

WINNEBAGO COUNTY SAFETY COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes – April 14th, 2021

Members Present:

Greg Cianciolo – Winnebago Sheriff's Office

Lori Seiler – Winnebago Sheriff's Office

Mason Simmons - WIS DOT-NE Region

Chris Gorte -- Oshkosh Police Department

Rick Olig – WI DOT BOTS

Scott Blashka – Fox Crossing PD

Dave Moesch - ECWRPC

Scott Morrison – Oshkosh School District

Matt Albrecht – Menasha PD

Mike McGinley – Community Rep.

Attendance and introductions

Meeting called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Chris Gorte. Members were recorded and collected. MM/S to approve the minutes from the January 8th, 2020 meeting.

Public Comment

There was no public comment for this quarter.

Review of county-wide fatal/serious traffic crashes

#1 WCSO: Clayton Ave at Michael Ave 1-30-20

A vehicle was towing a trailer and the trailer separated from the tow vehicle and left its lane of travel. A vehicle traveling the opposite direction was struck by a piece of metal that was on the trailer.

#2 Oshkosh PD: Cty I (Oregon St) at W 29th Ave:

Male driver was traveling at a high rate of speed and swerved to avoid a rear end collision. The vehicle crossed 3 lanes of traffic, left the roadway and struck a tree. Driver was intoxicated and died at a local hospital. No one else was injured.

#3 WCSO: Bison Rd at Cty II 4-19-20

Intoxicated driver failed to follow the curve in the roadway and the vehicle rolled. The driver was not belted and died at the scene.

#4 WCSO: M Deer Dr at Hiwela Trl 7-30-20

Intoxicated driver failed to keep the vehicle on the road and it struck a tree. The driver was not belted and died at the scene.

#5 WCSO: Witzel Cty E and Clairville Rd 8-12-20

Elderly male was walking in the street (no street lights) and was struck by a westbound vehicle in the roadway. Driver left the scene but was later located. Blood results are still pending on the driver.

#6 WCSO: Hwy 44 and Clairville 8-20-20

Driver turned eastbound onto Hwy 44 from the stop sign at Clairville Rd. Driver accelerated very quickly causing the vehicle to skid into the westbound lane where it was struck on the passenger side by a westbound vehicle. The passenger of the vehicle turning onto Clairville Rd died at the scene.

#7 WCSO: Tullar Rd at W. Winneconne Ave 9-17-20

Driver was operating a vehicle east on Winneconne Ave in the city of Neenah. Vehicle turned south on Tullar Rd and struck a juvenile that was riding a bike in the crosswalk. The bicyclist was dragged and died. This case is still pending.

#8 WCSO: I-41 at Hwy GG 11-4-20

Vehicle was traveling north on I-41 north of Hwy GG in the lane closest to the median. The driver likely had a medical issue and collided with the concrete barrier, crossed all of the northbound lanes and left the roadway. The vehicle then started on fire. The driver was the only occupant and died at a local hospital.

#9 WCSO: Larsen Rd at Hwy 76 11-10-20

Driver was operating a Lowes delivery heavy duty truck west on Larsen Rd. The truck failed to stop at the stop sign at Hwy 76 and a northbound vehicle and southbound vehicle both collided with the Lowes truck. The driver going northbound died at the scene, the southbound driver had to be extracted from the vehicle but did not have any life threatening injuries. There has been numerous crashes at this intersection in the past few years. Mason Simmons from DOT informed the group that a roundabout is set to be constructed at this intersection in 2025 or 2026. The new Neenah public high school is set to open in 2023 which will likely greatly increase the amount of traffic that uses this intersection. Sgt. Gorte is currently trying to contact the Clayton township administrator to see if rumble strips could be put in on Larsen Rd

to warn drivers of the stop sign. This was unanimously recommended by the committee members that were present.

#10 WCSO: I-41 at Hwy 26 11-17-20

Driver of a vehicle was traveling on Hwy 26 and drove onto the I-41 off ramp for north bound vehicles. The vehicle entered I-41 going the wrong way and was struck by a northbound vehicle. The driver died at the scene. The driver had been consuming alcohol and had made suicidal comments just before the crash.

#11 Oshkosh PD: Otter Street at Rosalia Street 12-21-20

At approximately 9:00 PM an elderly male crossed the street in the middle of the block and was struck by a vehicle traveling westbound. The driver was cooperative with investigators and the case is still pending. The male was not in a cross walk.

Round Table Discussion

Dave Moesch informed the group that May is Walk to School month.

Matt Albrecht stated that the Racine Street Bridge will be under construction for an extended period of time. They are expecting increased traffic at other major thoroughfares in Menasha while the bridge is under construction.

Scott Blashka informed the group that the new Neenah high school will likely be in their jurisdiction (Fox Crossing PD). They are working on creating a safe traffic plan in the area of the new high school.

Rick Olig talked about proposed new legislations at the state level along with some local grant funded traffic enforcement efforts starting in May.

Lori Seiler talked about the upcoming high school proms that will be occurring soon in the county. She mentioned the possibility of deploying the "Choose your Ride" vehicle from Theda. She also stated that the FOCUS program will replace the Party at the PAC and that it will be virtual this year. The Winnebago County Sheriff's Office will once again put on the Parents are the Key presentation.

Mason Simmons mentioned that a roundabout is scheduled to be constructed at the intersection of Hwy 21 and Sand Pit Road in 2027.

Next meeting scheduled for July 14th at 09:00 a.m. at the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office.

Motion made to adjourn. Motion carried.