

MINUTES

KANKAKEE AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY SAFETY COMMITTEE

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

Wednesday, May 11, 2016 @ 9:30 A.M.

Member in Attendance

Chief Scott O'Brien, Manteno Fire Dept; Trooper Verkler, Illinois State Police; Steve Blanchette, Kankakee County Highway Dept; Roger Blakley, IDOT District 3; Sgt. Sam Miller, Kankakee Police Dept; Dave Luhrsen, Bradley-Bourbonnais Community High School; Cortney Koning, METRO.

Others Present

Geoff Olson, Kankakee County Planning Department.

Call to Order

Chairman Tyson called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Public Comment

None.

Approval of Minutes

Chief O'Brien made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Blanchette. Motion carried.

2016 First Quarter Serious Injury Crash Data

Mr. Olson gave a presentation to the committee about the preliminary 2016 first quarter serious crash data. He explained there were 3 traffic fatalities and 40 A-injuries within the first three months of the year. The presentation contained first quarter data for 2012 – 2016 and this year has slightly higher A-injuries, but the number of fatalities was consistent with previous years. A roadway breakdown showed more heavily traveled roads had more injuries.

Chief O'Brien commented that on days with nice weather 911 crash related calls seem back to back. He also said the yellow flashing beacons at 9000N Road and 5000W Road seem to be helping reduce the number of crashes at that intersection.

Road Safety Review Follow Up

Mr. Olson told the committee that the Crash Analysis Subcommittee completed a road safety review on IL-102 at 3000W Road and 5000W Road. The group identified some possible low cost improvements. Identified were the possibility of moving two highway signs along IL-102 east of 3000W Road further away from the road. Due to the right of way, this was not possible. The centerlines of 3000W Road will be striped closer to IL-102 and hooked to the right to help guide traffic to stop perpendicular to IL-102 to improve sight distance for drivers. Stop bars will

also be painted.

At 5000W Road, some suggestions were the removal of the state park horse sable sign and the trimming of some trees. Both were outside IDOT's right of way and the stable will be opened again late this summer. Additionally, IDOT did place a larger stop sign and larger left/right arrow for southbound traffic on 5000W Road.

Report On Hands Free Cell Enforcement Issue

Chairman Tyson asked if there were any updates on the enforcement of hands free cell phone use. There were none.

Traffic Safety in the Media

Chairman Tyson asked if there were any topics recently in the news worth discussing. Mr. Olson said vehicle manufacturers have agreed out implement automatic braking by 2022. He said it has been reported that automatic brakes have decreased crashes by 40 percent in certain situations. Mr. Olson also mentioned a recent newspaper article with safety tips for new drivers.

New Business

None.

Other Business

Mr. Olson mentioned the Great Lakes Basin Railroad and explained the proposed project. He said to keep it in mind as there may be traffic safety concerns as more information is learned about the project. Chairman Tyson suggested the committee work on strengthening connections with the media to help increase traffic safety awareness.

Next Meeting

The next Safety Crash Subcommittee will meet again on August 10, 2016, at 9:30 AM at the County Administration Building, 2nd Floor Conference Room.

The next Safety Committee will meet September 14, 2016 at 9:30 AM at the Bourbonnais Fire Station Training Room.

Chairman Tyson suggested reducing the number of meetings to every other month, the committee agreed.

Adjournment

Mr. Blanchette motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Chief O'Brien. Motion carried. Chairman Tyson adjourned the meeting at 10:12 AM.