

LINCOLN COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes of November 17, 2015 9:00 a.m.
Lincoln County Safety Building
Lower Level Conference Room

MEMBERS PRESENT: John Keiffer, Mike Panosh, Bill Jelinek, Mike VandeWeerd, Nathan Walrath, Dustin Bonack, Corey Bennett, Brian Wrycha and Nancy Bergstrom

MEMBERS ABSENT & EXCUSED: Bob Lee, Ken Neff, Dave Jackson, Dale Bergman, Doug Duchac and Sheriff Jeff Jaeger

VISITORS:

OPEN MEETING

1. **Call to Order:** Chief Deputy Walrath called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
 - A. Roll call of members present.
 - B. Welcome visitors.
2. **Approval of previous meeting minutes:** Motion by Nancy Bergstrom, second by Mike VandeWeerd to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.
3. **Review Crash Data – Merrill Police Department**
No comment or questions. Report placed on file. Captain Corey Bennett advised that Merrill has fewer reported crashes, year to date.
4. **Review Crash Data – Lincoln County Sheriff’s Office:**
No comment or questions. Report placed on file. There was some discussion on the number of reported fatalities. The report was not complete and the number of fatality crashes was incorrect. Chief Deputy Walrath to verify statistics for the next meeting.
5. **State Report: Keiffer**
Mr. Keiffer reports that the state is working into phase 2 of the increased speed zones changes. Studies have been done on this project and some implementation has started by posting 70mph speed limits on designated sections of approved highways, not identified as Interstate Highways.
Kieffer shared with the committee planned projects for State Highways in Lincoln County for the year of 2016 and 2017, STH 51 near CTH S; installation of median cabling (safety measure) and resurfacing project on STH 17 from STH 64 to CTH G. Mike VanDeWeerd addressed the issue of Highway Commissioner reducing the speed limit for construction zone. Wisconsin State Statute 349.11 doesn’t identify a speed limit and is left to interpretation.
State Report: Panosh

Traffic fatalities are at their five year average for the State of Wisconsin. Last year, 2014 was a record low for fatalities. Discussion about the weather being a contributing factor in this year's fatality statistics, nicer weather results in more people traveling. Mr. Panosh provided the committee with two documents; Traffic Safety Commission best practices, which outlines the intentions of a Traffic Safety Commission and gives guidelines for this committee. The second document was the Wisconsin Traffic Safety Reporter, a DOT newsletter that shares information about trends and information about services and opportunities to help make our roadways safer.

6. **SCHEDULED NEXT REGULAR MEETING;** February 16, 2016 9:00 a.m. Lincoln County Safety Building, Lower Level Conference Room. Agenda items for the next meeting; MDSS Weather Forecast – Mike VanDeWeerd and Community Maps – Michael Panosh
7. **ADJOURNMENT;** Motion by John Keiffer, second by Mike VanDeWeerd to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:04 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Chief Deputy Walrath