

Iowa County Traffic Safety Meeting Minutes August 10, 2010

1. Meeting called to order by Craig Hardy at 9:30 a.m.

Present:

Jeff Berens, WisDOT Traffic
Brett Hubbard, Wisconsin State Patrol
Andrea Loeffelholz, WisDOT/BOTS
Jon Pepper, Iowa County Sheriff's Dept.
Joe Thomas, County Board
Craig Hardy, Iowa County Highway Dept.
Jeri Grabbert, Iowa County Highway Dept

Absent:

Dan Meuer, City of Dodgeville
Amy Seeboth, SWWRPC
June Meudt, Iowa County Health Dept.
Craig Lindgren, Wisconsin State Patrol
Bert Parkos, City of Mineral Point
Dave Kieffer, Dodgeville Police Dept
Mark Springer, Drivers Education
Tim Helmberger, Corporate Counsel

Agenda:

2. Certification of open meeting by Pepper/Thomas. Carried.
3. Approval of August 2010 agenda by Pepper/Hardy. Carried.
4. Approval of May 2010 minutes by Pepper/Hardy. Carried.

Old Business:

5. **USH 151/18 Limited Access Study Update.** Craig Hardy discussed the mapping of CTH ID noting that it would clean up the frontage roads as shown in previous maps. He also described the proposal to skew the bridges at CTH HHH and CTH T South, which the Transportation Committee agrees with.

New Business:

6. **Exit 37 to Southbound USH 151 – Murphy Road and Ridge Road.** Craig Hardy distributed photos of this intersection. Jon Pepper noted that there is not a lot of accident history for this location. At first there were more accidents, but now people are familiar with the intersection. There is also a Dead End sign there, but the channelization signs are no longer there. Craig Hardy will contact the Township to recommend that they reinstall the channelization markers
7. **Appearance of Ms. Laurie Wallace – Intersection of CTH O and CTH CH.** Ms. Wallace was not present. Jon Pepper explained that her concerns are that people are running the stop signs at this intersection and that this happens early in the morning. Jon Pepper noted that the Sheriff's Office is monitoring this intersection more.
8. **Pedestrians Crossing STH 18 at STH 80 with no Crosswalk.** Jon Pepper said a complaint was received from a new business owner in Cobb about the pedestrians crossing with no crosswalk and traffic moving fast. The highest volume is at night and some elderly people. The Sheriff's Office is monitoring this more. Craig Hardy will also pass this on to Chris Ohm and John Delaney, Iowa County's DOT representatives for state roads.

9. **Traffic Safety Report and Highway Safety Input – Andrea Loeffelholz, WisDOT BOTS.** Andrea distributed the Traffic Safety Report as of August 9, 2010. She noted that we have now surpassed 2009 for accidents and fatalities. Motorcycle and pedestrian fatalities are up. Sauk County had its first round-about fatality. Looking at the trend of all motorcycle accidents, they are either due to operator error or cars pulling out in front of them. Iowa County has had 3 traffic accident fatalities in 2010 as of August 9.

Andrea reviewed the 2009-2010 Traffic Law Changes. The biggest questions were regarding the new insurance law, Act 100, and updating the Informing the Accused Form. The seat belt laws have increased compliance by about 5%. The 2008 national average for unrestrained fatalities was 55%; for Wisconsin it was near the national average at 57%.

Andrea provided an article on motor vehicle vs. deer accidents. The peak time is October – November and a secondary peak is in late May through June. Deer hits are under-counted due to unreported collisions.

Andrea provided an article discussing vehicle dashboard internet technology. Ford has included a safety feature where the web browser will only work while the car is in park.

10. **Review of Accident Spot Report – Jon Pepper, Chief Deputy Sheriff.** Jon Pepper indicated that UW is still having problems with the map system; however, Jon had numbers available. As of August 9, 2010 he reported 137 crashes, 3 fatalities, and quite a few injuries.

11. **Reports from Members.** None.

12. **Comments from Members or Audience.** Joe Thomas mentioned that the Dairyland Dares bike event was occurring on Sunday August 15. Portions of the Centurion bike event did not take place due to rain. Also there were going to be a couple of motorcycle events this weekend.

Brett Hubbard asked about the status of STH 39. Craig Hardy said the projected completion date is November 15. This project has been on the “shelf” for 8 years and has now resurfaced as an ARRA project.

13. Next meeting is November 9, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. at the Iowa County Highway Dept.
14. Meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m. with a motion by Andrea Loeffelholz and seconded by Joe Thomas. Carried unanimously.

Minutes by Jeri Grabbert