# LANGLADE COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION MINUTES OF MEETING HELD: FEBRUARY 17, 2011

Members Present: James Kolpack, Antigo Police Dept.; Russell Cook, Sheriff's Dept.;

Sheila Rine, Health Dept.; Charlie Brinkmeier, Antigo Public Works Dept.; Mike Panosh, WSP/BOTS; Chris Drews, DOT Traffic; Katie Hovland-Frisch, WEM; and Eugene Rogatzki, Langlade Cty. Highway

Dept. (arrived 10:30 a.m.)

Members Absent: Lloyd Vollmar, State Patrol; Jon Petroskey, COA Fire Dept.; Douglas

Nonnenmacher & Norm Cejka, Public Safety Committee; and Jeff

Paulson, Antigo High School

Others Present: Lisa M. Volkman, Police Resource Assistant; Nick Sphatt, COA Fire

Dept.; and Kalee Behrens, UW-Oshkosh Nursing Student

This meeting of the Traffic Safety Commission was called to order on the above date at 10:00 a.m. at the Langlade County Highway Department. Jim Kolpack served as Chairperson and Lisa Volkman recorded the minutes.

# **Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting**

Moved by Hovland-Frisch and seconded by Cook to approve the minutes from the November 2010 meeting. Carried.

APPROVED

### **Any Old Business**

Kolpack advised that he spoke with Gary Olson regarding reimbursement to the City for Child Safety Seat Training that was completed by Lisa Volkman and was told this would be an allowable expense. A request should be submitted by the City to Gary's office.

### **INFORMATION ONLY**

Discussion was held regarding the signs at State Rd 64 and North Langlade Rd. near the airport. The state looked at signage and advised that all signs are appropriately installed. There is a bad skew angle there and visibility can be difficult. Drivers just need to watch and be careful. Nothing can be done at this time as there is not a sufficient number of accidents at this site to warrant reconstruction.

## **INFORMATION ONLY**

Discussion was also held regarding a possible turn lane or some other way of correcting the flow of traffic on Highway 45 South at the intersection with Park Side Rd. as there have been several rear end accidents at this location. It is believed the problem lies more with inattentive driving than highway construction. The State did advise they could pave the shoulder of the road which would allow vehicles to go around slowing/turning traffic but this area does not meet the requirements for extra signage or reconstruction. There have been 3 reportable crashes in this area in the past 6 yrs. State representatives noted the Town of Rolling can apply for permission to install lighting at this intersection but the costs would be the towns responsibility. Panosh added that crash data is what dictates the states decisions.

### NO ACTION AT THIS TIME

# Installation of Stop Signs on 5th Ave/Langlade Rd/County Rd. F

The City requested a recommendation regarding a 3-way stop at the intersection of County Rd. F and Langlade Rd. The hospital would like pedestrian traffic directed to this intersection with stop signs being placed on 5<sup>th</sup> Ave/Langlade Rd at F.

Per the State, this is a city street and they can do whatever they wish at this location regarding stop signs. The State does not have any concerns regarding engineering.

It was discussed that people could use the skywalk or cross at Aurora Street.

It is unsure how the flow of traffic will be in this area after construction of the hospital is completed. The committee would like to see that before making a recommendation.

Moved by Drews and seconded by Rhine to see what the pedestrian flow is at the hospital before making any recommendation. Carried.

# HELD IN COMMITTEE UNTIL AFTER HOSPITAL CONSTRUCTION

# 2011 TSC Budget

Kolpack stated that \$157 will be utilized to reimburse the City as approved previously and committee members should bring their recommendations for the remaining funds to the next meeting.

## HELD IN COMMITTEE

# **DOT Updates--Panosh**

Panosh noted there have been 46 deaths to date in Wisconsin. This number is higher than 2010 but lower than 2009. There have been none in Langlade County compared to two last year and an average of three. He also explained a new program called DDACTS which is a mapping system where they identify crime and crash data on one map to find the overlapping areas. This is in a trial period at this time and the State is still determining its success rate.

## **INFORMATION ONLY**

# **Any Other New Business**

Congratulations were extended to Mike Panosh on the birth of his new son.

### INFORMATION ONLY

It was noted that Russ Cook will be retiring April 2 so this will be his last meeting. Katie Hovland-Frisch is leaving her employment March 31. Thanks was extended to both for their service to the committee.

### **INFORMATION ONLY**

Sheila Rhine introduced Kalee Behrens who is a student in nursing and is job shadowing her for the day.

## **INFORMATION ONLY**

Chris Drews initiated discussion regarding the intersection of Superior Street/10<sup>th</sup> Avenue. There have been 15 crashes at this location in the past 6 yrs. He noted this is the City's intersection and they can install lights if they choose to do so. However, the cost would be

their responsibility also. The necessary conduits are already in place. Chris noted the City could apply for grant money from the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP).

Kolpack advised that there were more minor accidents at this location and he would acquire numbers for Charlie Brinkmeier if the City is interested in using the numbers for a grant application.

## INFORMATION ONLY

Brinkmeier noted there is also a problem at North Avenue/Neva Rd. since the Taco Bell/KFC building has been constructed. To which Chris Drews stated previous discussions mentioned lowering the speed limit north of North Avenue to try and alleviate this problem.

#### **INFORMATION ONLY**

Nick Sphatt questioned whether the State has been seeing a rising trend of Fire Dept. that are being cited for not moving their emergency vehicles when asked by the Police Depts. He does not believe it is an issue locally but has seen this throughout the country.

It was noted there are guidelines re: how long highways are closed but hasn't seen this as a concern statewide.

### INFORMATION ONLY

Sheila announced the Teen Health Event will be held at the high school on March 24, 2011 from 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> hours. Nick added the Fire Department will again be doing the Prom/End of Year crash simulation.

### INFORMATION ONLY

Adjournment  Moved by Rhine and seconded by Cook to adj  CARRIED	journ at 11:00 a.m.
Jim Kolpack, Chairperson	Date