



WAUKESHA COUNTY

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION MINUTES

Wednesday, May 8th 2019

Waukesha County Courthouse

In Attendance:

Lieutenant Chadwick Niles; Chairman Traffic Safety Coordinator, Waukesha Sheriff's Department

Ms. Kathleen Roe; Vice-Chairperson, Education Representative

Mr. Rick Olig; Law Enforcement Liaison Wisconsin Department of Transportation (BOTS)

Captain Mike Glider; City of New Berlin Police Department Representative

Sergeant Peter Lynkiewicz; City of Muskego Police Department Representative

Sergeant Steve Sanders; Village of Menomonee Falls Police Department Representative

Officer Robert Kassens; Town of Oconomowoc Representative

Ms. Deena Liska; Children's Hospital of Wisconsin Representative

Supervisor Darlene Johnson; Waukesha County Board

Mr. Dan Dedrick; Safety Engineer, Wisconsin Department of Transportation

Mr. Derrin Wolford; Signals Operations Engineer, Wisconsin Department of Transportation

Mr. Bruce Barnes; Waukesha County Traffic Engineer, Highway Commissioner Representative

Ms. Beverly Anderson; Town of Waukesha Resident

Mr. Gene Ganier; Town of Waukesha Resident

Ms. Jan Schaefer; Town of Waukesha Resident

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Traffic Safety Commission Chairman, Lieutenant Chadwick Niles at 1:02 pm at the Waukesha County Courthouse. Introductions of everyone in attendance were made.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Everyone in attendance reviewed the minutes from the February 13th 2019 meeting. Ms. Roe made a motion to approve, Sergeant Lynkiewicz from City Muskego Police Department seconded the motion to approve, and the motion carried unanimously. The minutes were then approved.

CITIZEN COMMENTS AND REPORTS

Mr. Gene Ganier spoke on behalf of the residents of the Valley View subdivision. He provided maps and diagrams. They are concerned with the 55 mph speed limit in the area of Valley View Drive and Hwy 59 west of Saylesville Rd at the end of the bypass. Currently, there is major road construction in this area. Residents state it is difficult to merge into traffic on Hwy 59. Drivers are accelerating, as the road becomes four-lanes. Residents will need to cross more lanes of traffic to exit their subdivision. 27 homes are in the subdivision and 11 homes on the frontage road. 25 residents have signed a petition to re-locate the 55 mph speed limit in their area, and would like the speed limit to be 45 mph. They are looking to have the speed limit sign relocated west of Merrill Hills Rd.

Students are picked up on Hwy 59. Younger students are picked up inside the subdivision.

Mr. Dan Dedrick; WI Department of Transportation spoke on behalf of the DOT, the DOT reviewed crash data for the area and found two crashes occurred in this area between 2014-2018. The first crash in the area was due to icy conditions. The second crash at Genesee Road due to a distracted driver. No crashes shown at Valley View Drive and Hwy 59. The speed limit will be moved east closer to Valley View Drive. With the new configuration, travel will be safer with the widening of the pavement. Signage is not the only things that controls speed; it is also the road factors. Speed study shows that 85% of traffic are traveling 50-58 miles per hour in this area. Safety issues of drivers traveling at 45 mph are a concern and would have a higher probability of rear end crashes and aggressive driving. Unless there is continuous enforcement, drivers may not abide by the 45 mph posted speed limit. Roadways are designed to have drivers travel comfortable at a certain speed.

Mr. Bruce Barnes stated the follow thru and commitment of traffic enforcement is a huge factor on getting drivers to obey the speed limit.

A multi-use path will be created and will end at Valley View Drive.

Dan has offered to take back this information to his office share the concerns. A motion was made by Ms. Deena Liska to table this discussion. Mr. Bruce Barnes seconded the motion.

BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION SAFETY

Mr. Rick Olig; Law Enforcement Liaison Wisconsin Department of Transportation spoke about the fatalities in Wisconsin. 139 fatal crashes year to date compared to 152 fatal crashes from this time last year. 12 have involved pedestrians.

May 20-June 2nd 2019 Click It or Ticket Grant will be in place.

1 out of 3 agencies will be entered to receive \$4,000.00 if they participate in mobilization. Muskego Police Department did receive these funds.

He spoke about the bills that have been introduced with the State Legislation. Body cameras, Ignition Interlock Devices, 12 hour mandatory hold for OWI drivers, the age for absolute sobriety on a snowmobile, and a mandatory court appearance for first offense OWI drivers, and making it a criminal offense.

He discussed mobilization devices such as a windshield covers and boots for car tires.

Various information in regards to legalization of marijuana. He attended the Life Savers Conference in Louisville, KY and agencies from Colorado are advising agencies that once your state legalizes marijuana make sure your Drug Recognition Experts are up to date. All agencies utilize ARIDE. Colorado agencies state they were not prepared for drivers driving under the influence of marijuana. Certain counties in Wisconsin are starting to swab driver's mouth to indicate drug use.

Rick utilized Community Maps, which is the online interface for mapping crash data and located all of the fatal crashes as well as speed related crashes in Waukesha County. He demonstrated how to locate crashes, showing their locations on the map. Community Maps is a great resource for Law Enforcement Agencies to see where high volume crashes are occurring.

COMMISSION MEMBER REPORTS

Mr. Dan Dedrick indicated the Department of Transportation has proposed the installation of median barriers on State Highway 16, 1 mile west of State Highway 83 east to Capital Drive. If approved, the project would be starting in 2022.

HIGH CRASH LOCATIONS / FATALS

➤ Chairman Lieutenant Chadwick Niles reported the following fatal crashes:

- **Date of Crash: February 13th 2019**
Location: State Highway 164 & Lincoln Avenue
City of Waukesha

Two-vehicle crash. Driver of Unit 1 was a male, single occupant of a 2017 Chevrolet Equinox and was traveling southbound, making a left turn onto Lincoln Avenue the driver turned in front of Unit 2. Unit 1 was pushed into a parking lot and hit other parked vehicles. Driver of Unit 1 passed away 2 weeks later. Speed limit on Hwy 164 is 45 mph.

- **Date of Crash: February 18th 2019**
Location: Brookfield Road at the railroad crossing
City of Brookfield

Driver of Unit 1 was a 70-year old male single occupant of the vehicle, who (per witness statements) went around the railroad barriers. An Amtrak train hit his vehicle. Driver was wearing a seatbelt.

- **Date of Crash: February 24th 2019**
Location: County Highway D
Town of Ottawa

Driver of Unit 1 was a 16-year old female, single occupant of a 2003 Jeep Liberty following her parent's vehicle when she slowed and moved around a pedestrian, a 70-year old male who was out getting the newspaper at his mailbox, which is along the roadside. She lost control of vehicle and hit the pedestrian. The pedestrian was alert at the scene of the crash. The pedestrian passed away the hospital.

➤ Officer Robert Kassens reported the Town of Oconomowoc had one fatal crash as follows:

- **Date of Crash: March 22nd 2019**
Location: State Highway 16 & Pennsylvania Avenue
Town of Oconomowoc

Driver of Unit 1 was a 53-year old male, single occupant involved in a single vehicle crash. Driver was ejected out of the passenger side window. Alcohol, speed, distracted driving and no seatbelt were all factors. His blood alcohol content was .15.

NEW BUSINESS

Officer Robert Kassens is requesting LED flashing stop signs at the intersection of State Highway 67 and County Highway CW. Currently there is two regular stop signs. There is no rumble strips on County Highway CW due to it being a residential area. There is "stop ahead" signage with faded warning flags. Inclement weather makes it hard to see the stop signs. Town of Oconomowoc has been requested to provide documentation such as provide the numbers of failure to stop citations that have been issued. County Highway will be checking on the wear and tear of the orange caution flags.

NEXT QUARTELY MEETING SCHEDULED

The next meeting of the Waukesha County Traffic Safety Commission is scheduled for Wednesday, August 14th 2019.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Supervisor Darlene Johnson and Sergeant Lynkiewicz seconded the motion to adjourn. Motion was passed to adjourn the meeting.

Traffic Safety Commission Chairman, Lieutenant Chadwick Niles, adjourned the meeting at 3:19 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bobbi Jo Hinkley, TSC Assistant
Waukesha County Sheriff's Department