

**Traffic Records Coordinating Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday February 4, 2010 from 9:30 to 11:30 am**  
**In the Magnolia Room at the NC Judicial Center in Raleigh, NC**

Present: John Stokes, Brian Mayhew, Ethel Keen, Chad Lohmeier, Janet Greene, John Farley, Bryan Chadwick, Greg Ferrara, Ron Hughes, Cameron Taylor, Maurice DeValle, Don Nail, Carol Martell, and Eric Rodgman.

9:45 am Eric Rodgman welcomed the attending members.

9:36 am John Stokes gave a quick update on the status of the pre-approval for the next round of 408 funding with the June 15, 2010 deadline. The pre-approval letter should be received by the end of March 2010. John noted that the job description for his replacement position has been posted and resumes should start coming in.

Ethel added that she has been able to hire to positions to help support the non-TraCs development effort. Ethel added that the DMV 349 Crash Report Revision effort has started with consultant facilitator Lawrence Lackey overseeing the effort. There has already been a kick-off meeting to lay the ground work for this project effort.

Ethel added that because of improvements that NC has gone from a “red” state to a “yellow” state and now has become a “green” state as a result of the efforts to improve NC traffic crash data collection.

Cameron and Maurice from the NC SHP noted that the patrol will add another 174 trained troopers around the end of March and add another 64 troopers by the end of the spring or early summer.

Bryan Chadwick of the SHP noted they had a lead on a possible source of funding for the Aircards needed to supply all the NC troopers in the field. Janet Greene added that a recent report to the NC Legislature included the important need for the SHP to have this capability.

Chad Lohmeier updated the committee on the data linkage they are working on. Their group is still in the design phase looking at how to store the data and how to present it to the public.

Janet Greene said the AOC eCitation program had ordered more printers.

Brian Mayhew noted that the DOT folks were conducting an on-line survey on their TEAAS applications to see what their users would like to improve.

Chad Lohmeier added that their group is expecting the data to be set up under the new NEMSIS standard for EMS data coming out in April 2010. This version contains all the business rules and logic to check the data more carefully as it is entered.

Eric added that the UNC SPH graduate student Catherine Vladitiu will be doing a probabilistic match of the NC vital records data, selected medical data, and the NC crash data very soon.. Catherine will be traveling to Utah in early March to be trained by Larry Cook who is an expert at this type of linking in Utah. Brian Mayhew asked that Catherine be asked to give the NC TRCC an update and overview of that effort at an NC TRCC meeting.

The question of how much 408 money for the current year is left came up – John Stokes and Don Nail noted that there is about \$9K left for this most recent year.

Janet Greene added that the NC AWARE project now has about 38 counties covered. Significant progress is being made.

Carol Martell noted that HSRC is currently doing some pedestrian crash map locating using GoogleMap for 3 counties in NC: Durham, Mecklenburg, and Wilson. The locations are determined by roads noted on the hard copy crash report, the crash collision diagram, and the information noted in the police crash narrative. The SHP noted the new version of TraCs can receive the (x,y) co-ordinates. Ethel suggested the need to integrate the ECitation coordinates so crashes and convictions could be mapped. Janet noted that currently the citation has only the street locations listed. There are difficulties interpreting the location from just a written description.

The SHP noted that SHP Officer Jackson has been working on identifying the locations for SHP investigated crashes.

Greg Ferrara added that they were working on a location project looking at where the gas was sold and trying to compare that to crash locations. The effort was attempting to develop a crash density map. So far, it can only provide a county level view.

Ron Hughes added that the FMCA folks would like to use the tax locations to aid their studies.

The SHP has a new leader, Colonel Scoot, who understands this important aspect of crash even understanding.

Brian Mayhew noted that Ohio has a similar ability already working. They use TIGER files. John Farley noted they use the road descriptions to more accurately locate the crash. Some problems occur when the (x,y) don't map up correctly to the road layout (differences or errors in road maps).

For example, the crash has to be located on the correct side of the road and/or intersection – even if the (x,y) says otherwise.

Brian Mayhew added there will still be a need to have a Hard Copy of the Report.

Greg Ferrara noted that Alabama uses probabilistic matching / mapping of crashes in their CARE system.

Maurice noted that the Aircards aren't there yet – data is entered in off-line mode. Space on the laptops can be an issue – need a lot of space to handle maps. The new version of TraCs need s space too.

Brian added the NC needs a long term vision – a statewide integrated map. Ron Hughes commented that the TRCC needs a GIS sub-committee whose focus id to look 5-10 years ahead and address some of the issues.

Ethel added that there is a TraCs website put up by the National TraCs steering committee – a great way to share thoughts and information.

The new version will be webTraCs. Beta Test version available in the fall and the production version to be available in Jan 2011.

Greg noted that about one third will not be able to access this version – don't have the computers and resources to do it. The SHP gives their old computers to many of these small Police Departments so they have older and outdated computers.

Cameron noted that the current state network maintained by Motorola will stop its' support in December of 2011. Need a solution before that date.

Cameron added that GM now uses a special Aircard which can communicate to all their vehicles. These are more expensive than regular Aircards, but provide extra capability.

In some cases, a booster will be needed to increase the signal strength. There are dead spots in NC where no service can be currently accessed.

Rough Cost Estimate =  $1500 \times \$40 / \text{month} = \$60\text{K}$  per month for the SHP.

The SHP is already cutting corners on buying new vehicles (fewer). In addition, they keep current vehicles longer too.

11:20 am Brian Mayhew reminded the NC TRCC that John Stokes will be retiring at the end of March of this year. Brian and the entire committee thanked him for his outstanding service and effort as the NC State Data Coordinator while at GHSP.

Eric will send out the draft minutes and poll the NC TRCC for the next meeting date in April 2010.

11:30 am Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by NC TRCC Co-chair Eric Rodgman.