

Taylor County Traffic Safety Committee

December 6, 2011

3rd Floor Board Room, Taylor County Courthouse

Call Meeting to Order: Jess Sackmann called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

Members Present: Jess Sackmann, Nick Synol, Rick Tumaniec, Jill Scheithauer, Tom Knoop, Bruce Kinlen, Bill Daniels and Ken Coyer.

Approve Minutes: Motion by Tom Knoop/Nick Synol and carried to approve the minutes of the September 6, 2011 meeting.

Taylor County Traffic Safety Coordinator Sergeant Nick Synol reported that there were two traffic fatalities in Taylor County since the last meeting. On September 21 there was a one vehicle rollover in the Town of Holway on Water Drive and on September 23 there was a vehicle vs. pedestrian on Perkins Street in the City of Medford. Sergeant Synol also reported on a vehicle vs. bicycle accident on STH 64 during construction work.

Northwest Region Transportation Safety Coordinator Tom Knoop reported on:

1. Statewide accident/fatality statistics
2. Legislative bills that have passed and bills that are still pending
3. Motorcycle accident reports and statistics for the year
4. Article about older drivers and the risks
5. Wisconsin State Patrol law of the month for December is National Drunk & Drugged Driving Prevention Month.

Northwest Region Traffic Engineer Rick Tumaniec will replace Jeff Olson. Tumaniec will check on the uneven speed limit on State Highway 13 south of County Road O.

State Patrolman Bruce Kinlen questioned advance warning of intersection, westbound on State Highway 102 approaching County Road C. Tumaniec will check on the situation.

Highway Commissioner Sackmann reported that the installation of street lights at the County Highways O and Q intersection and County Highway O and Gibson Drive is pending until more information is obtained for a highway committee decision.

Sackmann also reported that levels of winter service will remain the same as in the past unless directed by the highway committee to change.

Sackmann presented a letter of appreciation from Diane Niggemann of the Commission on Aging for the presentations Jeff Olson gave on the use of roundabouts. The sessions were very well attended.

The dates for the 2012 meetings were set as follows:

- March 6
- June 5
- September 4
- December 4

Adjournment: Motion by Kinlen and carried to adjourn at 11:00.

Taylor County Traffic Safety Committee

September 6, 2011

3rd Floor Board Room, Taylor County Courthouse

Call Meeting to Order: Jess Sackmann called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

Members Present: Jess Sackmann, Nick Synol, Jeff Olson, Jill Scheithauer, Dorothy Falasky, Tom Knoop, Tim Hansen, Diane Niggemann, Bruce Kinlen, and Ken Coyer.

Approve Minutes: Motion by Diane Niggemann/Dorothy Falasky and carried to approve the minutes of the June 7, 2011 meeting.

Taylor County Traffic Safety Coordinator Sergeant Nick Synol reported that there have been no county fatalities since the last meeting. Sergeant Synol also reported on two serious Taylor County motorcycle crashes that occurred in June. Both crashes involved speed and alcohol. Synol reported that there were two serious crashes that took place at the temporary signal lights at the STH 64 and CTH Q intersection. In both crashes the vehicle on STH 64 failed to stop for a red light.

Northwest Region Transportation Safety Coordinator Tom Knoop reported on:

6. Statewide accident/fatality statistics
7. Texting while driving fatality
8. Bicycle and Pedestrian fatalities
9. Current legislation of interest
10. Wisconsin State Patrol slogan "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over"

Jeff Olson, Regional Traffic Safety Coordinator of WISDOT, reported on centerline rumble strips. He also led a discussion on the State Highway 13 construction including turn lanes, roundabouts and schedules.

Highway Commissioner Sackmann reported that he is checking into the installation of street lights at the County Highways O and Q intersection.

Next Committee Meeting: December 6, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.

Adjournment: Motion by Knoop/Coyer and carried to adjourn at 11:00.

Taylor County Traffic Safety Committee

June 7, 2011

3rd Floor Board Room, Taylor County Courthouse

Call Meeting to Order: Gary Gretzinger called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Members Present: Gary Gretzinger, Nick Synol, Jeff Olson, Jill Scheithauer, Dorothy Falasky, Tom Knoop, Tim Hansen, Diane Niggemann, Bruce Kinlen, Bill Daniels and Ken Coyer.

Approve Minutes: The minutes of the March 1, 2011 meeting were approved.

A moment of silence was observed in memory of Jim Seidl.

Tim Hansen is filling Jim Seidl's position on the committee.

Taylor County Traffic Safety Coordinator Sergeant Nick Synol reported that there have been no county fatalities since the last meeting. A discussion followed on accident reports and serious accidents. Sergeant Synol questioned the possibility of having a permanent streetlight at the intersection of County Roads O and Q.

Northwest Region Transportation Safety Coordinator Tom Knoop reported on:

11. Accident/fatality statistics
12. Slower traffic moving to the right
13. OWI convictions
14. Current legislation of interest

City of Medford Police Chief Ken Coyer reported that paving has begun on State Highway 13. He also reported that State Highway 64 from Highway 13 to Main Street will be milled and new curb and gutter installed. The Highway 13 and 64 intersection will be closed for 12 days beginning June 13, 2011. Police Chief Coyer will seek information on State Highway 13 access to the Community Center.

A discussion took place on a speed limit change on Gibson Street south of Zenner Plumbing from 25 mph to 35 mph.

Jeff Olson of WISDOT reported on a traffic study that will be conducted to look at the speed limit variation at the State Highway 13 and County Road O intersection. Olson informed the committee of highway safety improvement programs and their deadlines. He also reported that two bridges on State Highway 64 are currently under construction.

Highway Department Operations Manager Gary Gretzinger reported on the speed limit change on County Road Q. He also distributed a list of 2011 County Highway Department summer projects.

Next Committee Meeting: September 6, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 10:55.

Taylor County Traffic Safety Committee

March 1, 2011

3rd Floor Board Room, Taylor County Courthouse

Call Meeting to Order: Vice Chairman Jim Seidl called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Members Present: Jess Sackmann, Nick Synol, Tim Ludwig, Jeff Olson, Jill Scheithauer, Dorothy Falasky, Ken Berg and Tom Knoop

Approve Minutes: The minutes of the December 7, 2010 meeting were approved.

Taylor County Traffic Safety Coordinator Sergeant Nick Synol reported that there have been no county fatalities since the last meeting. Sergeant Synol commended the highway department on how well the December 10 and 11 winter storm was handled, along with other winter snow events. County Board Member James Seidl also reported hearing many positive comments about Taylor County's level of winter road service.

Northwest Region Transportation Safety Coordinator Tom Knoop reported on:

15. Wisconsin's Booze and Belts Initiative
16. New bills introduced in the 2011 legislative session regarding traffic safety
17. 2010 accident/fatalities statistics
18. Seat belt usage rates – Wisconsin is still below national and 5 surrounding states average with a 79.2% compliance rate
19. Alcohol impaired driving statistics
20. Wisconsin State Patrol Laws of the Month for March through June

Jeff Olson of WISDOT reported that the DOT is planning upgrades to the traffic loops at the Hwy 13 & 64 intersection this summer to address traffic signal issues.

The State Patrol requested that the DOT look into the short stepped speed zone north of Stetsonville on STH 13.

Next Committee Meeting: June 7, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 10:57.