

MINUTES
WOOD COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION

The Wood County Traffic Safety Commission met at the Wood County Highway Department, 555 17th Avenue North, Wisconsin Rapids, WI on **August 28nd** at 10:30 a.m.

PRESENT

Dennis Polach
Joel Ortman
Sarah Roach
Quentin Ellis
Trace Frost
Bill Clendening
Melvin Pedersen
Rhae Stertz
Dan Brugman
Arne Nystom
Patrick Zeps
Bill Winch
Scott Brehm
Brandon Dammann
Bernard Karaliunas
Lori Heideman
Roland Hawk

REPRESENTING

Wood County Board
Wood County Highway Department
Wood County Emergency Management
Wood County Sheriff Dept
Wisconsin DOT- BOTS
Wood County Board
Grand Rapids PD
WI State Patrol
Wisconsin DOT
Grand Rapids Chairman
Marshfield Police Dept
Wood County Board
Coroner
Wood County Highway
Wood County Highway
Wood County Dispatch
Wood County Highway

Roland Hawk called the meeting to order at 10:32 a.m.

1. Introductions were made.
2. **Minutes of the May 28, 2019 Traffic Safety Commission Meeting.**

Motion to accept and place on file minutes from the May 28, 2019 Traffic Safety Commission meeting made by Melvin Pedersen. Seconded by Joel Ortman. Motion approved unanimously.

3. Review Two (2) fatal crashes

Melvin Pedersen reviewed fatal crash involving bicyclist. Victim was biking in the lane behind the fog line when driver hit from behind. Waiting on BAC, believed to have been alcohol related. WI State Patrol conducting a visibility assessment. In the police report it notes 45 MPH, when it is actually 40 MPH, there will be an amended report to correct.

Second crash occurred in Wisconsin Rapids. Representative not present. Victim pulled out from stop sign, was hit by cargo van. Victim passed away days later.

4. ATV Discussion

Roland Hawk discussed Highway created a route map, all signage on main routes are completed. Alternate route signs are kept up and maintained by municipalities. HWY Dept is trying to minimize the use of County roads. Went over routes with County Trunk connections. Maps are online.

5. Winter Weather/ Hazard Call Out Protocol

Commission had extensive discussion to facilitate communication between Highway/ Dispatch/ Law Enforcement. Highway operates on 18 hour roads and patrols are out on 2 hour routes. They will continue to pre-treat the roads especially concrete and bridges. Request that roads be called by actual name not the local name, requests more detail up front so they can bring the proper gear with them.

6. Report from the Department of Transportation Engineer

Dan Brugman went over construction projects and will email out all projects to the group at the State level. Roland Hawk, discussed County wide road projects.

7. Local Program Specialist Report and Highway Safety Plan Solicitation

Trace Frost, WI DOT BOTS, gave state wide fatal statistics for this year at 385. Which is 12% below where we were at this time last year. Drive Sober mobilization started August 16- September and Wood County is participating. Went over Community map updates. Discussed some new legislative updates and emailed to the group.

8. Other Business brought properly before the Commission:

Roland Hawk discussed his testimony for Work Place Safety, Flagger Rights. Revised to include EMS/Fire to include classifying emergency scenes as work zones.

Continued on discussion about HWY Z and 48th St. WI DOT looking at proposal to improve area. HWY Dept stated No passing had been painted. HWY A high risk rural road has been approved.

9. Public Comments.

None.

9. Adjournment.

Roland Hawk made a motion to adjourn at 11:28 a.m. Seconded by Bill Winch. Motion approved unanimously.

The next Traffic Safety Commission meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 20 at 10:30 a.m. at the Wood County Highway Department