

WAUKESHA COUNTY
TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION
May 14, 2008

In Attendance:

Paul Barthel; Vice-Chairman; Highway Commissioner Representative
Ms. Mitzi Dobersek; Wisconsin DOT Highway Engineering Representative
Sergeant Michael Douglas; Menomonee Falls Police Department
Lieutenant Erik Kehl; City of Delafield Police Department Representative
Lieutenant Larry LaFavor; Chairman, Traffic Safety Coordinator
Ms. Andrea Loeffelholz; DOT Bureau of Transportation Safety
Sergeant Kenneth Pileggi; Village of Mukwonago Police Department Representative
Sergeant Brian Ripplinger; City of Pewaukee Police Department Representative
Sergeant Mark Tushaus; City of Brookfield Police Department

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Traffic Safety Commission Chairman Lieutenant Larry LaFavor at 2:05 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Vice-Chairman Paul Barthel made a motion to approve the minutes, and Sergeant Mark Tushaus, from the City of Brookfield Police Department, seconded the motion. The minutes were then approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Vice-Chairman Paul Barthel displayed an accident-based map using the Geographic Information System (GIS) System. He is working on developing a county-wide plotting of accidents.

TRAFFIC SAFETY LEGISLATION REPORT

Weekly Fatality Report – Monday, May 12, 2008

Ms. Andrea Loeffelholz stated fatalities are at an all-time low. Wisconsin Year-to-date accidents totaled 154, and Wisconsin Year-to-date fatalities totaled 166.

Wisconsin Department Of Transportation - Drivers and Vehicles

This included statistics of fatalities by county as of May 12, 2008. There has been a decrease in multiple fatalities. Waukesha County ranks eighth in year-to-date statistics for the quarter.

TRAFFIC SAFETY LEGISLATION REPORT CONTINUED

Neighborhood Electric Vehicle (NEV)

Ms. Andrea Loeffelholz passed out information on Neighborhood Electric Vehicles including Traffic Guidelines Manual, Laws As They Relate To Various Atypical Vehicle Types, and Can I Get Snow Tires With That!

NEV's are speed limited battery electric vehicles. They not to be driven on roads higher than 35 miles per hour. Because airbags are not required, they can not travel on highways or freeways. They must carry a "Slow Moving Vehicle" emblem. NEV's must be registered with the Department Of Transportation, and the operator must have a valid driver's license and current insurance covering the vehicle. They can only be used if a municipal order is in place. Mukwonago has currently proposed an ordinance to the town for the use of NEV's.

2007 – 2008 Traffic Safety Legislation Update (01-02-08)

Several bills signed into law include:

2007 Wisconsin Act 37: Creates police dog exception to state law requiring quarantine for any dog that bites a person.

2007 Wisconsin Act 68: Adds the "Move Over" law (driver duty when passing stopped emergency vehicles, tow trucks, and highway machinery) to list of required topics for driver education curriculum and DMV driver knowledge exams.

Several bills awaiting committee action include:

AB-464: Prohibits the use of cell phones by persons holding probationary licenses and instruction permits and creates \$50.00 for the first offense and \$50.00 to \$100.00 for each subsequent offense.

SB-442: Prohibits a person operating a school bus or other vehicle transporting pupils from using a cellular telephone or other wireless telecommunications device while the school bus or other vehicle is on the roadway or loading or unloading passengers. Amended to exclude two-way radios or citizen's band radios.

Law of the Month

January Law of the Month ----What is the real cause of wintertime crashes?

February Law of the Month -- Eliminate distractions:

Please give driving your undivided attention.

March Law of the Month ----- Drivers must provide a safety zone

for stopped law enforcement vehicles.

This included what to look for in a fake I.D.

We're Number One --- In Underage Drinking

The highest rate of alcohol use in the United States occurred among ages 18 to 25 years-of-age, in Wisconsin at a rate of 75.7 percent. Wisconsin leads the nation in underage drinking.

Ms. Andrea Loeffelholz also stated there is a large amount of grant money available.

COMMISSION MEMBER REPORTS

- City of Brookfield
Sergeant Mark Tushaus, from the City of Brookfield Police Department, stated that Channel 4 Speedbusters came to the Speed Wave on Moorland Road in Brookfield. Reference speed-related crashes, Moorland Road is the third worst road/highway in the city of Brookfield. It will be aired on 05-19-08.
- City of Pewaukee
Sergeant Brian Ripplinger, from the City of Pewaukee, asked if a monitor could be done on the sequence of lights when traveling southbound on CTH F to go west on I-94 during the rush hour. Mitzi Dobersek stated she would look into this.

HIGH CRASH LOCATIONS / FATALS

- Chairman Larry LaFavor reported that the Waukesha Sheriff's Department had one fatality, as follows:
 - Date of Accident: 03-05-08
Location: Highway C, 500 feet south of Government Hill Road
A 2001 Mitsubishi Montero traveling northbound on Highway C from Shannon Lane left the road and struck a tree, leaving no skid marks. The collision with the tree was extremely violent, at approximately 45 to 55 miles per hour. The tree itself had entered the passenger compartment of the vehicle, with extensive interior damage from the engine being pushed back into the interior. The operator of the vehicle, a 32-year-old female, was pronounced deceased by the Medical Examiner's Office.
- One fatality from the City of Pewaukee, as follows:
 - Date of Accident: 03-26-08
Location: CTH JJ west of Clara Court
A 53-year-old female driver, who was the only occupant of a westbound vehicle, left the road and smashed into a tree. She was pronounced dead at the scene.

NEXT QUARTERLY MEETING SCHEDULED

The next meeting of the Waukesha County Traffic Safety Commission is scheduled for Wednesday, August 27, 2008, at 2:00 p.m., at the City of Waukesha Police Department.

ADJOURNMENT

Traffic Safety Commission Chairman Lieutenant L. LaFavor, made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Sergeant Mark Tushaus, from the City of Brookfield Police Department. The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Gregesich
Waukesha County Sheriff's Department

(MINUTES APPROVED ON 08-27-08)