

Twin Falls Traffic Safety Commission Meeting
Schedule of Regular Meetings

Year 2009

The following is a schedule for 2009 Traffic Safety Commission meetings. The meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of every month starting at 9:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M. All meetings are held in the City Council Chambers, 305 Third Avenue East.

January 8, 2009

July 9, 2009

February 12, 2009

August 13, 2009

March 12, 2009

September 10, 2009

April 9, 2009

October 8, 2009

May 14, 2009

November 12, 2009

June 11, 2009

December 10, 2009

Twin Falls Traffic Safety Commission Meeting

Agenda

January 8, 2009

9am-10am

1. December 2008 minutes
2. School zone prioritized list
3. North College & Washington St. North Intersection – updates?

MEMBERS

PERMANENT AND AT LARGE

Dave Snelson, Chairman
Bill Kyle, Co-Chairman
Page Geske
Rebecca Duke

Rob Storm
Aaron Wert
Kirk Brower

EX-OFFICIO

Tom Courtney
Jackie Field
Don Hall
Mike Sullivan
Jim Munn
Dennis Pullin

City Manager
City Engineer
City Council
Traffic Technician
Chief of Police
Staff Sergeant/Traffic

Twin Falls Traffic Safety Commission

Minutes

January 8, 2009

Those Present: Rebecca Duke, Bill Kyle, Page Geske, Dennis Pullin, Kirk Brower, Don Hall, Aaron Wert, and Michael Sullivan.

Meeting called to order at 9:01 a.m.

Aaron moved to accept the December 2008 minutes as presented, Rebecca seconded and all were in favor.

Research and recommendations from Twin Falls Police traffic officers have indicated a need for flashing speed zone beacons to be installed in several areas. The main areas for immediate consideration are for Oregon Trail Elementary on Park Ave and Filer Ave East in front of Twin Falls High School. Additional recommendations included Blue Lakes Blvd proper near Bickel Elementary and Locust Street on the west side of Twin Falls High School. Dennis will gather collision statistics, both pedestrian and vehicle, to allow the commission to make an educated decision as to where new beacons should be installed.

Kirk updated the commission on the status of the safety study involving the intersection at Madrona St. and Falls Ave East. The intersection, per results of the safety study, indicated a large number of young students had to cross a very busy intersection. Kirk informed the group that the school district safety meeting was on January 8, 2009 and after informing the safety members of the results, the matter will be taken to The Twin Falls School District Board on Monday, January 12, 2009 for approval. A school safety bus will be allocated to pick up students, north of Falls Ave East, that attend Sawtooth Elementary. **Kirk motioned for support on behalf of the Twin Falls Traffic Safety Commission; Page seconded and all were in favor.**

Michael informed the commission that the City of Twin Falls is waiting for estimate information from Balanced Rock Electric, to install a temporary traffic signal at Washington St. North and North College Rd. The signal will be a timed stop light that hangs from span wires stretching across the intersection. The intersection will have pedestrian crossing signals; they as well will be timed instead of pedestrian activated. The pedestrian crossings will be on the West and South side of the intersection to ensure safety of pedestrians. Mike relayed to the commission that Jackie Fields will be attending the school board meeting to educate members of the district regarding the traffic signal. Don Hall informed the commission that City Council has kept this

issue on the front burner. Many different solutions have been discussed and researched, and at the present time the goal is to educate the public.

Dennis updated the commission on the subject matter of banning ATVs and UTVs on city streets. At this time the police department has taken the subject to Fritz Wonderlich, attorney for the City of Twin Falls, to draft an ordinance. The ordinance will be addressed by City Council and after the appropriate public hearings, the members of City Council will decide whether to approve the ban or allow the vehicles on city streets.

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Next meeting is February 12, 2009 in the City Council Chambers overflow room.

Minutes provided by Rebecca Duke

Twin Falls Traffic Safety Commission Meeting

Agenda

February 12, 2009

9am-10am

1. January 2009 minutes
2. School zone prioritized list
3. James Mildon Traffic Safety Award nominations
4. Washington St. North and North College intersection – any updates?

MEMBERS

PERMANENT AND AT LARGE

Dave Snelson, Chairman
Bill Kyle, Co-Chairman
Page Geske
Rebecca Duke
Rob Storm
Aaron Wert
Kirk Brower

EX-OFFICIO

Tom Courtney
Jackie Field
Don Hall
Mike Sullivan
Jim Munn
Dennis Pullin
City Manager
City Engineer
City Council
Traffic Technician
Chief of Police
Staff Sergeant/Traffic

Twin Falls Traffic Safety Commission

Minutes

February 12, 2009

Those present: Rebecca Duke, Bill Kyle, Dennis Pullin, Kirk Brower, Mike Sullivan, Aaron Wert, Page Geske, Dave Snelson.

Bill motioned to accept the January 2009 minutes, Rebecca seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

The police department provided statistics on vehicle accidents in Twin Falls school zones. **Based on the provided information, Bill motioned to install flashing speed limit beacons on Park Ave near Oregon Trail Elementary. Kirk seconded and all were in favor, motion carried.** The goal for installation is no later than August 1, 2009. **Bill amended his motion to include a request for additional flashing lights if there are remaining funds available from the sign budget.** Mike is going to research pricing for simple flashing lights (bouncing ball variety) in the event that additional funds are left from this year's budget for signs. The bouncing ball flashing lights would be used in an area where additional attention getting devices are needed but not intended to change the speed limit.

Commission members discussed the nominations for the annual Jim Mildon Traffic Safety Award. On behalf of the commission, Page volunteered to draft a nomination for the Twin Falls Citizens on Patrol group. **Aaron motioned to accept the nomination for the COPs and Kirk seconded. All were in favor, motion carried.**

Mike informed the commission that starting February 12, 2009, construction would begin on the traffic signal at Washington Street North and North College Rd.

The commission discussed membership expirations for March 2009. Dennis will notify Gretchen Scott, and request that an ad be placed to seek new commission members. According to the most recent document provided to the members in 2008, Bill Kyle's, Dave Snelson's, and Aaron Wert's memberships will expire.

Next meeting is March 12, 2009 in the City Council Overflow Room.

Meeting adjourned at 10:01 am.

Minutes provided by Rebecca Duke

Twin Falls Traffic Safety Commission Meeting

Agenda

March 12, 2009

9am-10am

- February 2009 minutes
- Poleline Rd, intersection at the Target/Costco parking lots – Dennis
- Expiring commission memberships
- Update for Jim Mildon Traffic Safety Award?

MEMBERS

PERMANENT AND AT LARGE

Dave Snelson, Chairman	Rob Storm
Bill Kyle, Co-Chairman	Aaron Wert
Page Geske	Kirk Brower
Rebecca Duke	

EX-OFFICIO

Tom Courtney	City Manager
Jackie Field	City Engineer
Don Hall	City Council
Mike Sullivan	Traffic Technician
Jim Munn	Chief of Police
Dennis Pullin	Staff Sergeant/Traffic

Twin Falls Traffic Safety Commission

Minutes

March 12, 2009

Present: Rebecca Duke, Rob Storm, Mike Sullivan, Dennis Pullin, Bill Kyle, Jackie Fields, and Page Geske.

Called to order 9:05 am.

- **Rob motioned to accept February 12, 2009 minutes, Rebecca seconded, all were in favor and the motion passed.**
- Membership expirations – Dennis informed the commission that he received a letter from an interested party from Riedesel Engineering. One additional inquiry had contacted Dennis but no further information has come forward at this point. City Council needs to review and appoint any potential members, including Kirk Brower with the Twin Falls School District. Since the last meeting, corrections were made to the membership list as follows: Page Geske, Rob Storm, and Dave Snelson were appointed to an additional three-year term, expiring in March 2011. Rebecca Duke's first term expired March of 2009, city council needs to approve the additional term, which would expire March 2011. The following memberships expired March 2009; Bill Kyle, Aaron Wert, and Ron Withers (who was replaced by Kirk Brower). Dennis will ask Gretchen to rerun the ad seeking additional members.
- Target/Costco intersection – Dennis provided statistics and photos to the commission regarding the intersection between the Target and Costco parking lots. There is a large gap across nine lanes of traffic that has become a very dangerous problem. Accidents at

that intersection are excessive, mostly because people are attempting to cross the nine lanes to the adjacent parking lot. After a lengthy discussion for possible solutions,

Rebecca moved to request that the city engineering department, with the help of the TF police department, develop a plan for temporary correction using the glue down Marker Post/ Delineators in an S shaped fashion in the intersection. Rob seconded the motioned and all were in favor. This will ensure motorists make right hand turns out of both parking lots, at the south exit from Costco and the north exit from Target.

- Jim Mildon Traffic Safety Award – Dennis stated that he would attempt to have the presentation of the award on the March 23 city council agenda. He will keep the commission informed via email.
- Rob mentioned that he has noticed a few signs in Twin Falls that show inconsistency. He noted that the wording varies for signs that indicate right hand turns at red traffic signals. Jackie and Mike were unsure as to why there is that inconsistency but Mike will investigate the matter further.
- Page requested to have an investigation done at the intersection of Aspenwood and 9th Ave East. She stated that the traffic is excessive and a stop sign may be needed. Mike will research the problem.
- Jackie asked to include speed studies for Eastland Drive near O’Leary Junior High on next month’s agenda.

Adjourned 10:15 am.

Minutes provided by Rebecca Duke

Twin Falls Traffic Safety Commission Meeting

Agenda

April 9, 2009

9am-10am

- March 2009 minutes
- New members - Dennis
- Speed studies for Eastland Drive near O'Leary Junior High
- Updates for Costco/Target intersection

MEMBERS

PERMANENT AND AT LARGE

Dave Snelson, Chairman	Rob Storm
Bill Kyle, Co-Chairman	Aaron Wert
Page Geske	Kirk Brower
Rebecca Duke	

EX-OFFICIO

Tom Courtney	City Manager
Jackie Field	City Engineer
Don Hall	City Council
Mike Sullivan	Traffic Technician
Jim Munn	Chief of Police
Dennis Pullin	Staff Sergeant/Traffic

Twin Falls Traffic Safety Commission

Minutes

April 9, 2009

Those present: Rebecca Duke, Don Hall, Kirk Brower, Michael Sullivan, Rob Storm, Dave Snelson, and Bill Kyle.

Eastland speed studies – Mike provided the commission with speed study statistics for Eastland Dr. Within the past year, the City of Twin Falls installed solar speed limit signs on Eastland indicating the school zone for O’Leary Jr. High School. The results of the study indicate that people are less compliant with the new signs than before they were installed. Don Hall asked if people are not compliant because they are used to the speed limit in a school zone being consistent throughout the day. Motorists may be confused about the current signs. Currently the signs on Eastland only flash and indicate a speed change when students are more likely to be present, before and after school. Mike is going to contact the company who manufactures radar speed signs and request additional information for the commission. Discussion and uncertainty remains with the fact that the speed signs at O’Leary are solar powered and if new signs need to be hardwired electrical cost is a concern.

Kirk suggested that the new signs for Oregon Trail be programmed for 7:30 am – 4:30pm, because it is an elementary school.

Target/Costco Intersection – The Traffic Safety Commission has been asked to draft a letter to City Council indicating their support of the temporary planning regarding the Target/Costco intersection. **Bill moved that this commission write a letter to City Council requesting that the temporary delineators be placed in the intersection as previously discussed. If the inexpensive temporary solution provides an improvement in accident rates, the commission would support a more permanent plan for correction. Rob seconded the motion and all were in favor.**

Rebecca relayed information from an email from Dennis Pullin about commission memberships. Sergeant Pullin indicated that within the next week or two, interviews for the open commission positions would take place. Sergeant Pullin stated that Dave Snelson, Mayor Clow, Councilman Hall and he would conduct the interviews.

As discussed in previous commission meetings, several “Right Turn on Red” signs are displayed throughout the city. The signs are inconsistent in their wording, which could cause some confusion for motorists. Mike stated that the signs are legal but for consistency reasons he would speak with Jackie about having them taken down.

Rebecca asked the commission for help in clarifying which lane is the merging lane for Filer Ave as one approaches the Locust light heading eastbound. The right hand lane is for through traffic

and the left lane can either turn left at the light or merge right immediately after the light. Mike is going to research why we did not designate the left lane a left turn only lane.

Next meeting: May 14th in the City Council overflow room.

Meeting adjourned 9:55am.

Minutes provided by Rebecca Duke

Twin Falls Traffic Safety Commission Meeting

Agenda

May 14, 2009

9am-10am

- April 2009 minutes
- New members, introductions - Dennis
- Updates for Costco/Target intersection
- TSC office positions

MEMBERS

PERMANENT AND AT LARGE

Dave Snelson, Chairman	Rob Storm
Bill Kyle, Co-Chairman	Aaron Wert
Page Geske	Kirk Brower
Rebecca Duke	

EX-OFFICIO

Tom Courtney	City Manager
Jackie Field	City Engineer
Don Hall	City Council
Mike Sullivan	Traffic Technician
Jim Munn	Chief of Police
Dennis Pullin	Staff Sergeant/Traffic

Twin Falls Traffic Safety Commission Meeting

Agenda

June 11, 2009

9am-10am

- May 2009 minutes
- Member terms
- Updates for Costco/Target intersection

MEMBERS

PERMANENT AND AT LARGE

Dave Snelson, Chairman	Mary Brand
Rob Storm, Co-Chairman	Rod Mathis
Page Geske	Kirk Brower
Rebecca Duke	

EX-OFFICIO

Tom Courtney	City Manager
Jackie Field	City Engineer
Don Hall	City Council
Mike Sullivan	Traffic Technician
Jim Munn	Chief of Police
Dennis Pullin	Staff Sergeant/Traffic

MINUTES

Twin Falls Traffic Safety Committee

June 11, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Dave Snelson.

In attendance

Dave Snelson, Rebecca Duke, Dennis Pullin, Rob Storm, Mike Sullivan
Kirk Brower, Rod Mathis, Don Hall and Mary Brand.



Approval of Minutes

Motion by Rob Storm. Seconded by Rebecca Duke. The minutes approved as written.

Member Terms

The committee reviewed the member term sheet prepared by Rebecca Duke. City Council had approved a different term structure for the committee so that all members would not leave the committee at the same time. Rebecca Duke asked for clarification on terms since she finished another committee member's term. Dennis Pullin said he would find the information from that meeting and let everyone know.

Update for Costco/Target Intersection

Mike Sullivan told the committee that the signs had been ordered. Dennis Pullin expressed a concern about the two lanes for turning right out of Target and Costco. Other members of the committee also expressed concern because the left lane could obscure the view for the right lane. Rod Mathis suggested a staggered stop bar. Staggering the stop bar would keep the left lane back far enough for a clear view of oncoming traffic. With signage, a staggered stop bar and public education by KMVT and *The Times News* the hope is that drivers will understand the improvements being made for their safety.

Twin Falls School District Street Issues

Kirk Brower brought up a concern regarding the side street Canyon Ridge High School will be using to load and unload buses. It appears that the side street could be used as a cut through street to get to Walmart faster. This could be a real concern when school begins. Kirk wondered if TFSD could barricade the street to stop cutting through to Walmart. Dennis said that he would check it out because it could be a city street and in that case could not be barricaded. Rob suggested a slower speed limit so drivers would not gain any time by using this street to cut through to Walmart. Dennis will get back to the committee and Kirk when he has had time to review the situation.

Recognition of Past Committee Members

Dave asked if anyone had checked on the plaques and City Council presentation for retiring members of the committee. Dennis said that he would check with Leila to order the plaques and schedule the presentation. He said that he would get back to everyone before noon today. Dave also asked Mary to send an e-mail to let committee members know when the City Council presentation will be so they could plan to attend.

Canyon Springs Road

Rob asked that the committee discuss the Canyon Springs road speed limit. Many people walk this grade for exercise and to enjoy the view. He feels that the 35 mile an hour speed limit is too fast and would like to see the speed limit set at 25. Drivers must slow down for the hairpin turns in the road so it would not be a big issue to drop the speed limit to 25 until the road straightens. Committee was not sure if City or County needed to be consulted and how start the process. Dennis said he would find out information on this issue for the committee.

Meeting Adjourned

Next meeting will be July 9, 2009.

MINUTES

Twin Falls Traffic Safety Committee

July 9, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Mary Brand.



In attendance

Rebecca Duke, Dennis Pullin, Mike Sullivan
Kirk Brower, Rod Mathis, Don Hall and Mary Brand.

Approval of Minutes

Rebecca Duke wanted to make sure the minutes showed that she was starting her 3-year term with the Traffic Safety Committee. With that change the motion by Rebecca Duke and seconded by Rod Mathis.

Update for Costco/Target Intersection

Mike Sullivan reported that Costco was now on line so the work will begin on Monday. The changes being made will be part of a study to evaluate the area traffic. Pending the results of the study the project will go back before the City Council.

Recognition of Past Committee Members

Don Hall reported that the retiring members of the committee were happy with the award presentation during City Council.

Canyon Ridge High School/Walmart

Kirk Brower told the committee that the school district had placed speed bumps in the parking lot. He said they were big enough to slow traffic way down. Posting signs regarding the street being private school property were discussed. Kirk said that the school district would watch and see if the signs were needed. When the new school opens, if there is a problem signs can be posted at that time.

Canyon Springs Road

Dennis Pullin reported that input from the city attorney was the city had control of that street. Mike reported that he reviewed the last Canyon Springs road study in 2006. The recommendation from the survey was no change. Members of the committee discussed the popularity of the street grade for walkers and still feel that there is room for concern. Mike will discuss the concerns of the committee with Jackie Fields, city engineer. She has the ability to change the speed limit without taking the issue to city council. If Jackie does not feel the speed reduction is necessary, the matter could still be taken to city council by the committee.

ATV's and UTV's

Don asked the committee for their thoughts about ATV's and UTV's on city streets. The police department had been asked to not take the lead on this topic. He said that with the concerns of gas use and emissions the vehicles could be a good be a viable reason for increased use of these vehicles. The vehicles would be required by law to have operators licensed, horns, lights, and a license plate. At this time the committee felt that the vehicles were not an issue and until they were to not bring up the topic.

Vision Impairment at Intersections

Mary asked about the process for tree and shrubbery impairments at intersections. Rebecca also brought up vehicles that are parked too close to intersections, especially around schools. She wondered if there would be a way to designate a restricted area with paint to keep people from parking so close to intersections. Mike and or Dennis will check out the intersection of concern, since it is near Lincoln school.

Mary explained that she will be out of town for the week of July 13-17 and asked Rebecca Duke to be on call if the committee needed something. Rebecca said yes. Her efforts for the committee are appreciated.

Meeting Adjourned

Next meeting will be August 13, 2009.

agenda



Twin Falls Traffic Safety Commission

Date: August 13, 2009

Time: 9am

Place: City Council Adjunct

Meeting called by: Chairman Dave Snelson

Attendees: Dave Snelson, Rob Storm, Page Geske, Rebecca Duke, Rod Mathis, Kirk Brower, Mary Brand, Mike Sullivan, Dennis Pullin and Don Hall.

Please Read: July Minutes

Please Bring: Nothing for August Agenda

Call to order – Dave Snelson, Chairman

- Review of July Minutes
- Bethel Temple Traffic Study
Guest – Brent Jussel
- Update for Costco/Target Intersection
- Canyon Ridge High School/Walmart Street
- Canyon Springs Road
Dennis Pullin Reported 6-11-2009
Per the County Highway District, Canyon Springs Road is maintained by the City. The City manages the traffic signs as well. Dennis will send the City Attorney an e-mail to verify that information.

Adjourn

Next Meeting: September 10, 2009

MINUTES

Twin Falls Traffic Safety Committee

August 13, 2009



The meeting was called to order by Dave Snelson.

In attendance

Dave Snelson, Rebecca Duke, Rob Storm, Lou Coronado, Perry Barnhill, Mike Sullivan, Kirk Brower, Rod Mathis, Don Hall, Mary Brand and guest Brent Jussel.

Approval of Minutes

Rob Storm made the motion to accept the June minutes. Rebecca Duke seconded the motion. The motion carried and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Bethel Temple-Hankins Road Request

Guest Brent Jussel came to the Traffic Safety Commission to request a speed change of 35 for the Hankins Road near Bethel Temple. Brent explained that 7 years ago Brent and others started the quest to reduce the speed limit. At first, no one was sure of who was responsible for the road speed limits. The determination was made that half was City and half was County. Brent is familiar with the road and shared his concerns regarding new drivers, aging parents increased road usage and growth issues. Brent and Mike Sullivan had taken a ride along that included pictures of intersections, natural and manmade obstructions near the area of concern. Brent also told the commission that Bethel Temple will have a school on site by September which will mean increased traffic to the area with parents dropping children off for school.

Mike gave the commission copies of a traffic study done in April. Here is the conclusion and recommendation.

The high spot on Hankins Road, at the canal, is far enough to the south of 9th Ave. for vehicles exiting 9th Ave. to do so safely and for NB vehicles to stop in time if a vehicle exits 9th Ave. at about the time NB vehicles cross the canal. Based on the above, the 85th percentile speeds and accident history, no change in the posted speed limit is recommended at this time.

Mike also explained statistics show that lower speed limits do not affect speed. There was a Children at Play sign posted some years ago, but were found to not be effective. Plus, there was a real concern that the sign would encourage children to play in the road. The signs have been taken down.

Rob Storm told the commission that he had driven the area of concern and felt that it needed to be consistent with roads Falls Ave., Kimberly Road and Addison Ave. The speed he recommended was 45.

Rebecca told the commission that she had received comment from a manager at D & B Supply. The comments given were the managers personal feelings and not as a representative of D & B Supply. She felt that speed was an issue. Many people have used D & B Supply's parking area to cut through to Hankins Road. There were no bike or pedestrian paths on the East. There was also a concern with the lack of police patrols on this stretch of road. When D & B Supply calls for help with an accident near their facility they must call both the city and county. It makes reporting accidents as well as the city and county both needing to be at an accident site.

The area has been annexed by the City and will eventually go to 35 miles an hour.

A motion was made by Rob to reduce the speed on Hankins Road to 45 miles per hour to be consistent with Kimberly Road, Addison Ave. and Falls Ave. Rod seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Canyon Springs Road

The reduction of the speed limit for Canyon Springs Road was reviewed again. The city council needs a recommendation from the Traffic Safety Commission. Engineer Jackie Fields told the commission that their traffic study had not determined a need for a speed reduction. This grade for walkers, joggers, bikers and tourists is being recommended in literature and by people in the community. Perry Barnhill from the county sheriff's department said that they would be going with the decision made here for the speed limit. Mary made the motion to reduce the speed limit on Clear Springs Road to 25 miles an hour. Rob seconded the motion. Rebecca added the Centennial Park Road to the motion. The motion was approved.

It will be 2 weeks before the commission could give the city council their decision. Dave agreed to present the Traffic Safety Commission's recommendation to the council.

Meeting Adjourned

Next meeting will be September 10, 2009.

agenda



Twin Falls Traffic Safety Commission

Date: September 10, 2009

Time: 9am

Place: City Council Adjunct

Meeting called by: Chairman Dave Snelson

Attendees: Dave Snelson, Rob Storm, Page Geske, Rebecca Duke, Rod Mathis, Kirk Brower, Mary Brand, Mike Sullivan, Dennis Pullin and Don Hall.

Please Read: August Minutes, Traffic Study for 9th Ave. E. at Aspenwood Lane and Intersection Control Plan for Future Development

Please Bring: Yourself, the agenda, minutes, Traffic Study for 9th Ave. E. at Aspenwood Lane and Intersection Control Plan for Future Development

Call to order – Dave Snelson, Chairman

- Review of August Minutes
- Traffic Study for 9th Ave. E. at Aspenwood Lane
- Intersection Control Plan for Future Development
- Media Blitz – Texting while driving

Adjourn

Next Meeting: October 8, 2009

agenda



Twin Falls Traffic Safety Commission

Date: October 8, 2009

Time: 9am

Place: City Council Chambers

Meeting called by: Chairman Dave Snelson

Attendees: Dave Snelson, Rob Storm, Page Geske, Rebecca Duke, Rod Mathis, Kirk Brower, Mary Brand, Mike Sullivan, Dennis Pullin and Don Hall.

Call to order – Dave Snelson, Chairman

- Review of September Minutes
- Update on Signs
 1. Hankins Road
 2. Canyon Springs Road
- Poleline Road Project
- Increased Traffic Issues
 1. Washington Street
 2. Blue Lakes
- Revised Parking Ordinance by Staff Sergeant Dennis Pullin - Action Item

Adjourn

Next Meeting: November 12, 2009

Twin Falls Traffic Safety Commission

Minutes

October 8, 2009

Those present: Kirk Brower, Don Hall, Rod Mathis, Dennis Pullin, Rob Storm and Michael Sullivan.

Meeting called to order at 09:05 a.m. (This was not an official meeting because there was no quorum present.)

Revised Parking Order

Staff Sergeant Pullin advised the committee on the resubmission of the City Parking Ordinance. Fritz Wonderlich and other City departments that may be affected have been advised, and a copy of the updated ordinance was presented. The Police Department receives a lot of citizen complaints about trailers, and generally Officers try to make contact with the owners and see if they can move the vehicle(s). This new ordinance will allow the Police Department to deal with abandoned trailers that have become a nuisance, utility trailers that are hard to see at night and trailers that are a safety hazard because they cause vision obstructions.

Everyone agreed with the new ordinance but it could not be voted on because there was not a quorum.

Don Hall suggested in lieu of waiting for a quorum at the next meeting, that Staff Sergeant Pullin send an e-mail to the rest of the commission with an explanation and attach the new ordinance. After receiving feedback from the rest of the committee, Staff Sergeant Pullin can take it to City Council.

Everyone agreed.

Update on Signs at Hankins Road

Mike Sullivan reminded the commission of their recommendation to lower the speed limit on both roads. Because of the new school (Bethel Temple) and the growing residential population, the City Council moved to drop the speed limit on Hankins Road from the 45 mph that was recommended to 35 mph; however, the county has jurisdiction on some areas of the road and was not supportive of the lowered speed limit. After further discussion it was determined that the County Highway District will suggest to their board that the speed limit be changed to 35 mph from Addison Avenue East to Kimberly Road (which will include the area where the new school will be). The county seems to be supportive of the suggestion at this time. The commission would like to have a consistent speed limit along that entire mile-long stretch of road. The road from Addison Avenue East to Falls Avenue East cannot legally be changed yet because a traffic study has to be done; therefore, it will stay at 50 mph until the traffic study is completed. (City Code states that to change a road there has to be a traffic study and the entity that has jurisdiction has to feel it needs to be changed.) Once the traffic safety study is complete, the commission will go through the process again and recommend that the County Highway District change the speed limit to 45 mph from Addison Avenue East to Falls Avenue East. (The state Code says a road has to have 300 feet of consistent residential area before the speed limit can be changed).

County Highway District

Don Hall advised that there has been talk that the County Highway District wanted to have a member on the Traffic Safety Commission. For clarification purposes, the County Highway District has requested that the commission let them know whenever it is discussing an area roadway that involves them so they can attend the meeting and give their perspective. Don asked that Staff Sergeant Pullin or Mike Sullivan invite them to the meetings they may be interested in, and Mike agreed to invite them.

Pole Line Road Project

Staff Sergeant Pullin has not noticed an increase in traffic accidents, but wanted to know if anyone had noticed increased traffic on Blue Lakes Boulevard North or Washington Street North due to Pole Line Road being blocked. Kirk noted that he has observed increased traffic in the mornings coming east bound into Twin Falls from Filer. Mike suggested that the Engineering Department could look at signal times to improve some of the congestion. He also noted that a new construction project will possibly be starting late this winter, which will only increase traffic problems. Kirk stated that the construction is causing bussing problems and he is looking at different paths to get children home safely.

Handicap Access on City Sidewalk

Kirk had a citizen report that a person in a wheelchair could not access the sidewalk on the south side of the road at Filer Avenue East and Maurice Street (across from Twin Falls High School). The crosswalk at this intersection is a high-traffic area for students, but there is not a cutout in the curb there and someone in a wheelchair cannot get onto the sidewalk and therefore must travel in the street for some distance, which is not safe. The north side of the intersection was fixed by the school district, but the south side is not school district property and needs to be made compliant. Mike will look into the situation and report back at next month's meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:32 a.m.



TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION AGENDA

November 12, 2009
9:00 a.m.

- Review of October minutes
- Proposed texting while driving ordinance
(Greg Lanting)
- Proposed revision of the parking ordinance - revisit
(Staff Sergeant Dennis Pullin)
- Hankins Road speed study results
(Mike Sullivan)

Next meeting: December 10, 2009

Twin Falls Traffic Safety Commission

Minutes

November 12, 2009

Present: Dave Snelson, Dennis Pullin, Don Hall, Greg Lanting, Jackie Fields, Kirk Brower, Mary Brand, Mike Sullivan, Paige Geske, Rebecca Duke, Rob Storm, Rod Mathis

Meeting called to order at 09:00 a.m.

October minutes were reviewed and a motion was carried to approve the minutes.

Hankins Road Speed Study

Jackie Fields advised the Commission on the updates of the Hankins Road speed study. The Commission had previously discussed recommending a 45 mph speed zone between Addison Avenue East and Kimberly Road. This recommendation was taken to Council and Council extended the speed zone from Falls Avenue East to Kimberly Road, and also recommended a 35 mph speed zone throughout. The property owners between Falls Avenue East and Addison Avenue East petitioned and requested the Council not change the speed to 35 mph; however, the Commission had not discussed a speed change in this area with the Twin Falls Highway District.

It was decided to do a speed study on the section of road between Falls Avenue East and Addison Avenue East. The study revealed that (between January 2002 and October 2009) there were 16 accidents on Hankins Road between Falls Avenue East and Addison Avenue East. Three accidents were at the intersection of Hankins Road and Falls Avenue East, seven accidents at the intersection of Hankins Road and Addison Avenue East, and six accidents were on Hankins Road between the two intersections. Of the six accidents between intersections, three were driving too fast for conditions, two were failures to yield, and one was inattentive driving.

According to Idaho Code, when there are no special hazards like road conditions or school zones, jurisdiction falls under code 49-654 (2) which states we will post at 35 mph or less in any residential, business, or urban district. It also says the speed limit will be 55 mph in other locations unless otherwise posted. The Twin Falls Highway District has established a 50 mph speed zone on all arterial roads, consistent with the code.

Under Idaho Code 49-207 (2), duly elected officials can determine a reasonable and safe maximum speed on the basis of a speed study and on whether not the area is a residential, urban, or business district.

Districts are defined as:

- Urban – the highway is entirely built up with houses (i.e. the Bethel Temple area)
- Residential – 300 feet or more “in the main” improved with residences or businesses

The general consensus is that posting Hankins Road at 35 mph between D&B Supply and the coulee is a good idea and consistent with state law. Council has already moved to accept that, but it needs to be brought to the Twin Falls County Highway District for approval because they have actual jurisdiction. Currently the entire roadway, when posted, is 50 mph. Work orders have been put in to post the section between Addison Avenue East and Falls Avenue East at 35 mph.

The Twin Falls County Highway District has the majority of jurisdiction over Hankins Road between Addison Avenue East and Falls Avenue East. The Council already moved to post the speed limit at 35 mph, and the Traffic Safety Commission agrees. Recommending a 45 mph speed limit is inappropriate based on the Idaho Code, which states the speed limit can be 35 mph or 55 mph (and a speed study needs to be done). No speed study was done on Hankins from Addison Avenue East to Falls Avenue East, and there is no basis to make the speed limit 45 mph. (We don't have to go with the speed study recommendation but we have to do the speed study.) We are not entitled to raise the speed limit in that area. If everything around it is 45 mph, it makes sense to make the area 45 mph, but that is the Highway District's choice. We are looking for consistency in the speed limit, and therefore might consider suggesting making the entire area 45 mph.

Texting While Driving

Greg Lanting presented the topic to the Traffic Safety Commission for discussion and had asked Fritz Wonderlich to prepare a possible ordinance outlawing texting while driving in Twin Falls. If said ordinance is passed, the fine would be \$50. The City of Twin Falls can make its own ordinance as long as it is not more liberal than the state's ordinance (it can be more restrictive). A similar ordinance was presented to the legislature last year and was stalled in committee; however, it will be proposed again this year. Many states already have anti-texting laws, and some have anti-texting and hands-free laws.

Staff Sergeant Pullin advised that it will be difficult to enforce, and hopefully courts would take the officer's word that he or she observed the citizen texting. Adding a portion about using a hands-free device while driving would help the enforcement side of it tremendously. The current law in place under inattentive driving does not specifically mention texting.

A motion was moved and seconded to modify the suggested ordinance by removing Section C (texting includes inputting telephone numbers while driving). The Traffic Safety Commission endorses bringing this to Council; however, more research will be done before it is presented.

Revised Parking Ordinance

Presented again by Staff Sergeant Pullin, this was brought to the Commission last month but there was not a quorum to make a decision. The current ordinance breaks trailers down to the point where it is difficult for officers to enforce it, and the new ordinance eliminates that confusion. This ordinance is for trailers that have been abandoned. As long as a trailer isn't a hazard or left for long periods of time, it should not be a problem. If contractors leave trailers overnight and over the weekend, the new ordinance might come into play if the neighbors

complain. A motion was made and seconded to bring the new ordinance before the Council for approval/clarification.

The next meeting is Tuesday, December 15, 2009.



TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION AGENDA

December 15, 2009
9:00 a.m.

- **Truck Traffic on Poleline Rd being re-routed to Washington St. North
(Staff Sergeant Pullin)**
- **Citizen request to look at stop signs being placed on Filer Ave. West and
Martin St.
(Staff Sergeant Pullin)**
- **Bike Lanes (specifically around Perrine Elementary School)
(Councilman Lee Heider)**
- **Discussion of adding committee members' names and contact information
to the City website
(Staff Sergeant Pullin)**
- **Patron traffic concern at Robert Stuart Middle School
(Kirk Brower)**

Next meeting: December 15, 2009

Twin Falls Traffic Safety Commission

Minutes

December 15, 2009

Present: Dave Snelson, Staff Sergeant Dennis Pullin, Councilman Don Hall, Councilman Lee Heider, Kirk Brower, Mary Brand, Mike Sullivan, Paige Geske, Rebecca Duke, Lieutenant Rob Storm, Rod Mathis

Meeting called to order at 8:59 a.m.

The November minutes were reviewed and approved.

Trucks on Pole Line Road & Washington Street North

Staff Sergeant Pullin brought up at the last meeting that there had been several complaints regarding trucks travelling west on Pole Line Road getting stuck where the road is closed. There was previous discussion of putting out more signs to alert motorists, but it is unknown if that ever actually happened. There were no further complaints this month; therefore, the Commission believes the issue has been resolved.

Stop Signs at Filer Avenue West & Martin Street

Staff Sergeant Pullin received a citizen request for the Traffic Safety Commission to discuss placing stop signs at Filer Avenue West and Martin Street and making it at four-way stop. (To do this would require a study by the engineering department.) The citizen complained of north-bound traffic backing up on Martin Street from the stop sign and causing extra traffic through the residential streets as motorists try to avoid that intersection. There has only been one complaint about this and it was over a month ago, and traffic officers have since been monitoring the intersection. The Traffic Safety Commission concluded that it is probably just rush hour traffic from hospital employees and it only occurs for a few minutes each morning and afternoon. Making the intersection a four-way stop would cause further congestion in the area and hopefully when the new hospital opens it will alleviate most of the problem. The consensus was to have officers continue to monitor the intersection and to table this discussion until further notice.

Bike Lanes around Perrine Elementary School

Councilman Lee Heider has received several complaints about parents continuously blocking the bike lanes on the east and west sides of Sparks Street (paralleling Perrine Elementary School) while picking up their children. Citizens complain about the blocked bike lanes, but when officers try to enforce the no parking zone by issuing tickets there is negative feedback from the community. Officers have spent a lot of time asking parents to clear their vehicles from the bike lanes, but once they move more vehicles just immediately replace them. It is illegal to park in the bike lane, but when there are 150 cars parked there it is difficult to deal with. People are still going to park there because the safety of their kids comes first. We cannot ask officers to ignore enforcing the law and not write tickets for blocking the bike lane.

The main issue seems to be during the times that parents are dropping off or picking up kids in the morning and afternoon. Some parents are there ten or fifteen minutes before school gets out and there's not enough area in the turnout to park more than a few vehicles. One suggestion was to post signs allowing parking in the area during certain times (like from 2:45 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.) or designate it as a school drop-off and pick-up zone. Another suggestion was to make a bus loading zone behind Perrine where there are no bike lanes; however, some parents already use this area to drop off their kids and it's not alleviating the problem.

As the population has increased, the bike lanes have made the streets too narrow for people to park. With bicycle lanes on each side of the street it completely takes away the parking on the east side of the street, and on the west side of the street there is an area to park vehicles but the bicycle lane extends beyond that (between the parking area and the lane of traffic). If the bike lanes were allowed to be used for parking it would not solve the congestion because people are parking there anyway right now.

The consensus was to have Staff Sergeant Pullin ask City Attorney Fritz Wonderlich for a legal decision that would allow stopping the use of bike lanes for specified pick up and drop off times (appropriate times will be determined by the school). This would hopefully pacify both sides; however, parents and students still need to be educated about using the crosswalks and not having the kids running out into the street after they get out of their car. There is no solution for that short of enforcement.

Adding Committee Members E-mail Addresses to City Website

The City PIO has requested that the members of the Traffic Safety Commission provide e-mail addresses for our City website so citizens can contact them with concerns or issues. (Mike Sullivan and Councilman Hall are already available for them to contact.) There were no objections from the Committee members; therefore, we will provide their e-mail addresses to be placed online.

Robert Stuart Junior High School Traffic Issue

A citizen has suggested making the intersection of Caswell Avenue West and Wendell Street a four-way stop. Currently, motorists on Caswell Avenue West have to stop but those on Wendell Street do not, which backs up traffic on Caswell. Staff Sergeant Pullin will get input from the JCU Officers and Engineering will also take a look at it. There appears to be some congestion there but only for fifteen or twenty minutes during drop off and pick up time and then the area clears. There is a crosswalk on Wendell Street and having a four-way stop would only make motorists more cautious; however, this will also require ongoing education to motorists and students. It might be more prudent to wait for a new school year rather than change things in the middle of the year. This issue will be discussed further at the January meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:42 a.m.

The next meeting is at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 14, 2010.