

STEBEN COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY BOARD

Friday, December 11, 2015

10:00 a.m.

South Conference Room

Steuben County Office Building

Bath, New York

****MINUTES****

PRESENT:

Chief Salvatore Trentanelli, Corning Police Department
Sheriff David Cole, Steuben County Sheriff
Carol A. Ferratella, Legislator, District 13
Justice Rouse-Nicholson, Steuben County Magistrate's Association
Sgt. James Feeley, New York State Police
Amy Dlugos, Steuben County Planning Director
Paul McAnany, New York State Department of Transportation
Martin Butler, New York State Department of Transportation
Noel Terwilliger, Steuben County District Attorney's Office

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chief Trentanelli called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 25, 2015, MEETING MADE BY JUSTICE ROUSE-NICHOLS, SECONDED BY MRS. FERRATELLA AND DULY CARRIED.

III. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting has been scheduled for Friday, March 18, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. and will be held in the F-1 Conference Room.

IV. DEPARTMENT/AGENCY/MEMBERSHIP REPORTS

A. Magistrate's Association

- Justice Rouse-Nicholson informed the committee that there will be numerous changes with the Judges effective January 1, 2016.
- Justice Rouse-Nicholson reported one of the biggest complaints from the Judges is with regard to the District Attorney's Traffic Diversion Program. This is creating more paperwork and problems with needing to adjourn cases. The fee for the class is \$250 and of that, the Towns/Villages receive \$100, the District Attorney's Office receives \$100 and \$50 goes into a pool for Law Enforcement. She stated there are several counties participating in this. The State Comptroller is upset because no surcharge fees are being collected. If we up with a majority of counties participating, we may have problems with Albany.

B. Legislature

- Mrs. Ferratella commented that she echoes Justice Rouse-Nicholson's concerns. The Traffic Diversion Program has been discussed at the Public Safety & Corrections Committee and we are aware of the issues.

C. NYS Department of Transportation

- Mr. McAnany announced this will be his last meeting as he is retiring. Mr. Butler will be his temporary replacement.
- They had received speed limit change requests from the Town of Urbana regarding CR 88 and we did agree to raise the limit on a portion of that road.
- They received a speed limit change request for Campbell for a dead end road between Vieley and Hough roads and we agreed.
- Two requests were received from the Town of Pulteney. These were for Cross Street and CR 76. We did not agree to either of these changes and notified the Town.

Mrs. Ferratella asked about the reduced limit in the Town of Erwin by the diesel plant. Mr. McAnany replied we did not change the speed limit. They have had crash problems near the IDM plant. We did use some safety money and program money to install a reversible change lane. The posted limit should not be 45 mph and we will look into that.

- Mr. McAnany stated there are two big projects coming up next year. The first is the reconstruction of I-86 between Corning and the Chemung County line. The second is the reconstruction of I-390 between Cohocton and Wayland. Both projects are slated to start construction in the spring.
- They will also be doing work on the bridge in Coopers Plains over Meads Creek.

Justice Rouse-Nicholson stated that the State recently put in solar lights at the pull off after Painted Post; however, they have not been working. Mr. McAnany stated they will look into that.

Chief Trentanelli asked about the progress of the second traffic light on Centerway in the City of Corning. Mr. McAnany replied the traffic light projects are still in the queue. We are looking at installing a flashing yellow arrow. This will allow traffic to turn safely left when there is no opposing traffic. This has been well received by the traveling public in other areas and this will be the first intersection that we will have installed this. Chief Trentanelli stated we will need to do a lot of media coverage as this is something that many people will not understand. Mr. McAnany replied we will issue a travel advisory.

Chief Trentanelli thanked Mr. McAnany for his service and dedication in coming to these meetings. Mr. McAnany stated that he has enjoyed attending and he believes we make a difference.

D. Sheriff's Office

- Sheriff Cole reported that STOP-DWI Crackdown grant funding was reduced from \$23,000 to \$16,000. The STOP-DWI budget for 2016 is pretty much the same as last year. Enforcement money dropped to \$39,000 and that is divided among the agencies based upon the number of arrests.

Chief Trentanelli commented the funding is significantly less than what it used to be. Five years ago, we were getting \$22,000 and now we are down to \$10,000. Sheriff Cole commented the County runs the budget and he is just the coordinator. A lot of the money goes to the District Attorney and Probation. Enforcement only gets \$40,000 - \$50,000. Chief Trentanelli commented if they keep robbing from the enforcement side they will not have anything left from the other side. With the Traffic Diversion Program, the District Attorney has found a way to put money toward enforcement. We are all short-staffed and that is why the Crackdown funding is so important.

Sheriff Cole stated the Crackdown funds are designated for specific times. Chief Trentanelli stated that it would be nice if they would broaden the Crackdown times. There are other events in the County where the Crackdown would be important. Because there are only these targeted times, we have a lot of money to use in a short window. The majority of grants across the State are reduced. It is difficult to find people to work. We need to push the agencies to use all of their money otherwise, we will be cut again. The other thing to consider is sharing staff. Sheriff Cole stated he agrees. We

will have to look at that next year. Sgt. Feeley commented if that is an issue, please consider our staff as well for those events.

E. Bath Police Department

- Chief Mullen reported they are up to full staff and also have one new vehicle.
- The parking lot off Liberty Street is now complete. The bus companies have shared concerns regarding the curb openings and we have contacted DOT about that. Mr. McAnany stated we are looking at cutting the left turn slots back at William and Liberty.
- Chief Mullen stated that Mayor is looking into funding to be able to install cameras in the parking lot.

F. New York State Police

- Sgt. Feeley commented that we do have a couple of holiday time DWI initiatives planned for Christmas and New Year's.

G. Planning

- Mrs. Dlugos reported that the bus shelters previously located at the County Office Building are now in the municipal parking lot. We have not heard a lot of complaints and we do have the HATS bus making brief stops in front of the County Office Building. The buses operate under a flag system, which means they will pull over where it is safe to pick up or drop off riders.

H. Corning Police Department

- Chief Trentanelli stated that this is his third year as President of the New York State Association of Traffic Safety Boards. They meet quarterly in Albany. Every County is supposed to have a board and we have eight regional Vice Presidents. Most of the counties do not have an active Traffic Safety Board like we do. He stated that he appreciates everyone taking the time to drive in to attend these meetings and it says a lot about our Board. Thank you for all you do.

V. **OTHER BUSINESS**

A. *Traffic Diversion Program* – Chief Mullen asked what can Traffic Diversion Program funding be used for? Mr. Terwilliger replied essentially anything that is traffic related. Mr. Baker will be putting out written guidelines. Next year we are going forward with setting up a process whereby the agencies will tell the District Attorney what you are going to use the money for ahead of time.

Justice Rouse-Nicholson asked how many Saturday per month are you holding classes? Mr. Terwilliger replied we are doing two to three per month. We are thinking about offering classes two nights during the week. Justice Rouse-Nicholson asked do you only have one instructor? Mr. Terwilliger replied yes, Joel Ordway. The classes are held at the Civil Defense Center.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY JUSTICE ROUSE-NICHOLS, SECONDED BY MRS. FERRATELLA AND DULY CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted by

Amanda L. Chapman
Deputy Clerk
Steuben County Legislature