

WINNEBAGO COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes – April 10th, 2024

Members Present:

William Anthes – Winnebago County Sheriff's Office
Mike McGinley – Community Representative
Chris Gorte – Oshkosh Police Department
Kevin Kuklinski – Winnebago County Highway Department
Rick Olig – WI DOT BOTS
Todd Rasmussen – WI DOT BOTS
Matt Albrecht – Menasha Police Department
Scott Morrison – Oshkosh Area School District
Kate Blackburn – ECWRPC
Chris Colla - ECWRPC
Ben Wyatt – WI State Patrol
Rod Hamilton – WISDOT Traffic
Kathi Hegrane – ThedaCare
Katie Schwartz – Wis DOT
Mason Simmons – Wis DOT
Stacie Brethouwer – Oshkosh Area School District

Attendance and introductions

Meeting called to order at 9:00 A.M. by Chris Gorte. Members were recorded and collected. Motion made to approve the minutes from the January 10th, 2024 meeting.

Public Comment

None

Review of county-wide fatal traffic crashes

- 1) Oshkosh PD: Ohio Street at 3rd Ave, 1/10/24. Single occupant driver was southbound on Ohio Street and did not see pedestrian in the roadway. Vehicle hit pedestrian causing fatality and never stopped. Driver was arrested for hit and run causing death. Pedestrian was highly intoxicated.
- 2) WCSO: Green Valley Rd at Neevin Rd, 2/22/24. Two vehicle head on crash at 7:47 PM. Speed and aggressive driving were both factors. Both drivers were died from their injuries. In the last 5 years, there have been 2 fatal crashes in that area.
- 3) OPD: Westhaven Drive and Security Ave, 3/13/24. Driver of single occupant vehicle backed out of driveway and struck elderly person in the roadway. Pedestrian died from injuries and driver not criminally charged.
- 4) WCSO: Hwy CB at Rockwood Ln, 3/20/24. 16 y/o driver left the roadway and struck a pole. Driver died from injuries. Driver was found to have restrictive substances in their blood.
- 5) WCSO: Hwy M (Deer Rd) at Osbourne Rd, 3/30/24. Single occupant driver was southbound on Hwy M traveling at a high rate of speed and left the roadway, flipped and rolled. Driver died from injuries sustained in the crash and had an illegal blood alcohol content.

Round Table Discussion

Rick Olig

Rick reported that Winnebago County has experienced less crashes in the 1st quarter of 2024 compared to the 1st quarter of 2023 but more fatal crashes in the quarter of 2024 (6 in 2024 compared to 3 in 2023). He also informed the group that there are now “Training” and “Help” tabs on Community Maps to help with the user experience. He also reported that Winnebago County ranked 5th among all counties in Wisconsin for wrong way drivers in 2023 on 4 lane state highways. He stated that the fines have increased for fleeing an officer as well as for illegally passing a school bus.

Katy Hegrane

Kathy reminded everyone that the Choose your Ride Vehicle is available for events such as graduations, proms, and other special events to educate people about making safe choices. She is also looking for a highway worker to present or share their experiences at the next FOCUS event at the PAC.

Kevin Kuklinski

Kevin stated April 15-19 is Highway Maintenance Safety Week.

Ben Wyatt

Ben stated that the State Patrol will have high visibility along I-41 Monday – Friday 3p-7p along the construction zones in the north end of Winnebago County.

Mason Simmons

Mason reported that the I-41 project has started along with bridge reconstruction projects.

Next Meeting: July 10th, 2024 at 09:00 A.M. at the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office.

Motion made to adjourn. Motion carried.