

MINUTES

KANKAKEE AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY SAFETY COMMITTEE

Training Room, Bourbonnais Fire Department,
1080 Armour Road, Bourbonnais, IL

Wednesday, April 30, 2014 @ 9:00 A.M.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr. Blanchette, Kankakee County Highway Department; Chief O'Brien, Manteno Fire Department; Mr. Koning, River Valley *METRO* Mass Transit District; Deputy Chief Mitchell, Bourbonnais Police Department; Trooper Verkler and Master Sergeant LoCoco, Illinois State Police; Deputy Chief Gerard, Kankakee Police Department; Lt. Carnahan, Kankakee County Sheriff's Police; Chief Travis, Bradley Fire Department; Ms. Cyr, Village of Bourbonnais; Ms. Schultz, Aquinas Academy; Mr. Clyden, Kurtz / St. Mary's Ambulance Service; Mr. Lalumendre, Olivet Nazarene University, and Mr. Greer, MG2A / Village of Bradley.

OTHERS PRESENT

Mr. Dobrow, State Representative Cloonen's Office; Mr. Schultz; Mr. Meyer, URS Corporation; Mr. Greenstreet, Mr. Lammey and Mr. Olson, Kankakee County Planning Department.

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chairman Carnahan called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vice-Chairman Carnahan offered the minutes of the March 12, 2014 meeting for approval. Deputy Chief Gerard made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, seconded by Ms. Schultz. Motion carried.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Vice-Chairman Carnahan opened the floor for nominations for Chairman. Deputy Chief Gerard nominated Mr. Tyson for Chairman. Deputy Chief Gerard made a motion to close the nominations and elect Mr. Tyson as Chairman. Seconded by Ms. Schultz. Motion Carried.

Vice-Chairman Carnahan opened the floor for nominations for Vice-Chairman. Ms. Schultz nominated Lt. Carnahan. Deputy Chief Gerard made a motion to close the nominations and elect Lt. Carnahan as Vice-Chairman. Seconded by Chief Travis. Motion carried.

2007 - 2011 CRASH DATA

Mr. Lammey explained that the large spreadsheets are the 2007 - 2011 Fatal and A Injury crashes in the County, with the locations more clearly defined and sorted. The different agencies and municipalities can review high crash locations. The associated crash reports have been redacted to obscure personal identification information and are available if needed. These five years will be reviewed as part of the Long Range Transportation Plan process. KATS is also completing 2012 and 2013 data collection for further study.

VISION, MISSION STATEMENT, GOALS EXERCISE

Mr. Lammey explained the need to establish goals and a Vision and Mission Statement for this Committee. As part of that process, questions were sent out in advance of this meeting, and the Committee was broken into the 4 break-out sessions of Engineers, Law Enforcement, Emergency Responders and Education, to collaborate their thoughts for the Committee's future activities.

The first group to present their discussions was the Engineering group, as presented by Ms. Cyr. Ms. Cyr stated the engineer group suggested a subcommittee to include the engineers and a representative from each of the other groups to meet and review the crash data and report back to the full Committee. This subcommittee could initially meet every other month, between the full Committee meeting dates.

This subcommittee would review the crash data and provide recommendations on possible actions to be taken. This could include identifying possible locations for further study by IDOT if there was a trend or crash history identified. However, in many cases the crash data does not show a trend and thus the subcommittee could be a useful way for the engineering group to provide initial input/recommendations on the crash analysis.

The Mission Statement for the Committee should include bringing key people together to promote traffic safety for the community. Discussion followed to identify other stakeholders to invite to the Committee to include the State's Attorney's Office and the Mayors.

Deputy Chief Gerard reported for the Law Enforcement break-out group. The Vision and Mission Statement should include the purpose of promoting traffic safety to prevent crashes. Educating the public on traffic safety should be a priority. Presentations that can be used by all Police Departments should be made and distributed, so that uniform information is presented to the various public meetings, such as high schools, service clubs and PTA / PTO groups. Problems such as Scott's Law, speeding and distracted driving can be addressed with public service announcements, TV commercials and billboards to educate the public. The Committee should work with the local media and use social media to promote traffic safety. Enforcement (traffic stop warning or citation) is a necessary educational tool. The Committee needs to stay focused on traffic safety, roadway safety matters. Identifying problem intersections, driver behaviors and related problems while working together with the other disciplines in the Committee to find solutions to the problems should remain the priority. An overall objective for the Committee should be to create a safe environment for the motoring public, bicyclists and pedestrians.

Mr. Clyden reported for the Emergency Responders group. High priorities for this group are safe travel to and from the scene and safety at the scene. The scene gets secured by law enforcement and fire service personnel. Mr. Lammey will be contacting IDOT for further information about the road closure and detour scenario and procedures. The public safety education needed is for the public to slow down when approaching any emergency scene (or maintenance worker or disabled vehicle scene) and to yield to emergency vehicles.

Ms. Schultz reported for the Education group. There needs to be an increased awareness of safety for all modes of transportation, including pedestrian. Bicyclists need to adhere to the rules of the road. Traffic flow needs to be improved at locations such as at Olivet and at the ramps at the IL 50 and I-57 interchange. The motoring public needs re-education on school speed zones and bus stop arm violations and more enforcement is needed in these areas. There is a recommendation to add "Transportation" to the Safety Committee name. Short term goals should include increased education and awareness on the texting ban, hands free cell phone use, pedestrian safety, school zones, PSA's, use Channel 4 local station and other local media.

REPORT ON HANDS FREE CELL ENFORCEMENT ISSUE AND MORE

Vice-Chairman Carnahan asked for the Law Enforcement Departments to report on their enforcement efforts in the area of Hands Free Cell Phone laws.

Master Sergeant LoCoco reported that in March, April and May the ISP is working education programs as Prom details, traffic safety education and school area traffic enforcement details.

Deputy Chief Gerard reported Kankakee City Police wrote over 100 citations for violation of hands free laws. They wrote 48 tickets in a four hour period on a grant enforcement detail. They use plain-clothes officers with radar, observing for texting and hands free violations. Additionally, all marked cars have installed a hands free bluetooth device for the officers to use as needed, even though they are exempt from the law. The City has a STEP Grant to do specialized enforcement on every holiday weekend.

Vice-Chairman Carnahan reported the Sheriff's Police also has installed hands free bluetooth devices in all marked cars. He reported that the newer enforcement grants the Sheriff's Police are getting have added requirements for DUI arrests, even though they are not DUI enforcement grants. This makes it difficult to use the grant enforcement programs out in the rural areas where they are needed.

Deputy Chief Mitchell reported Bourbonnais PD is writing hands free violation citations weekly.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Meyer stated that he will have prepared for the next meeting a draft Vision Statement for the Committee to review.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be June 18, 2014 at 9:00 AM, at the Bourbonnais Fire Department Training Room.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice-Chairman Carnahan asked for a motion to adjourn. A motion to adjourn was made by Deputy Chief Gerard and seconded by Mr. Blanchette. Motion carried. Vice-Chairman Carnahan adjourned the meeting at 10:10 AM.

Information from Illinois State Police Website:

A. Scott's Law



Press Release Date: April 25, 2002 || Archived October 8, 2002

SPRINGFIELD, IL – The Illinois State Police (ISP) reminds motorists of Scott’s Law which increases the penalties for drivers who fail to yield to emergency vehicles or cause accidents or injury to public safety or service personnel at roadside emergency scenes. Offenders can expect to be fined up to \$10,000 and have their driver’s license suspended for up to two years.

ISP Director Sam W. Nolen said, "Each day, law enforcement officers, firefighters, emergency response personnel, and highway workers encounter situations which place their lives in jeopardy while protecting the citizens of Illinois. This legislation helps to ensure that they can perform those duties out of harm’s way."

Penalties for violating Scott’s Law include:

a fine of not more than \$10,000 suspension of driving privileges for a period of up to a year but not less than 90 days for damaging another person’s property suspension of driving privileges for a period of not less than 180 days but no more than two years for injuring another person a two-year suspension of driving privileges for causing the death of another person.

The ISP encourages motorists to follow these precautions when approaching an emergency vehicle with its lights activated:

Slow down and proceed with caution. Yield the right-of-way by changing into a lane not immediately adjacent to the emergency vehicle. Be prepared to pull over to the right-hand side of the roadway and stop if directed to do so. Be watchful of the movement of emergency personnel and equipment. Nolen advised the legislation applies to all vehicles displaying flashing lights, including highway maintenance vehicles.

###

For more information contact:

Public Information Office

Telephone: 217-782-6637

TDD: 1-800-255-3323