

MINUTES
WOOD COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION

The Wood County Traffic Safety Commission met at the Wood County Highway Department, 555 17th Avenue North, Wisconsin Rapids, WI on **August 14, 2017** at 10:30 a.m.

PRESENT

Dennis Polach
Doug Passineau
Melvin Pedersen
Roland Hawk
Sarah Roach
Bill Winch
Bill Clendenning
Dan Brugman
Arielle Lewien
Shawn Becker
Trace Frost
Sue Kunferman
Alen Fye
Steve Kreuser

REPRESENTING

Wood County Board
Wood County Highway Department
Grand Rapids Police Department
Wood County Highway Department
Wood County Emergency Management
Wood County Board
Wood County Board
Wisconsin DOT
Wisconsin DOT
Wood County Sheriff Dept
BOTS LEC
Wood County Health Dept
Grand Rapids Resident
Wood County Emergency Management

Steve Kreuser called the meeting to order at 10:31 a.m.

1. Introductions were made.
2. **Minutes of the May 24 2017 Traffic Safety Commission Meeting.**

Motion to accept and place on file minutes from the May 24, 2017 Traffic Safety Commission meeting made by Shawn Becker. Seconded by Roland Hawk. Motion approved unanimously.

3. Review five (5) fatal crashes

Shawn Becker spoke in regard to 5 fatal crashes that occurred. There was some alcohol related crashes as well as a motorcycle that hit a deer. They are still waiting on BAC results. In regards to the Amish fatal crash, the State Patrol is reconstructing the crash. Bill Winch discussed a bill for legislation that state no situations just warnings will be issued with a 6 month grace period. Bill Clendenning presented a copy of the bill and will look into the legislative side.

4. Amish Update

Shawn Becker and Steve Kreuser gave update on the Amish. The Farm Bureau will look for grant funding to outfit a buggy and trailer to fit all specifications to take to shows, fairs, ect. They also discussed continual education about traffic safety to the community. They did receive permission to go into the schools and teach this topic. Dennis Polach asked if they can get citations. Shawn advised that they can with rules of the road, moving, and equipment violations.

5. Report from the Department of Transportation Engineer

Dan Brugman, WI DOT, discussed construction project on STH 54. They will be doing realignment, center line rumble strips, widening the shoulder and straighten out the curves. Dan also showed the DOT website for road closures, projects should be complete by Sept 1st. He gave an update

on the J turn. The DOT website has a permanent spot on there to show people how to drive the J turn. There was discussion on all the reflective signs at night.

6. Local Program Specialist Report and Highway Safety Plan Solicitation

Trace Frost, WI DOT/BOTS, updates us of the replacement of BOTs representative. Discussed with the committee the state wide fatal stats, fatalities were lower at the beginning of the year however July was a big month for crashes. Over 300 fatalities this year state wide.

7. Other Business brought properly before the Commission:

Add Amish back on agenda.

Doug Passineau gave update on the county wide projects.

8. Public Comments.

Alen Fye, resident of Grand Rapids, brought concerns about CTH W and Kellner Rd. The complaint is about people honking and passing on the right when him and his neighbors turn into their driveways. Melvin Pederson, Grand Rapids PD, states they have handed out tickets for passing on the right. The driving behaviors are different when marked cars are present. He stated that particular area is heavily enforced by local, county, and State Patrol. Bill Clendenning reiterated the dangers of that road. Doug Passineau, Wood County HWH Dept, states they are aware of the road surface is an issue as well, he suggests doing a traffic study and bringing it back to the TSC.

Bill Clendenning brought concerns on CTH Z east of STH 13 in the new subdivision have large holes and road work needs to be done. Also on CTH W there were a lot of burnouts in regards to the Corvettes of the North and there were 15 min delays on STH 54 and asked if there was overtime giving for event. Shawn Becker clarifies that they did have reserves on site and Grand Rapids PD had auxiliary.

9. Adjournment.

Shawn Becker made a motion to adjourn at 11:31 a.m. Seconded by Doug Passineau. Motion approved unanimously.

The next Traffic Safety Commission meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 29 at 10:30 a.m. at the Wood County Highway Department.