



Dutchess County Traffic Safety Board

Minutes
July 14, 2014
1:00pm

Members present:

Vince Bellino
Michael Dampf
Emily Dozier

Stephen Gill
Norm Fenichel
James Rapoli

Anthony Russo
Joe Ryan
William Steenbergh

- Called /could not attend: Paul Bonfiglio, Dan Dowd, Neil Garrison, John Healy, Todd Jicha, Christine Lopez, John McKinney, Steve Minard, Ann Rush, and Robert Simpson

Staff: William Johnson, Adrianna Frazier

Minutes:

Norm Fenichel motioned to accept the minutes as written from the May 12th meeting. Seconded by Joe Ryan. Motion carried.

** Steve Minard called the meeting to order at 1:05pm**

On-going Items:

- ❖ **2015 Proposed County Budget:** W. Johnson stated that the 2015 County budget packets were due for submission on 7/11. The date has now been changed to 7/18. The County is waiting on personnel benefit updates. The TSB grant revenue is \$203,050. Our expenses will be \$219,694. The net cost to the County is \$16,629.
- ❖ **GTSC 2014 Grant Project Monitoring:** W. Johnson said GTSC representative, Paul Overbaugh, was here on June 17th to monitor our three grant projects. The TSB was in compliance. There were recommendations made. When the fitting stations submit their mid-year and year end data they should also submit their installation sheets to the TSB. This would help to validate seat installation numbers submitted to the TSB. A. Russo asked what information is on the installation sheets. W. Johnson said it list the owner of the vehicle, make and model of vehicle, child's information, and information regarding the safety seat. There is also a waiver that requires a signature from the parent and technician. W. Johnson stated that P. Overbaugh encouraged us to voucher or send in claims as frequently as possible. He said we could potentially withhold paying claims to the law enforcement agencies until we receive reimbursement from GTSC. W. Johnson said we generally pay billing as expeditiously as possible and then send in the quarterly claim to GTSC. Last grant year we had some issues with claims, data, and hourly rates.

W. Johnson provided the TSB with information from P. Overbaugh regarding the use of TRACS to submit ticket data. Some agencies have less than 80% ticket data. GTSC would like to see these numbers increased. E. Dozier asked if GTSC was more concerned with crash reporting, ticket reporting, or both. W. Johnson said it is the ticket reporting they want to see

increased. W. Johnson said he will speak to the law enforcement agencies to see what the issues are and what can be done to increase the use of TRACS. He will then report back to GTSC. E. Dozier said there are resources available for training if that is the issue. If there is a need for equipment there may also be some resources available. She said there is a way to get the numbers up.

- ❖ **2014 Police Traffic Services Grant (PTS):** W. Johnson said the seat belt mobilization took place from May 19 – June 1. We are missing claims and data from DCSO and the Village of Millerton PD. Multiple emails were sent asking law enforcement agencies for claims and data. J. Rapoli said seat belt compliance is up 90%. The focus should be on enforcement of issues where the driver creates hazards for other drivers. He said cell phone and texting is more of an issue. W. Johnson said law enforcement agencies have to be creative in writing seat belt tickets. You can not setup a checkpoint in front of the police department and expect to be productive. He said the T/Poughkeepsie PD used their bike patrol to write tickets and that is why their numbers were higher. W. Johnson stated that the grant does allow the law enforcement agencies to focus on cell phone usage as well. W. Steenbergh said the focus of this particular campaign had to be on seat belt usage, so you want to make it as effective as possible. M. Dampf said when a person doesn't wear their seat belt it is generally for the entire journey. So it easier to spot. However when a person uses a cell phone it is sporadic. Which can makes it more difficult to catch them. An officer has to be at that spot at the time the cell phone is being used. W. Johnson said seat belt enforcement is part of the national mobilization campaign sponsored by NHTSA. He said the law enforcement agencies can use the remainder of their PTS funding to focus on aggressive and distracted driving.
- ❖ **Child Passenger Safety:** W. Johnson stated that on Thursday, July 17th he will do a car seat distribution from 9:00am – 11:00am. He wants to distribute as many as possible because he will be putting in another order to Evenflo. W. Johnson said the TSB will probably not utilize all the appropriations for car seats.
- ❖ **Injury Prevention:**
Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety – W. Johnson said there are no scheduled bike rodeos for the next five weeks. He is waiting to hear from the V/Wappingers PD regarding their annual summer camp rodeo sponsored by the PBA.

E. Dozier said she talked with the NY Bicycling Coalition regarding organizing a bicycle traffic skills 101 course in Dutchess County. The course would focus on how to ride a bicycle on the street, negotiate intersections, change lanes, etc. The course has been taught in other counties. NYBC has agreed to come to Dutchess County but will need a certified instructor. The course would be given in the fall for 10 - 20 participants. E. Dozier said the course would probably be subsidized by the MPO. This would keep the cost low for the participants. There would be an evening of indoor classroom training. The next day will be a full day of hands on training in a parking lot and on the road. E. Dozier said she is looking for a location to hold the course that has an indoor training room and outside training area. She said perhaps one of the local colleges can be used. W. Johnson asked how do we gauge potential interest. E. Dozier said she was thinking of starting with the Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Committee. S. Gill asked if the course gives you a certificate to train others. E. Dozier said this course is not designed to train others, but is the first step towards getting that certification. Participants do receive a certificate of completion. A. Russo asked if the course targets a specific age group. E. Dozier said the course is for adults. It is for people who are interested in bicycling for

transportation but don't feel comfortable on the street. J. Rapoli said a flyer regarding the course could be put in bike shops to generate interest, or at a kiosk on the rail trail. W. Johnson asked if there is an instructor ratio. E. Dozier said it is about 10 to 1. She will continue to look for an instructor.

W. Johnson will check with B. Simpson regarding the use of his classroom and outdoor site for the course. W. Steenbergh said he could look into the use of a fire house for the course. J. Rapoli asked M. Dampf if they have any bike instructors at DCSO. M. Dampf said Bill McKay is a bicycle instructor for other officers, but may not be certified by the League of American Bicyclists.

Senior Driver Mobility – W. Johnson stated that a Deputy from the DCSO will be on hand to collect, secure, and destroy unwanted medications. The following is a list of upcoming senior picnics in June:

T/Pine Plains – Pine Plains Lion Club Pavilion – Wednesday, 7/16.

C/Beacon – Memorial – Wednesday, 7/23

C/Poughkeepsie – Waryas Park – Wednesday, 7/30

T/Poughkeepsie – Bowdoin Park – Wednesday, 8/6

Please check your calendars and contact W. Johnson

Picnics are generally from 11:30am – 1:30pm

Support at these events is greatly appreciated.

Motorcycle Safety Awareness – W. Johnson said a variety of information has been disseminated at the car shows he has been attending for STOP-DWI.

Additions:

- ❖ **Courtroom Education:** J. Rapoli said he went to the court in Stanfordville. He was very impressed with Judge Weber. J. Rapoli said there is a discussion between the Judge, ADA, and the officer. He was really trying to get the message out regarding speeding, cell phone usage, drunk driving and so on. He said it is the right information for the right audience. J. Rapoli asked is there something the TSB can do to recognize the work he is doing in providing education in the courtroom. V. Bellino asked if the Judge could speak at the annual law enforcement ceremony. W. Johnson said maybe we could ask the Judge to come to the TSB meeting in September. J. Rapoli suggest going to the Judge's courtroom to see what he does in providing education.
- ❖ **“Save Your Friends Over the Airwaves”:** W. Johnson said four out of the six winners were able to attend the DC Legislature meeting on Monday, June 9th at 7:00pm. They received commendation from the Legislature. They also received certificates from NYS, and a check.

W. Steenbergh motioned to adjourn the meeting at 1:55 p.m. N. Fenichel seconded. All in favor.

NEXT MEETING:

August 11th 2014 @ 1:00pm.

626 Dutchess Turnpike, First Floor

Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. ** Please Call 486-3603 if you cannot attend. **