

Green Lake County Highway Safety Commission July 19, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Putzke, Plagenz, Hynek, Christensen, Dan Brugman for Tony Kemnitz, Reabe, Dan Restrepo for Stertz, Slate, Brooks, Podoll, Soda, Randy Wiessinger for Foster

Members Absent: None

The Green Lake County Highway Traffic Safety Commission meeting was called to order by Chairman Mark Putzke at 11 a.m. in conference room 1106. Preliminaries included the Open Meeting Law Requirements satisfaction, the presence of a quorum (12), and the approval of the agenda (Slate/Soda). The April 26, 2016, meeting minutes were approved following a motion by (Slate, Reabe).

Election of Officers: Members of the commission (12) were introduced and Chairman Putzke turned the chairman position over to the County Board Chair Harley Reabe. Mr. Reabe turned the chair back to Putzke after his election. Putzke was named chairman following a motion by (Slate/Podoll). Mark Podoll was elected vice chairman following a motion by (Reabe/Slate). Lyle Plagenz was elected secretary following a motion by (Reabe/Slate).

Alternative Travel Plan: Biking – Dr. Thomas Kloosterboer expressed concern regarding the unsafe conditions for biking on CthK and asked if this was something that the Highway Commission could recommend to keep the issue moving forward. Laurie Renaud provided and explained the 23 mile “Loop the Lake Biking Route” echoing the safety issue on CthK. Discussion centered around the need for auto driver education, alternate solutions to the CthK issues and the need to publicize the issues. Mrs. Brooks reported the existence of an ad hoc committee studying “Biking in the County.” After discussion a motion to support and create an ad hoc committee via county highway groups and to study pedestrian and bike safety in Green Lake County carried unanimously (Slate/Podoll).

Committee Member Reports

#1 Wiessinger (BOTS): Reported as new Regional Program Manager (RPM) that:

- The number of highway fatalities was up 15% (269 to 310).
- Cyclists were down 16% and the fact there were more multiple fatalities per accident.
- The new community mapping system via MD4000 System will become operational in January 2017 utilizing three report sections namely background information, statistics, and counter measures on the issue.
- 2/3 of highway crashes occur on county and township highways and 46% of the crashes are non-residents. Mr. Wiessinger also presented three trifold pamphlets entitled “Your Traffic Safety Commission Needs You,” “2016 National Mobilizations and Crackdowns,” and “Distracted Driving”.

#2 Brugman (WISDOT): Reported on the Markesan School Zone for the high school and elementary school and the request by Princeton to change speed signs south/east out of Princeton on STH23 to a 25/35/45 sequence.

#3 Putzke (Deputy Sheriff) Reported that Officer VandeKolk will be speaking at the Governor's Safety Conference and Ms. Soda will be speaking at a Public Health Nurses Conference. She also reported about an accident involving a buggy failing to stop at a stop sign.

#4 Podoll (Sheriff) Reported a fatality in Kingston, an accident involving a spooked horse, an accident involving a serious injury on STH23, and a driver who pulled from a stop sign into traffic at STH73/CtH H.

#5 Slate (Circuit Judge): Presented a document with posted speeds throughout the county suggesting the commission review 4-6 of these at each Traffic Safety meeting to review need and accuracy.

#6 Reabe (County Board Supervisor): Reported that an individual questioned some of the copies in the new Buggy Driver Manual. He will pursue the matter further and check back at the next meeting.

Future Meetings and Adjournment - The next meetings will be held on Tuesday, October 18, 2016; Tuesday, January 17, 2017; Tuesday, April 25, 2017; and Tuesday, July 18, 2017. All meetings will begin at 11:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:23 p.m., following a motion by (Slate/Soda).

Respectfully submitted,

Lyle B. Plagenz, Secretary