

Iowa County Traffic Safety Meeting Minutes May 10, 2011

1. Meeting called to order by Jeri Grabbert at 9:33 a.m.

Present:

Jeff Berens, WisDOT Traffic
Briant Russell, Wisconsin State Patrol
Andrea Loeffelholz, WisDOT/BOTS
June Meudt, Iowa County Health Dept.
Greg Lee, City of Dodgeville
Jeri Grabbert, Iowa County Highway Dept

Absent:

Jon Pepper, Iowa County Sheriff's Dept.
Joe Thomas, County Board
Craig Hardy, Iowa County Highway Dept
Amy Seeboth, SWWRPC
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. Jeri Grabbert indicated that the meeting had been duly noticed.
3. Approval of May 10, 2011 agenda and February 8, 2011 minutes by Meudt/Loeffelholz. Carried.

Old Business:

4. **US 18/151 Revised Preferred Alternative Map.** Jeri Grabbert distributed a revised sketch of the frontage roads at the Y/YZ intersection with 18/151. Per the minutes of the May 2 Transportation Committee meeting, the next step will be the environmental mapping. The entire project is 100% federally funded until the jurisdictional transfers take place after completion, which will then require the local jurisdiction to maintain the frontage roads. There is a 1200 foot distance mapped from the frontage road intersection to the intersection of Y/YZ and 18/151. Although the project is mapped accordingly, it can be constructed at a 500 foot distance because of the current level of average daily traffic (ADT). However, once the ADT reaches a level that would require the 1200 foot distance, the County would have to incur the cost to move the frontage road out to 1200 feet. Jeff Berens thought this may just be a planning study at this time and that the construction is 10 years out. Jeff offered that Craig Hardy could contact him if Craig needed any additional information.
5. **US 18/151 Beamguard Upgrade Project in Cue for 2012 Construction.** The DOT is implementing a project to upgrade the beamguards on STH 151 from Madison to Dubuque, going through four counties. The existing beamguards no longer meet the design standards. Construction is scheduled for the summer of 2012. Beamguards would include guard rails and crash cushions.
6. **Request if HSIP Money Available for its Billboards to Warn Traffic of Fog, Accident, Other Events (Barneveld to Dubuque).** Jeri Grabbert explained that this request was to find out if funds were available to install ITS message boards between Barneveld and Dubuque to notify/provide advance warning messages to drivers of accidents, fog, etc. This idea came out of the de-briefing meeting for the Iowa County fog accidents in February. Jeff Berens indicated that that he has spoken with others in DOT involved in this funding source and that it would not be likely for funding along 151. The goal of the DOT is to equip the interstates over the next 5 – 10 years and after that to look at expressways.

New Business:

7. **Traffic Safety Report and Highway Safety Input – Andrea Loeffelholz, WisDOT BOTS.** Andrea Loeffelholz distributed the Weekly Fatality Report as of Sunday, May 8, 2011. She noted that February and March 2011 have been two of the safest months in several years. Motorcycle fatalities so far are one half of last year however the weather has not been very good this year. There were also fewer crashes YTD 2011 than in prior years. The report of fatalities by county shows that Iowa County is in good standing so far this year. Andreas reviewed some bills that were on the table. Act 14 regarding auto insurance was enacted into law and will be effective November 1, 2011. Other bills that have been introduced include AB-18 (Traffic Stop Racial Data), AB-55 (Failure to Yield), and SB-76 (OWI Test Costs). An article regarding child safety seats was presented for review and an article on traffic deaths was presented. Andrea also reminded everyone of the upcoming Governor's Conference.
8. **Review of Accident Spot Report – Jon Pepper, Chief Deputy Sheriff.** On behalf of Jon Pepper, Jeri Grabbert gave the Spot Report. There were a total of 106 crashes – 67 property damage, 39 injury, and 0 fatalities. They also had a victim from a 2006 crash who died last month from his injuries. He was 32 years old. This was not considered a fatality due to his passing away greater than one year from the date of the crash.
9. **Reports from other members.** None
10. **Comments from Members or Audience.** June Meudt asked if there were going to be any bike events this year.
11. Next meeting scheduled for August 9, 2011 at 9:30 A.M.
12. Meeting adjourned at 1:10 a.m. with a motion by Briant Russell and seconded by June Meudt. Carried unanimously.

Minutes by Jeri Grabbert