



## WAUKESHA COUNTY

### TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION MINUTES

Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup> 2020

Waukesha County Courthouse

**In Attendance:**

Lieutenant Chadwick Niles; Chairman Traffic Safety Coordinator, Waukesha Sheriff's Department Representative  
Officer Dan Klein; City of Waukesha Representative  
Officer Ryan Lipovsek; Village of Summit Representative  
Mr. Rick Olig; Law Enforcement Liaison Wisconsin Department of Transportation (BOTS)  
Sergeant Peter Lynkiewicz; City of Muskego Police Department Representative  
Captain Steve Thompson; City Of New Berlin Representative  
Mr. Derrin Wolford; Signals Operations Engineer, Wisconsin Department of Transportation  
Supervisor Darlene Johnson; Waukesha County Board  
Lieutenant Brian Debarge; Village of Hartland Representative  
Mr. Bruce Barnes; Waukesha County Traffic Engineer  
Officer Spencer Kranz; Town of Oconomowoc Representative  
Sergeant Steve Sanders; Village of Menomonee Falls Representative  
Sergeant Matthew Noah; Wisconsin State Patrol Representative  
Trooper Figran Grigoryer; Wisconsin State Patrol Representative  
Ms. Melissa Kimball; Chemist/Chemical Testing, Department of Transportation  
Ms. Therese Sanders; Toxicologist/Chemical Testing, Wisconsin Department of Transportation  
Ms. Lynda Biedrzycki; Medical Examiner, Waukesha County  
Ms. Andrea Sorce; Deputy Medical Examiner, Waukesha County  
Ms. Deena Liska; Injury Prevention Program Manager, Children's Hospital of Wisconsin

## **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 Administrative Building. Introductions of everyone in attendance were made.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Everyone in attendance reviewed the minutes from the November 13<sup>th</sup> 2019 meeting. Supervisor Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Olig seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Lieutenant Niles did provide a copy of the speed study that was conducted on County Highway E in the Town of Mukwonago. Traffic speeds in both directions of travel were collected.

## **CITIZEN COMMENTS AND REPORTS**

None.

## **BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION SAFETY**

Mr. Rick Olig; Law Enforcement Liaison Wisconsin Department of Transportation reviewed year to date fatal crashes. 27 fatal crashes with 29 people being killed so far in 2020.

Changes in Community Maps. The County Profiles have been completely re-done and are open to the public for viewing. Most data that is available is up to 2018, as 2019 is not completed yet. A brief review was given on how to use the County Profile.

The Legislative Update is also available on the County Profile. The most recent law that was put into place and causing concern is regarding hemp regulations. Concerns how to test hemp. It does need to be .7% or below. Prohibited amount of THC is now one nanogram. The Lab has never reported below one nanogram. There was no change in the limit. This put into law what law enforcement have been doing.

Mr. Olig gave a brief update of new laws that are being reviewed by the state legislature.

The Owner Liability Law in a Work Zone is still in the process. This is for traffic violations that are occurring in a work zone. Road crews will be able to report violations to law enforcement agencies, and the vehicle owner can be cited for the offense.

Legislature is close to going into session again.

Governor's Conference is August 18-20 2020 in Wisconsin Dells, WI.

Ms. Kimball and Ms. Sanders introduced themselves and explained their duties with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation.

Ms. Sanders spoke about the trial they are doing in Manitowoc County with roadside testing of restricted controlled substances. Change in Legislature is needed to get this written into law in Wisconsin and could take years. A device can cost around \$5,000. This device has been deemed accurate. The State of Michigan is using these devices. Ms. Sanders has offered to come back to a meeting in the future to present in more detail on the topic.

Sergeant Lynkiewicz reported for the Southwest Region traffic grants. Agencies that participate in this region are Town of Mukwonago, Village of Mukwonago, City of Muskego, and City of New Berlin. Grants included the Failure to Wear Seatbelt, Child Safety Restraints and Operating While Intoxicated grants. 32 traffic stops were conducted during the seat belt deployment. 68 traffic stops conducted during the Operating While Intoxicated deployment, resulting 2 Operating While Intoxicated arrests.

Lieutenant Niles reported the Waukesha County Sheriff's Department conducted 351 traffic stops during the Operating While Intoxicated task force, resulting in 7 arrests. A total of 253 traffic citations were issued.

Officer Lipovsek reported for the Northwest Region traffic grants. Agencies that participate in this region are Village of Chenequa, Village of Hartland, City of Oconomowoc, Town of Oconomowoc Lake, and Village of Summit.

378 traffic stops were conducted resulting in 276 traffic citations issued and 8 Operating While Under The Influence arrests during the Operating While Intoxicated deployment. 279 traffic stops, 174 citations issued, 16 failure to wear seat belt citations for the seat belt deployment.

Sergeant Sanders reports that they are working on creating a Task Force for the northeastern portion of Waukesha County with Village of Butler and Village of Lannon Police Departments.

## **HIGH CRASH LOCATIONS / FATALS**

- **Lieutenant Niles reported that the Town of Brookfield Police Department had the following fatal:**

- **11-6-19  
Bluemound Road**

A 69-year old male left the roadway travelling through the ditch, came back onto the road in the opposite direction where he hit a truck head on. It is unknown if he was experiencing a medical emergency causing him to crash. A witness did state he was driving erratically before the crash. Driver was wearing his seatbelt

and was speaking to first responders. However he was pronounced deceased at Waukesha Memorial Hospital.

➤ **Lieutenant Niles reported that the Waukesha County Sheriff's Department had the following fatal:**

- **12-18-19**
- **County Line Road/Town of Lisbon**

A 63-year old male driver operating a straight truck was traveling eastbound hit a 56-year old male bicyclist also traveling eastbound. The bicyclist was not wearing a bicycle helmet and had no reflective clothing on. It happened around 7:30 pm during hours of darkness. The bicyclist was pronounced deceased at the scene of the crash.

➤ **Officer Klein reported that the Waukesha Police Department had the following fatal:**

- **1-15-20**
- **State Highway 59 & Broadway/City of Waukesha**

An 81-year old male driver was traveling northbound when he experienced a medical emergency, causing him to crash into construction equipment/storage box that was in the ditch area due to current road construction. Driver was not wearing his seat belt and was pronounced deceased at the scene of the crash.

➤ **Captain Steve Thompson reported that the New Berlin Police Department had the following fatal:**

- **1-16-20**
- **South Moorland Road/City of New Berlin**

A 72-year old male driver was traveling southbound, when he experienced a medical emergency, causing him to leave the roadway; veered into the median striking a railroad sign and a tree. The driver was pronounced deceased at Froedtert Hospital. Cause of death was ruled natural causes and not due to the crash. Crash report does need to be amended to reflect the cause of death.

➤ **Lieutenant Niles reported that the Waukesha County Sheriff's Department had the following crash:**

- **1-17-20**
- **Interstate 94/City of Brookfield**

A Waukesha County Deputy was on patrol and sitting in the break of the median when an impaired 32-year old female driver traveling westbound hit a vehicle causing that vehicle to crash into the squad car. Significant injuries to the Deputy and one of the other drivers. Significant damage to all four vehicles involved. Milwaukee County

Sheriff's Department wrote the crash report. Wisconsin State Patrol completed the crash reconstruction. Multiple citations and criminal charges were issued to the driver.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Sergeant Sanders spoke about the high crash area of Silver Spring Drive and Bette Drive in Menomonee Falls. It is a long left turn lane due to being able to turn left onto Bette Drive and then Pilgrim Drive. Many drivers think the turn lane is only for Pilgrim Drive and enter the lane early causing drivers merging from Bette Drive to be hit.

### **NEXT QUARTELY MEETING SCHEDULED**

The next meeting of the Waukesha County Traffic Safety Commission is scheduled for Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup> 2020.

**AMEND:** Due to COVID-19 and Safer At Home Orders, the meeting was re-scheduled for Wednesday, June 10<sup>th</sup> 2020.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Sergeant Lynkiewicz and Sergeant Noah seconded the motion to adjourn. Motion was passed to adjourn the meeting.

Traffic Safety Commission Chairman, Lieutenant Chadwick Niles adjourned the meeting at 2:25 pm.

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