. Slippery road conditions and failure to have control are contributing factors. Alcohol unknown. Video was reviewed. Dennis Ryan noted the accident forms (State Patrol) were lacking a diagram. Ben also noted that many times the media will only report a poor road condition as a contributing factor in the accident, making it appear his department is lacking.
- 1/30/14 – 2 Vehicle/2 Injured/1 Deceased. Safety equipment used. Slippery road conditions contributing factor. Alcohol unknown. Video was reviewed.

- 2/21/14 – 2 Vehicles/1 Injured/1 Deceased. No safety equipment used. Left of center contributing factor. Without a coroner report, Capt. Maurer contacted the coroner regarding a possible health issue with the 86 year old deceased prior to the accident, findings were inconclusive.
- 3/5/14 – 2 Vehicles/2 Injured/1 Deceased. No safety equipment used. Speed (80mph) and conditions contributing factors. Ben Coopman questioned how often black boxes from vehicles are pulled from vehicle crashes. He is interested in information on cruise control being used on bad road conditions.
- 3/9/14 – 1 Vehicle/2 Deceased. No safety equipment used. Speed contributing factor.
- 3/16/14 – 2 Vehicles/1 Injured/1 Deceased. No safety equipment used. Excessive speed and failure to yield contributing factors. Prior to crash, a Beloit Police Officer attempted to stop this vehicle for a speeding violation. The vehicle fled and later crashed. Tom Dunkin reported the officer did not pursue this vehicle prior to the crash.
- 3/17/14 – 1 Vehicle/4 Injured/1 Deceased. No safety equipment used. Speed too fast for conditions and failure to have control contributing factors.
- 3/29/14 – 1 Vehicle/1 Deceased. No safety equipment used. Wet roadway conditions and failure to have control are contributing factors. Ben Coopman advised WisDOT is looking into replacing shoulders with safety edges which would provide a gradual edge.

### **Old Business**

None

### **New Business**

Hank Brill noted the many vehicles stopping/parking on Hwy 14 and Humes, the site of the April 20<sup>th</sup> motorcycle fatality crash. Hank inquired as to whether temporary no parking signs could be posted. Capt. Maurer will research that possibility. Capt. Maurer advised that two memorials are scheduled at the site on Saturday, April 26 and Sunday April 27.

Hank Brill received a request from a County Board Supervisor with regard to the Traffic Safety Commission Meeting Minutes. The request is to include the names of those members absent from scheduled meetings. Pat Swartout will include those absent in all future notes.

Hank advises the Board Supervisor also requested the Traffic Safety Committee Meetings be held every two months as opposed to the current quarterly meetings. Capt. Maurer will review the state statute with regard to this request.

Hank also received a note of concern regarding Hackbarth Road. The concern is that the roadway is both narrow and confusing. The group discussed the roadway and Ben noted it was the County Board's request for the reconfiguration.

Ben Coopman advised the group of the Town of Milton's concern at the intersection of Townline and Henke Roads. The intersection was reconfigured during the Hwy 26 bypass project. Capt. Maurer distributed a document from the Town of Milton's Police Chief, Tom Kunkel, which summarizes the issues. The group discussed the berm, adjacent to the intersection stop sign, which may be obstructing vision. Ryan Mayer advised that a formal request to WisDOT for a study was not necessary. Ryan will review and provide the Traffic Safety Committee a Crash Analysis at the next quarterly meeting.

Corey Foster distributed five year crash data to the committee, noting the number of fatalities has decreased over this same period. Corey also advised the group of the additional task forces being assembled with Jefferson County intended to target Hwy 26 from Ft. Atkinson to Janesville.

Adam Pritchard stated low cost safety improvements will be made to County Road X, funded from the recently awarded WisDOT High Risk Rural Road Grant.

Ryan Mayer reminded the group that WisDOT does have road improvement grants available and offered his assistance in completing grant applications. WisDOT has two submittal dates per year.

### **Public Input**

None

The next scheduled meeting of the Traffic Safety Committee will be held on Wednesday, July 16, 2014 at 9:00AM at the Rock County Sheriff's Office (large conference room).

Madelyn Glaeden motioned to adjourn the meeting. Barbara Abraham seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Patricia Swartout  
LES Secretary