

WINNEBAGO COUNTY SAFETY COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes – July 11, 2018

Members Present:

Ethan Rehberg – Wisconsin State Patrol
Dan Diedrich – Wisconsin State Patrol
Andy Jacobs – Wisconsin State Patrol
Chris Bordeaux – NM Transfer
Kathi Hegrans – Theda Care
Matthew Albright – Menasha PD
Dan Kussman – Oshkosh Transit
Lori Seiler – Winnebago Sheriff's Office
Bryan Keberlein – Winnebago Court Commissioner
Scott Nelson-WIS DOT-NE Region
Ray Palonen-Winnebago County Highway Dept.
Chris Gorte-Oshkosh Police Department
Mike Panosh – WIS DOT – BOTS
Scott Morrison – Oshkosh Area School District
Pete DeBoer – Fox Crossing Police Department
Mike McGinley – Community Representative
John Holland – Oshkosh Fire Department

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 April 11th meeting. Motion carried.

Public Comment

There was no public comment for this quarter.

Review of county-wide fatal/serious traffic accidents

#1 Oshkosh PD 1300 block of South Park: 5-3-18 at 2:10 p.m. Father was teaching his 4 year old daughter how to ride a bicycle. The 4 year old drove into the roadway from the driveway and was struck by a vehicle. She was rushed to the hospital but her wounds were fatal. A crash reconstruction was completed and no arrests or citations were issued. Several line of sight issues for the driver of the striking vehicle were discussed.

#2 WCSO Hwy 21 and Reighmoor Rd: 6-24-18 at 9:00 a.m. A passenger vehicle was facing eastbound on Hwy 21 and attempting to turn north on to Reighmoor Rd. This vehicle was stopped when it was struck (rear-ended) by another eastbound vehicle. The collision caused the initial eastbound vehicle to enter the westbound lane and a westbound motorcycle struck the initial vehicle. Both occupants of the motorcycle were ejected and the passenger suffered fatal wounds. The driver of the motorcycle had extensive injuries but survived. A crash reconstruction was completed. The passenger of the motorcycle was wearing a helmet but it may not have been properly fitted. It was determined that the operator of the second eastbound vehicle was at fault.

Round Table Discussion

Chris Bordeaux talked more about autonomous commercial trucks. He explained that most trucking companies are against the implementation of this technology. He stated that it would be beneficial if several county traffic safety commissions worked together to send one correspondence to the state law makers expressing concerns about autonomous commercial trucks. Chris also commented on the high speeds in the Eureka area due to the Hwy 21 detour. Lt. Seiler informed the group that deputies have been in that area addressing speed issues.

Mike Panosh stated that he would be sending out a legislative update on various traffic laws. He also stated the state has seen much less traffic related deaths in 2018. He confirmed that the OWI task force initiative will continue through next year.

Kathi Hegranes thanked the group for inviting her. She stated that she is the teen traffic safety coordinator and leads several safety initiatives at Theda Care. She invited all members to participate in teen driving safety programs.

Scott Nelson gave several road construction updates to include Hwy 21 in Omro, Hwy 116 in Winneconne and the Interstate 41 and Hwy 10 interchange which is scheduled to be completed July 19th.

Mike McGinley informed the group that National Night Out will be on August 7th and that it is a great way to meet your neighbors and those in your community.

Ray Palonen informed the group of several construction/repair projects. Hwy R, Hwy K, and concrete repair on Hwy 45. He also expressed his concern of vehicles speeding in the construction zones on Hwy 45. Lt. Seiler will be looking into setting up traffic details in the construction zones.

Sgt. Diedrich stated that the State Patrol will be focusing their efforts on commercial motor vehicle enforcement.

Next meeting scheduled for 10-10-18 at 09:00 a.m. at the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office.

Motion made to adjourn. Motion carried.