



WAUKESHA COUNTY

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION MINUTES

Wednesday, May 10th 2023

Waukesha County Administrative Building

In Attendance:

Lieutenant Michelle Larsuel; Chairperson Traffic Safety Coordinator, Waukesha County Sheriff's Department Representative

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

Detective Charlene Craft; Waukesha County Sheriff's Department Representative

Specialist Ben Jirikowic; City of Waukesha Representative

Sergeant Matthew Noah; Wisconsin State Patrol Representative

Lieutenant Brian Debarge; Village of Hartland Police Department Representative

Sergeant Adam Nelson; Village of Chenequa Police Department Representative

Ms. Karen Braun; Engineering Manager; Waukesha County Representative

Mr. Jarrett Gates; State of Wisconsin Department of Transportation Representative

Ms. Lisa Heinz; Aurora Hospital Summit Representative

Mr. Derrin Wolford, Traffic Engineer; City Of Waukesha Representative

Mr. Matthew Cowap, Traffic Engineer; Waukesha County Representative

Dr. Lynda Biedrzycki; Waukesha County Medical Examiner

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Traffic Safety Commission Chairperson, Lieutenant Larsuel at 1:04 pm at the Waukesha County Administrative Building. Introductions were made of those in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Ms. Heinz made a motion to approve the minutes. 2nd motion was made by Sergeant Noah. Minutes were approved.

CITIZEN COMMENTS AND REPORTS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION SAFETY

Mr. Rick Olig reports that Wisconsin currently has 141 fatal crashes in 2023. 10 fatal crashes in Waukesha County in 2023.

The dashboard is now active on Community Maps. You can compare crashes from year to year. Fatal crashes are up compared to 2021 and 2022. We reviewed year to date crash data and their factors.

Law Enforcement Agencies are reminded to use the yellow property damage tags when government property is damaged in a crash. Ideas on how to get agencies to improve accuracy on crash reports. Crash reports with no factors listed have been coming an issue, something must be entered. A video or a YouTube link has been suggested.

May is Motorcycle Awareness Month. Click It or Ticket is May 15-June 4th.

July 26th is Speed Awareness Day. The Governor's Conference is August 28-30th in Wisconsin Dells. Legislative updates were reviewed. The reckless driver impoundment law, to tow the vehicle it must be the owner of the vehicle and not paid the fine(s) from previous charge(s).

HIGH CRASH LOCATIONS / FATALS

- **Sergeant Nelson reports that the Chenequa Police Department had the following fatal:**
 - **2-18-23**
 - **State Highway 16/Village of Chenequa**

A SUV driven by a 47-year-old female was traveling the wrong way (westbound) on the eastbound side State Highway 16 near State Highway 83 when she hit another SUV operated by a 19-year-old female. The 19-year-old was pronounced deceased at the hospital. The 47-year-old female was severely injured and transported to the hospital. Alcohol and drug use is suspected. Criminal charges are pending. Wisconsin State Patrol is handling the reconstruction.

- **Lieutenant Michelle Larsuel reports that the New Berlin Police Department had the following fatal:**

- **3-13-23**
- **Cleveland Ave/City of New Berlin**

A sedan operated by a 33-year-old male was stopped and attempting to make a left-hand turn onto 160th Street when he was rearended by a pick-up truck being operated by a 79-year-old male who was not wearing a seatbelt, air bags were deployed in the truck. He was transported to the hospital and passed away three days later. No injuries occurred to the 33-year-old male. Toxicology report was negative.

New Berlin Police Department is handling the reconstruction.

- **Lieutenant Larsuel reports that the Waukesha County Sheriff's Department had the following fatal:**

- **3-17-23**
- **County Highway C/Town of Delafield**

A heavy-duty pick-up truck being operated by a 53-year-old male was traveling northbound on County Highway C when it crossed the center line, left the roadway, and crashed into a line of trees. The driver was pronounced deceased at the scene. Speed is a factor. Toxicology report shows him not to be impaired.

- **Lieutenant Larsuel reports that the Waukesha County Sheriff's Department had the following fatal:**

- **3-28-23**
- **Mapleton Avenue/Town of Merton**

A pick-up truck pulling a trailer was operated by a 62-year-old male traveling westbound on Mapleton Avenue when he swerved off the road, striking a tree before colliding head on with another tree. The truck then started on fire and became engulfed. There is evidence that the driver was deceased upon impact. Toxicology report was negative.

Wisconsin State Patrol is handling the reconstruction.

- **Lieutenant Larsuel reports that the Town of Brookfield Police Department had the following fatal:**

- **3-23-23**
- **Capitol Drive/Town of Brookfield**

- A SUV operated by a 25-year-old male was traveling west on Capitol Drive, a sedan operated by a 70-year-old male was eastbound on Capitol Drive waiting to turn right at the median break. The 25-year-old struck the 70-year-old driver as he was

crossing over Capitol Drive from the median break. The sedan then spun out, striking an SUV that was operated by a 40-year-old female. The 70-year-old male was pronounced deceased at the scene. Alcohol is suspected to be a factor.

- **Sergeant Noah reports that the Wisconsin State Patrol had the following fatal:**
 - **3-24-23**
 - **Interstate 94/City of Brookfield**

A 24-year-old male was operating a 2006 sedan on Interstate 94 when they left the roadway, entered the ditch, and struck a tree. The driver was pronounced deceased the scene. Drug use is suspected. Wisconsin State Patrol is handing the reconstruction.

- **Specialist Ben Jirikowic reports that the City of Waukesha Police Department had the following fatal:**
 - **3-29-23**
 - **Wet Avenue and Les Paul Parkway/City of Waukesha**

A 31-year-old male was operating a semi-truck travelling westbound proceeded to go thru the intersection when the traffic light turned yellow as he could not safely stop due to the size and weight of his truck. A sedan operated by a 41-year-old female turned in front of the semi to go north onto West Avenue. The semi hit the sedan on the passenger side pushing the sedan into a SUV that was sitting at the stop light on West Avenue. The back seat passenger of the sedan was a 6-year-old female who was pronounced deceased at the scene. Toxicology reports are negative. Wisconsin State Patrol is handing the reconstruction.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

2022 MEETING SCHEDULED

Our next meeting is Wednesday, August 9th 2023 at 1:00 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Sergeant Noah. 2nd motion was made by Lieutenant Brian Debarge. The meeting was adjourned at 2:47 pm.

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