

WINNEBAGO COUNTY HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES FROM
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 2011

Members Present:

Mike McGinley	Community Representative
Bob Doemel	Highway Dept.
Scott Nelson	WI DOT NE Region
Dan Kussmann	City of Oshkosh
Steve Weyers	Oshkosh PD
John Zimmerman	Sheriff's Office
Matt Albrecht	Menasha PD
Daunita Kline	Senior Representative
Guy Hegg	County Supervisor

Highway Safety Commission meeting was called to order by Mike McGinley at approx 9:30AM.

The agenda was accepted. No meeting minutes were received or reviewed from the previous meeting held 01-12-2011.

ALBRECHT: Menasha PD investigated a fatal crash which occurred on 01-25-11. A 57 year-old female, last name HOEZELL was riding an electric mobility scooter when she ran into the side of a semi truck. The truck was either stopped or moving very slowly while waiting to leave a parking lot. HOEZELL struck the side of the truck at slow speed, fell off the scooter, and struck her head on the pavement. No criminal charges or citations were expected.

Albrecht also had a question about the process for obtaining grant money for the various enforcement grants. MEPD has participated on enforcement days in the past along with other agencies. Michael Panosh from BOTS was not present to respond.

Information was discussed by members about Roundabouts, specifically three in the city of Oshkosh (Murdock / Jackson and two on Witzel Ave at the frontage roads). Crash numbers have dropped as motorists become more familiar with roundabouts. Some drivers still avoid them. 15 MPH is a suggested speed in the roundabouts, not the speed limit. Drivers are to yield to all traffic approaching from the left (both lanes), motorists are to yield to pedestrians in the crosswalks, and drivers should not be changing lanes while in the roundabout. DOT has pamphlets and on-line information about roundabouts and more public information meetings are planned. Drivers in the Oshkosh area will have much more contact with roundabouts as more of the US 41 construction is completed.

ZIMMERMAN: Two fatal crashes occurred in the Sheriff's Office jurisdiction:

On 01-28-11 at approx 3:00AM, a passenger car apparently ran into the back of a semi tractor-trailer at high speed on USH 10 EB on the Roland Kampo Bridge in the town of Menasha. This occurred just east of the US 41 interchange. The driver of the car, Brian J. Rosin 33 years old from Appleton WI, was the only occupant and was deceased at the scene from severe head and torso trauma. Speed and alcohol are probable contributing factors. No criminal charges are expected but the semi driver received a citation for having alcohol containers in the semi.

On 02-19-11 at approx 11:07PM, a male pedestrian was struck and killed on USH 41 NB just south of STH 26 in the town of Nekimi. Investigation showed the pedestrian, identified as Tuarice L.Q. WRIGHT, 27 years old of Milwaukee WI, left his car parked at the base of the off-ramp to STH 26 and attempted to cross US 41 on foot when he was struck by a 16 year old female from Ixonia, WI. Investigation showed that WRIGHT was enroute to the Appleton area to meet an internet acquaintance. WRIGHT was wearing dark clothing and no criminal charges or citations were issued – unknown why WRIGHT was crossing the highway on foot.

NELSON: Within the next day or two, US 41 SB traffic will switch over to temporary lanes running parallel to northbound traffic from Breezewood Lane to the Butte Des Morts Bridge. Some traffic backups may occur but two lanes will remain open in both directions divided by concrete barriers. The US41 construction project including the 41/ 9th Ave interchange are on schedule.

Emergency barriers / gates are now in place at various on-ramps to USH 41, including CTH BB, CTH II, STH 114, STH 76 and STH 26. These gates allow emergency responders to quickly close off access to US 41 when needed. They also allow Law Enforcement to perform other crash investigation duties once other emergency responders have cleared the gates.

A question was brought up concerning flashing yellow left-turn arrows at certain intersections such as the STH 26 on-ramps to USH 41. Nelson reported that studies have been completed concerning this type of intersection and the flashing yellow arrows are in compliance with MUTCD requirements. If the green ball signal is visible to drivers in a dedicated left turn lane, then a flashing yellow arrow signal is required above or next to the green arrow signal.

HEGG: Bigger and better barrier walls designed for safety and sound reduction are being looked at or considered for portions of USH 10 corridor in the town of Menasha. DOT is again looking at redesigning some of this roadway but it's dependant on available funds and the governor's signature / approval. A vehicle recently left the highway and struck the barrier wall in the town of Menasha.

The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, July 13, 2011. The meeting will be held at the Rick Meyer Community Room at the Winnebago Co. Sheriff's Office.

Meeting was adjourned at approx 10:20AM.

JRZ