

**LANGLADE COUNTY
TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD:
May 15, 2014**

Members Present: Brian Lenzner, Sheriff's Dept.; Sheila Rine, Health Dept.; Mike Panosh, WSP/BOTS; Tim Rusch, Langlade Cty. Highway Dept.; Norm Cejka, Brad Henricks WEM, Lloyd Vollmar WSP, James Kolpack, Antigo Police Dept; Public Safety Committee; Carrie Johnson, WSP; Mike Wendt, DOT

Members Absent: Dale Dahms, Public Safety Committee Karen Hegranes, Langlade Cty Health Dept; Chris Drews, DOT Traffic; Charlie Brinkmeier, Antigo Public Works Dept.; Jon Petroskey, COA Fire Dept.; and Jeff Paulson, Antigo High School.

Guests: Eugene Chrudimsky; Michele Mach

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. Brian Lenzner served as Chairperson.

Call meeting to order

Brian Lenzner called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting

Approval of minutes Norm Cejka made a Motion, 2nd by Tim Rusch for approval of minutes. Voted on and motion carried.

Guests

Michele Mach and Eugene Chrudimsky brought to the committee concerns about the rumble strips at the intersection of CTH G and CTH HH. Michele and Eugene feel that the rumble strips are disruptive and may have an effect on property values in the area. They have tried to get used to the noise but after two years feel that it is still a disruption. Michele and Eugene also wish they would have been asked or informed that the rumble strips were going to be installed. Michele also asked if there would have been other options that would not have been so disruptive. Michele also talked to other neighbors and only one was advised. That neighbor stated that if you feel it will save lives. Eugene stated that his son's girlfriend's daughter was spending the night at their home and woke up scared during the night because of the noise. Michele advised that instead of hitting the rumble strips drivers now move over to the other lane. Michele just wishes that the committee would be able to find another solution for the intersection. Eugene and Michele both suggested flashing red lights. Both Michele and Eugene invited law enforcement to sit in the yards and watch the intersection. Lloyd Vollmar asked Carrie Johnson if the state patrol would be willing to do fly overs with the state plane. Carrie would like to know how much traffic and what days. Carrie thought that would be a good idea and would check into it. Tim Rusch said that he pulled the minutes from November

2011 Traffic Safety Committee meeting and the Highway Committee. Tim stated that at the Highway Committee meeting they had several representatives from Kretz Lumber and also Ruby and Ray Dettman who were the parents and grandparents of the two people that had died at that intersection. Tim recalled Lloyd from Kretz Lumber stated that they had talked to the neighbors and everyone was in agreement about rumble strips. Michele said that did not happen. This was also looked at by Jack Keifer and at that time the rumble strips were the best option. Mike Wendt stated that the state debates this at their level quite often. You have to weigh the safety vs. the noise. From the state perspective the rumble strips do add a safety value. Mike offered to have somebody take decibel readings when they have someone in the area. Michele asked if the rumble strips were the least expensive option and Tim and Brad both told her no and that it was a progression of flagging and double signing. Michele asked about solar powered flashing lights and if they were cost prohibitive. Lloyd pointed out that Jack showed rumble strips were more effective. Michele states that after work and weekends are the busiest time at the intersection. Michele asked what the difference would be concerning traffic counts on whether rumble strips are the option. Carrie stated that she is wondering about traffic times and count in regards to the state patrol doing fly overs. Tim brought up that the engineers look at the counts for their data to help lead them to the options that are needed or not. Mike states that the state sees more of a reduction of accidents when rumble strips are installed rather than the other prior steps. Tim Rusch stated that the installation of the rumble strips was approved by the highway committee. Brad stated that every time rumble strips are installed the committee is very aware of the concerns of people who live in the area. Tim Rusch stated that we follow the guidelines and recommendations of the experts. Michele and Eugene again offered their yards for officers to sit in. Brian stated that he will pass that onto the other officers to sit in their yards. Discussion continued to look at other options such as four way stop and/or lighted signs. Tim suggested that we hold in committee until we get further information from Mike Wendt. Motion was made to hold in committee by Norm, second by Lloyd, motion carried.

Old Business

Turn signals at STH 64 and USH 45 bypass- Mike Wendt advised we will be adding left turn arrows on STH64 bypass. Timeframe is to have them installed this summer.

STH 52 intersections- Mike Wendt stated that there are several intersections that markings will be changed and/or updated in the future. CTH B and S and STH 52 will be a three way stop. The biggest change will be CTH BB North will be the through movement and STH 52 will be the stop. Changes will be coordinated with Langlade County and the State when they do the new signing and painting of the highways this summer.

Letter to Langlade Hospital- Brian wrote the letter and it appears that it has helped.

Other business- Brad brought up that a letter to Fleet Farm would be a nice gesture to thank them for their cooperation with the entrance to their business. Jim stated that he would have Chief Roller write the letter. Motion made by Brad to have the city Street and Public Works in conjunction with the Traffic Safety Committee thanking Fleet Farm for taking proactive response, second by Norm, motion passed.

DOT Updates—Panosh

Passed around the traffic crash facts book. This is also available online at the DOT website. State traffic fatalities are down compared to this same time last year. 128 this year compared to 142 last year. This year in Langlade County we have 3 fatalities compared to 2 all last year.

New Business

Norm asked about extra patrol on CTH X from Dorr St. to STH 45 due to increase of speeding in the area. Brian advised he will pass that on for extra patrol.

Bicycle lights were given to the bike rodeo at the fairgrounds.

Safety vests- Food pantry is looking for vests for their workers to wear while helping people carry groceries.

Money report- Brad Henricks

The funds have been used for the year.

The next meeting is scheduled for August 21, 2014.

INFORMATION ONLY**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Tim, 2nd by Norm, all in favor, motion carried.

Brian Lenzner, Chairperson

Date