

**TRAFFIC SAFETY BOARD**

*Friday, September 28, 2018*

*10:05 a.m.*

*South Conference Room*

*Steuben County Office Building*

*Bath, New York*

**\*\*MINUTES\*\***

**PRESENT:** Chief Chad Mullen, Bath Village Police  
James Allard, Steuben County Sheriff  
Amy Dlugos, Planning Director  
Lorelei Wagner, Public Health  
Carol A. Ferratella, Legislator, District 13  
Cathy Rouse-Nicholson, Magistrate's Association  
Brooks Baker, District Attorney  
Sgt. Jim Feeley, New York State Police  
Martin Butler, New York State Department of Transportation  
Maureen Kozakiewicz, Governor's Traffic Safety Committee  
Anthony D'Agostino, Governor's Traffic Safety Committee

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chief Mullen called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 29, 2018, MEETING MADE BY JUSTICE ROUSE-NICHOLS. SECONDED BY SHERIFF ALLARD AND DULY CARRIED.**

**III. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting has been scheduled for Friday, December 14, 2018, at 10:00 a.m. in the South Conference Room.

**IV. CORRESPONDENCE**

A. **Town of Pulteney** – Chief Mullen reported that the Town of Pulteney received a letter from NYSDOT regarding the result of the speed study on Middle Road and Wright Road. Mr. Butler explained we agreed to lower the speed limit to 4mph on a portion of Middle Road from the intersection with Wright Road to the intersection of Shuart Road. The rest of Middle Road does not warrant a speed reduction.

B. **Town of Pulteney** – Chief Mullen reported the Town of Pulteney received a letter from NYSDOT regarding the notice of orders reducing the speed limit on Middle Road between Wright Road and Shuart Road. Mr. Butler explained the order was received from Albany and forwarded to the Town. The town can now post that area at 45 mph and they are responsible for putting up that signage.

C. **Village of Hammondsport** – Chief Mullen reported this morning an email was sent by Jill and Geoffrey Grimsman of Hammondsport expressing their concerns with speed on CR 76 at the point where it meets and transitions to the village speed limit of 30 mph on SR 54A. Sheriff Allard stated Mr. Grimsman has been attending village meeting regarding this issue. Just inside the village line, we did put out a radar trailer. Mr. Grimsman does not feel the village has been responsive to his needs and he then began sending letters to him and the County Manager. Sheriff Allard stated he has done several ITP's (intensive traffic patrols) in that area. The area of concern to Mr. Grimsman is the section that is the steep downhill.

Sheriff Allard stated he understands his issues and with the radar trailer and the ITP's, he does believe that traffic did slow down. We did write a lot of tickets. Mr. Grimsman wants to relocate the signage and wants the Traffic Safety Board to come up with a strategy to slow people down. Sheriff Allard noted we have had no complaints from anyone else. By and large, if you did a speed study, you would find that the speeds are not horrendous.

Mr. Butler stated NYSDOT would not typically do a speed study on a county road. Sheriff Allard stated he talked with Mr. Spagnoletti and they do not have the equipment to do a speed study. Our radar trailer does not save and record data, but the State will not give us money to purchase a new trailer. Mr. Grimsman is located right at the speed change.

Mr. Butler commented he does not know what a study will prove. Sheriff Allard stated he has held several ITP's over the past two years. Mr. Butler stated if the Village Board were to request a speed study, we would do it. Sheriff Allard stated the results of a speed study will also depend on the time of year. Mr. Butler stated he would not do the study right at the speed transition. Basically it is 55 mph to 30 mph then the stop sign. A study at that spot would not be indicative of the 85 percentile comfortable speed. Sheriff Allard stated the village police department did a speed study and some enforcement.

Mr. Butler stated one option would be to move the 30 mph speed sign to a different area. We could move it further up the hill, but he doesn't think it will change anything. Sheriff Allard stated the only other thing would be to put in rumble strips. Mr. Butler stated we try to stay away from those in residential areas because of the noise. Justice Rouse-Nicholson commented they are also dangerous for motorcycles and there are a lot of motorcycles that travel that road.

Sheriff Allard stated our strategy is to have enforcement. We can work together with the State Police to come up with an enforcement plan. Chief Mullen asked the Sheriff to prepare a letter of response that the Traffic Safety Board can send to Mr. Grimsman.

Mr. Butler commented maybe a permanent speed feedback sign would be appropriate. Chief Mullen asked what did Canisteo pay for the signs that they have near the school? Mr. Butler replied he believes the school paid for those. Sheriff Allard stated that may be an option.

## **V. DEPARTMENTAL/AGENCY/MEMBERSHIP REPORTS**

### **A. New York State Police**

- Sgt. Feeley stated their new fiscal year starts October 1, 2018 and they will be working on their Traffic Safety Plan which includes DWI road checks, traffic enforcement, seat belt checks, etc. We are gearing up to do details again. The first mandatory holiday one we have will be Halloween.
- Sgt. Feeley stated they have changes in their staffing. Most notably is that Lt. McDarby is retiring in November.

### **B. Magistrate's Association**

- Justice Rouse-Nicholson stated that Raise the Age takes effect October 1<sup>st</sup> which means that any felony offenses or non-vehicle and traffic law misdemeanors committed by those under the age of 17 will no longer be prosecuted in local criminal courts. She stated that any vehicle and traffic law misdemeanor, infraction or any violation level offense still goes through local criminal court. Sheriff Allard commented you still cannot remand those youth to Jail. Justice Rouse-Nicholson stated maybe that is something that can be brought up at our meetings.

### **C. New York State Department of Transportation**

- Mr. Butler stated the Wineglass Marathon will be held this Sunday, September 30<sup>th</sup>. The plan has gotten better every year and he has been very impressed with this one. The weather is looking good.
- Mr. Butler stated they are in the midst of doing a pedestrian project in Bath. This will include sidewalk improvements, ADA ramp improvements and installation of sidewalks on SR 415 and SR 54, as well as throughout the village. We believe this will be completed this coming construction season.

Mr. Butler stated the Pedestrian Safety Action Plan Program will be constructed next year, and this is beyond and separate from the sidewalk project. This project will include improvements at intersections such as new stop signage at the Buell Street intersection. We are also proposing bump outs at that location to limit the distance pedestrians have to walk. The village had issues with parking and we showed that the bump outs will not reduce parking. Chief Mullen commented the Village Board and the Mayor had concerns about the bump outs, but he thinks it will slow people down coming down Liberty Street. Mr. Butler stated the ADA ramps will be brought up to code and we will be installing advanced street signing. The design will be done this November with construction to begin next year. Chief Mullen stated this will be fantastic on West Morris Street and on SR 54 up to Phillips.

D. District Attorney

- Mr. Baker announced between now and the first of the year, we will be doing some scrambling with personnel. Mr. McCartney will be on sick leave until the first of the year and we will be reassigning local court coverage. Mr. Miller, who is handling DWI, will be helping me with a major murder trial through the end of November. You may see a slow down on DWI cases and offers may slow down. You will be seeing different faces at the local courts. After January, we will resume our normal staffing schedule.

E. Public Health

- Ms. Wagner stated she participated with the Sheriff's Office at the Strong Kids Safe Kids event where they distributed 90 bicycle helmets. They also did a car seat check event and they distributed 12 seats and replaced 6.
- This week is Child Passenger Safety Week and she was on WENY yesterday to talk about this.

F. Planning

- Mrs. Dlugos stated last meeting a representative from Healthy Communities/Health Schools provided a presentation their program. She stated that we did receive funding which we put into the Public Works budget and that will be used to purchase pedestrian safety signs for the Prattsburgh and Campbell-Savona schools. She is not sure what the next step will be in that project.

G. Sheriff's Office

- Sheriff Allard stated they recently hosted the Share the Road Summit at the Curtis Museum. It was well attended with just under 100 participants.
- They are in the midst of grant season and are getting their final numbers on what they will get from their various applications including ITP, Child Passenger Safety, etc.
- He stated he will be presenting the 2019 STOP DWI Plan for approval today, and if approved, that will be submitted immediately.

H. Governor's Traffic Safety Committee

- Mr. D'Agostino stated he is the Liaison from the NYS Sheriff's Association. The annual Traffic Safety Symposium will be held October 15<sup>th</sup> in Lake Placid. If you have not already signed up, consider going as this is a great way to network.
- He stated there are three victim advocate speakers who are available to anyone. Sheriff Spike has used these speakers for his Victim Impact Panel. There is no cost to have them come to your county to speak as we pay for them. If we can bring one of these speakers to your groups, please let us know. Two of the speakers focus on distracted driving and the third speaker talks about distracted driving, speed and alcohol.
- He stated yesterday he and Ms. Kozakiewicz attended the New York State Association of Rural Health Conference. Mark Fenton from Tufts University was the keynote speaker. Mr. Fenton does walk-arounds with local officials, law enforcement and members of the community to show how

dangerous it is for pedestrians and provides strategies for addressing those dangers. Mr. D'Agostino stated that he will be joining this organization as they have a lot of great information.

- He encouraged the Board to take advantage of the numerous resources available through the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee. Grants are due October 15<sup>th</sup>.

I. Legislature

- Mrs. Ferratella commented the Village of Riverside and the City of Corning applied for a NYSDOT grant to fix the intersection at William Street/Pulteney Street. Another issue in the Village of Riverside relates to parking which makes it difficult for traffic pulling out onto Route 415 from the side streets. Mrs. Ferratella will work with Mr. Butler and NYSDOT.

J. Bath Village Police Department

- Chief Mullen commented next year you will see numerous changes in the village. The mayor has asked me and I am looking for bids to purchase the flasher pedestrian lights. These are about \$9,000 each. We would like to purchase two or three, and one of this will be put up at the intersection of the new County Office Building. It was suggested that we not have a flashing sign that goes 24 hours, but rather a sign that the pedestrian pushes when they want to go across and then it flashes. Additionally, we would like to put one where the crossing guard is on Washington Boulevard and in that instance will put one on each side. He commented that he will be looking at grant funds to do this next year.
- He stated they are also gearing up to do their grants.
- Next week they will be going live, with the Sheriff, on the new Impact Records Management System. The information in that system will be a lot easier for all of us and will keep track of STOP DWI, TraCs Tickets and other reports and will be searchable. He stated they have also been talking with the District Attorney about creating something for court information.

Chief Mullen stated the overall functionality of this system will be fantastic. Our goal down the road, is to get the entire county on this system.

K. Governor's Traffic Safety Committee (Cont.)

- Ms. Kozakiewicz stated with regard to your Pedestrian Safety Action Plan (PSAP), there is free stuff and information available. There will be engagement with Law Enforcement, not-for-profits and Public Health to do education on new walkable sidewalks. We fund and it is all free. We would like to funnel that to you. Is your projected timeframe for completion for everything next spring? Mr. Butler replied not everything. We have the budget to construct about half of it.
- She thanked the Sheriff for hosting the statewide motorcycle safety training here. She was very impressed with the area.
- Ms. Kozakiewicz stated law enforcement needs to get the reports done.

VI. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

A. **Approval of 2019 STOP DWI Plan** – Sheriff Allard presented the 2019 STOP DWI Plan for approval. The biggest change was that enforcement increased and we tapped into the rollover funds. We are seeing countywide that numbers are up. We have two deputies working drug interdiction and did not expect to see an increase in DWI/DWAI drug arrests. Already at this point we are at 125 and last year, we had 54 for the entire year. Sheriff Allard commented we did tap into the rollover funds and have one deputy dedicated to STOP DWI. The rollover funds paid for the vehicle, equipment and 50 percent of the salary.

Sheriff Allard stated everything else in the plan remains the same. Local enforcement efforts increased slightly and we have divided that among the agencies based on the number of arrest that were made last year. He commented Livingston County has three dedicated deputies on DWI patrol and we will now have one every day that deputy works.

**MOTION: APPROVING THE 2019 STOP-DWI PLAN AS PRESENTED BY SHERIFF ALLARD MADE BY MR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MRS. FERRATELLA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR AND DULY CARRIED.**

Mr. Baker commented the Sheriff has added phenomenal staff. This will become infectious and other departments will start making more arrests. We are seeing more and more drug and drug/alcohol cases. Ms. Kozakiewicz commented the next phase of DRE is looking at commercial drivers.

**MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MRS. DLUGOS. SECONDED BY SHERIFF ALLARD AND DULY CARRIED.**

Respectfully Submitted by

Amanda L. Chapman  
Deputy Clerk  
Steuben County Legislature