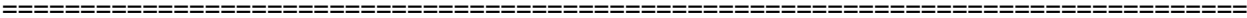


**RACINE COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION**

**February 11, 2016**

Public Works & Development Services Conference Room  
Ives Grove Office Complex  
14200 Washington Avenue,  
Sturtevant, WI 53177



**Members present:**

- Julie Anderson - Racine County Public Works & Development Services Director
- Capt. Thomas Lamke - Racine County Highway Safety Coordinator
- David Maack - Racine County Emergency Management
- Michael Payne - Racine County Medical Examiner
- Sgt. David Coughlin - Racine County Sheriff's Office
- Sgt. David Stroupe - Mount Pleasant Police Department
- John Barnes - Retired Caledonia Police Department
- Allison Blackwood - WisDOT, DTSD)
- Tom Knitter – TRIAD
- Corey Foster, Bureau of Transportation Safety Regional Program Manager
- Pat Starke - Racine Unified School District Transportation
- Gerard Dougillo - District Attorney's Office
- Chief Tom Ditscheit - Town of Waterford Police Department
- Lt. Gary Larsen – Caledonia Police Department

**Members excused:**

- Chief Sean Marchke – Sturtevant Police Department

**Members not present:**

- Sgt. David Coughlin - Racine County Sheriff's Office
- Sgt. John Schneider – Racine Police Department
- John Barnes – Retired Caledonia Police Department
- State Trooper Kyle Graf – Wisconsin State Patrol
- State Trooper Ben Mendez – Wisconsin State Patrol
- Chief Sean Marschke – Sturtevant Police Department
- Erin Donaldson – Safe Kids Coordinator

**Others present:**

- Jackie Bratz, Communications Department Director
- Randy Wiessinger, Bureau of Transportation Safety Consultant



**1. Call to Order**

2:00

David Maack called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Commission members introduced themselves and the meeting began.

**2. Minutes of the November 12, 2015, meeting**

2:01

**MICHAEL PAYNE MOVED, seconded by Gary Larsen,** to approve the November 12, 2015, minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**3. Fatalities since the last meeting**

2:02

(1) Captain Lamke, RCCO, reported three fatalities.

(a) 11/16/15, 1:02 p.m., S. English Settlement Dr. (Hwy J) / Durand Avenue (Hwy. 11) Town of Burlington

- Two-unit crash: pick-up truck (Unit 1), semi-tractor with trailer (Unit 2)
- Unit 1 was traveling southbound on Highway J and was witnessed to not stop at the stop sign at Highway 11 intersection. Unit 1 entered the intersection and struck eastbound Unit 2 on Highway 11. After impact, both units traveled short distance and went into ditch on the southeast corner. Unit 2 semi-tractor/trailer was loaded with gravel which spilled onto the roadway and into ditch. As the load shifted with the impact, Unit 2 rolled over partially onto Unit 1 in the ditch.
- Both operators sustained serious injury. Unit 1 operator taken by Flight for Life to Froedtert where he was later pronounced dead.
- Speed limit on both roads is 55 mph.
- Driver factors(Unit 1): failure to yield right-of-way and inattentive driving
- No indication of intoxication; no road conditions that may have been a factor

(b) 12/15/15, 4:59 a.m., S. Beaumont Avenue (STH 75), Town of Dover

- One-unit crash (driver and passenger)
- While traveling northbound on S. Beaumont Avenue (STH 75), approximately 366 feet north of Hillcrest Road, the vehicle crossed the center lane, went into a counter clockwise spin, hit the culvert at 1900/1902 S. Beaumont and went airborne, hit a tree and continued to spin counter clockwise, then hitting a WE Energies pole. Both the driver and passenger were ejected from the vehicle. Both driver and passenger died
- Driver factors: exceeding 55 mph speed limit
- Toxicology report pending; drugs and alcohol may be a possibility

(c) 11/20/15, 7:26 a.m., 55<sup>th</sup> Drive/Plank Road (CTH "A"), Town of Yorkville

- Two-unit crash: Unit 1-driver and passenger and Unit 2-driver only
- While traveling northbound on 55<sup>th</sup> Drive, Unit 1 entered the intersection and hit westbound Unit 2 on Plank Road (CTH "A). Operator of Unit 1 stated that she stopped at the stop sign and saw Unit 2, but thought it was a four-way stop and she proceeded into the intersection. She indicated that she was taking the passenger (neighbor) to a doctor's appointment in Milwaukee when the accident happened.
- All parties were taken by rescue to Wheaton Franciscan Hospital in the City of Racine, where Unit 2 passenger died.
- Driver of Unit 1 was cited for failure to yield

Community mapping showed a fatality that occurred on January 24, 2016, on Spring Street in the Village of Mount Pleasant; however, commission members were not aware of a fatality having occurred at this location. Corey Foster will

**4. Upcoming construction projects**

2:16

Julie Anderson reported the following 2016 projects:

(a) CTH "D" bridge work, Village of Rochester

- Bridge work has been ongoing since January; now forming and pouring the piers

- Detour will remain in effect until the bridge is opened in late July or August
- The Rochester Village President indicated that some residents have requested that a temporary pedestrian bridge be built to offset the inconvenience of the bridge repair.

(b) CTH "V", from CTH "G" to County Line, Village of Caledonia

- Project scheduled to begin in June or July of this year; will take 2-3 months to complete.
- Project will consist of replacing failed culverts, widening four intersections, pulverizing the road and re-laying with new asphalt with paved shoulders.
- A detour is planned for through traffic
- The General Manager of PPG has been made aware of the upcoming project, given the fact that the company is one of the biggest users of this road segment.

(c) CTH "FF", from CTH "W" to CTH "DD", Village of Rochester

- Project scheduled to begin in late summer/early fall project using State funds
- Project will consist of adding and replacing all signs and beam guards, adding epoxy pavement markings;
- There will be no centerline or edge line rumble strips added due to condition of pavement
- There will be no detours; only traffic control, using signs and flaggers

Chief Ditscheit asked if there are plans for Loomis Road, east of Highway 164. Anderson replied this is on the list of several highway projects, but it hasn't been scheduled and funding hasn't yet been established. She stated that the 2017 budget, in terms of major projects, is already starting to be prepared. Ditscheit added that Loomis Road heaving and cracking. Anderson noted that Public Highway highway crew will inspect the road.

Allison Blackwood reported the following State projects:

- (a) STH 11, from 92<sup>nd</sup> Street to west of Highway 31, Village of Mt. Pleasant - resurfacing
- (b) STH 11, CTH "C" to 71<sup>st</sup> Drive, Village of Union Grove - resurfacing
- (c) STH 38, from CTH "K" to the north county line – installation of rumble strips
- (d) STH 38, Golf Avenue to Memorial Drive, - addition of bike lanes, left turn lanes
- (e) STH 38 and CTH "C" and STH 38 and High Street - roundabouts

For clarification, Anderson added that the rumble strips on STH 38 will be centerline and shoulder.

**5. Discussion and recommendation(s) concerning 2016 Monthly Safety Program assignments**

2:25

Commission members agreed that the radio spots and program assignments are going well. Chair Maack asked for feedback from commission members when he e-mails them the safety posters to review.

**6. Around the Table**

2:27

**Julie Anderson** brought to the attention of the commission, safety and speeding concerns on Seven Mile Road/Loomis Road as expressed by Angela Eberhardt, a Town of Norway resident, in an e-mail communication dated February 3, 2016. Ms. Eberhardt stated that there have been numerous incidents in front of her house in the 23000 block of Seven Mile Road.

Anderson noted that the county engineering staff obtained crash data, including detailed descriptions and diagrams, from accidents reports filed by all agencies for this section of road. Law enforcement officers filed 16 accident reports between January 2004 through December 2014. The crash rate was calculated at 1.4 crashes per million. In response, to the resident's concerns, the Racine County Sheriff's Office installed speed boxes and increased enforcement at this location. Engineering staff also inspected this area and reviewed signs and pavement conditions in and near the subject curve. All the speed limit, curve, and advisory signs that were installed in 2010 are still in place and in good condition. Aside from some minor pavement cracking, the pavement is still in good condition. Nothing along this curve has changed since the project's completion in 2010 that would explain the reported increase in accidents during the past six months. The commission agreed to wait for the Sheriff's data to come in to verify the facts and to consider possible additional measures to address the issue. The matter may then be further discussed at the next meeting, if warranted. Corey Foster noted that if assistance is needed from a TSC standpoint, a similar situation occurred in Walworth County. He stated that Walworth County took several unique steps to address complaints from a resident that may be helpful in this situation.

Anderson commented that there seems to be movement throughout the state concerning ATV and UTV trail routes on county highways. This may become an issue in Racine County and ordinances may need to be reviewed.

**Allison Blackwood** stated that the regional safety engineer is seeking input and possible support from this commission concerning the possibility of a roundabout project for the intersection of STH 38 and Five Mile Road in the Village of Caledonia. This matter will be placed on the next Traffic Safety Commission meeting.

**Sgt. Stroupe** commented that he doesn't have any information concerning the accident on Spring Street in the Village of Mt. Pleasant that was seen on community mapping and mentioned when the fatality reports were discussed earlier tonight. He then stated that an uptick of the joint alcohol enforcement task force has been a countywide increase in the number of drug/drug possession arrests.

**Corey Foster** introduced Randy Wiessinger, who has a rich history in law enforcement and is working with the Bureau of Transportation Safety as a consultant with the State and with assisting traffic safety commission. Foster noted that Wiessinger has a rich history with law enforcement.

**Randy Wiessinger** addressed the commission. He stated that he recently retired from Dane County Sheriff's Office and is now contracted with BOTS to visit traffic safety commissions throughout the state. He was a member of the Dane County Traffic Safety Commission for many years. It's the goal of the state to build up the traffic safety commissions and to try to establish models for the commissions statewide. He believes Racine County is a highly functional, proactive TSC.

**Corey Foster** summarized the fatality reports. He shared information about the "Law of the Month" and AIRED (Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement) training being offered by the State, state bills of interest to Wisconsin Traffic Safety Commissions, and research in vehicle crashes by the Medical College of Wisconsin's Department of Neurosurgery in collaboration with the Crash Injury Research and Engineering Network (CIREN) to investigate crashes and vehicle crashworthiness.

**7. Adjournment**

3:11

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:11 p.m.