

Traffic Records Coordinating Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday September 21, 2011
In the Location & Surveys Conference Room at the Century Center in Raleigh, NC.

Present: Cameron Taylor, Greg Ferrara, Scott Proescholdbell, Brian Mayhew, Frank Hackney, Don Nail, Rod Chu, Julian Council, Janet Greene, Carol Martell, Bill Hunter, and Eric Rodgman.

9:33 am Eric Rodgman welcomed all the members; everyone introduced themselves briefly with their name and the agency.

9:37 am Updates on all the current 408 Data Development Projects: Carol Martell from HSRC and Greg Ferrara from ITRE reported that the IFrame mapping project they had collaborated on was complete. Janet green from AOC noted that they had put 245 more printers in the field to support eCitation. The state coverage using these additional printers in the field has risen from 76% to 83%. The increased coverage reduces the time for citation information to be available on the computer system to almost instantly (some LE officers download the citations at the end of the day) from 2 days to 2 weeks.

9:51 am Upcoming projects: Implementation of the NCAWARE project (see <http://www.nccrimecontrol.org/index2.cfm?a=000003,000693,000702,001787> for details) , more printers for the NC SHP, better geo-coding of pedestrian involved crashes, and financial assistance for the 2012 NC Traffic Records Assessment to be carried out in the beginning of the year. Julian Council noted that the NC DMV Revision Grant ran out of money at the end of June 2011. The manager will stay on till the end of September 2011. At this time, three cities have been targeted for doing electronic crash report submission: Garner, Greensboro, and Charlotte. Julian noted that there had been an increase of electronic submission from 35% to 56%. Julian added that they would like to provide an on-line web entry capability for small PDs who may not be able to dedicate or to buy computers to handle the free TraCs software (a memory hog) or other independent paid-for software available.

10:08 am Don Nail gave an overview of the 2011 International Traffic Records Forum held in Charlotte this past summer. The number of attendees was down from 500 in 2010 to 350 in 2011. Rod Chu noted that the topics of conversation had moved from words a few years ago to how to tweak applications that were actually in place. Greg Ferrara added that he learned a lot and that he took away information on software that was a game changer. Greg is evaluating new software for potential use. Scott Proescholdbell noted that NC now has 118 EDs which are updating their data every 12 hours. Scott added that a group from Colorado made presentations. Janet Greene was disappointed because several presentations from LE on data integration were canceled. Don noted that the next TR Forum will be in Mississippi in 2012. Brian Mayhew noted there was a very short deadline for presentations (2 weeks) which makes it tough to prepare a presentation in a timely fashion.

10:29 am It was announced that Frank Hackney from GHSP has been appointed the new NC State Data Coordinator. Rod Chu emphasized that NC will need to show "data development" progress during the current year to qualify for continued financial support. Rod added that NC was approved for support for the coming year even though NC barely qualified. Brian added that it will be very important for any future efforts to show a baseline measure of the data process that is followed by an endpoint measure of the same process. The improvement can then be reported and considered by NHTSA.

10:39 am Carol Martell added that better sharing of data can lead to better uses of the data and more detailed analyses. Frank Hackney added that there should be shared data use and even more transparent access to data. Brian noted that doing this is more complicated than it appears. Greg suggested having a "data portal" for various data summaries and presentations for the public. Brian noted that Katy Jones at HSRC is currently working on a comprehensive safety project to better provide access to key traffic safety information. The project is looking into feedback to see if users are getting what they wanted.

10:51 am Brian noted that the NC SHP is using laptops and that in some locations it is cheaper to use Aircards with the laptops than to pay for land lines for transmission of crash data. It was noted that in

Greensboro PD had problems with VRMS and the weather effecting the reliability of satellite internet connections.

11:00 am Update on the NC Crash report Revision Process: Julian Council noted that there are currently two options / approaches being considered. First approach involves the completion of the electronic data capture followed by the upgrade to TraCs 10 and the new ECRS. The other approach has DMV upgrade toe TraCS 10 and the new ECRS and then complete the electronic capture process. Currently, Raleigh and Garner are doing electronic submission. Charlotte and Greensboro are being brought on board. Right now there is a pilot program for the new ECRS being tested in Raleigh and Garner. This system uses XML.

For now, the goal is to complete the new ECRS by the end of 2013 and the TraCS 10 by the end of 2012. DMV will make the report form changes in the period from 4th quarter 2013 to 2015.

It was suggested that NC needs to require a static format for the electronic report submission. Maybe a statutory requirement is needed along with a long phase in period to help ease the transition for small agencies.

11:15 am The next NC TR Assessment is coming in early in 2012. It has been 5 years since the last one and is a requirement of NHTSA for applying for the 408 Data Development monies. Frank and Rod will review the 2012 calendar to select the best weeks to complete it. More information will come as soon as the ground work has been laid. The assessment committee will be a group of independent evaluators. The assessment will also involve the NC Executive Committee for Highway Safety headed by the NC DOT Secretary.

11:33 am Meeting was adjourned.

Tasks: Eric will email Chad Lohmeier about the status of the probablistic matching of NC crash data to NC EMS medical data, send NC State Data Coordinator Frank Hackney a list of the current & active TRCC members, meet with Frank, Don, and Brian about the assessment, supply the web link for the TRCC which has all the minutes of previous meetings, previous assessments, etc., and plan the next TRCC meeting in 2011 (late November or early December).

See <http://www.hsrb.unc.edu/nctrcc/index.cfm>

Respectively submitted – Co-chair NCTRCC Eric Rodgman, MPH