

MANITOWOC COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION

April 16, 2019

Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office

Present: Scott Nelson, Jason Orth, Robert Barbier, Brian Nack, Marc Holsen, Steven Denzien, and Holly Herzog.

Excused: Michael Polich and Barbara Herrmann

Also Present: William Johnson, Wisconsin State Lab of Hygiene; Nick Place, Manitowoc Police Department; Jill Michaelson, DOT and Rick Olig, BOTS

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 10:01 a.m. by Chairman Jason Orth.

Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes as submitted by Marc Holsen, second by Robert Barbier; motion carried.

Public Input: None

Oral Fluids Project: William Johnson from the Wisconsin State Lab of Hygiene gave a short presentation and summary of the Oral Fluids Project. Officer Nick Place coordinator for the project in Manitowoc County was also present. The WI State Lab of Hygiene processed over 20,000 OWI blood samples with 10% of those samples coming from coroners. The goal of the Oral Fluids Project is 100 voluntary samples which will be collected and compared to blood samples submitted. This is a pilot program to determine the prevalence and/or effects of drugs on drivers. This project has already collected data in Dane County. Dane County results proved 94% accurate through all drug categories. Of the 18 samples collected in Manitowoc County 50% contained drugs. This is a voluntary program and is only done if there is an arrest for OWI. Drugs screened for are: amphetamine, benzodiazepines, cannabis, cocaine, methamphetamine and opiates.

Site Evaluations: Information was received from Supervisor Falkowski regarding the speed limit on CORD R from Zander Road to STHY 147. Falkowski stated Denmark is installing a roundabout which is causing additional traffic on CORD R. He was again concerned about the posted speed limit. Scott Nelson explained that a temporary detour does not change the protocols for determining speed limits. Motion by Marc Holsen to take no action, second by Brian Nack; motion carried.

DOT Update Report from WI DOT-BOTS Representative: Rick Olig reported that there have been 109 fatal accidents as compared to 115 last year. This figure includes 12 pedestrians. Speed seems to be a prevalent factor. A study of 600 accidents revealed that 100 of them contained teen drivers which is concerning. BOTS is working on a PowerPoint that agencies can use to teach in their local driver's education classes. BOTS is hoping that agencies become more involved with driver's education. The Fond du Lac County Sheriff's Office currently teaches one three hour section for driver's education.

Click It or Ticket It will run from May 20th – June 2nd. The Governor's Conference is August 20 – 22, 2019 in Wisconsin Dells.

Scott Nelson reported that construction projects include the USHY 10 roundabout which should be open by August, the Waldo Blvd. repair will take two years to complete, and the USHY 151 resurfacing project will also be done this year.

The NE Region Time Meeting is taking place on May 1, 2019, an invitation was included with the minutes and will be distributed.

Appointments: Motion to appoint Fire Chief Steven Denzien to the Traffic Safety Commission and Assistant Chief Dave Murack as his alternate by Brian Nack, second by Robert Barbier; motion carried.

Recent Fatalities:

01/18/19 on I43 SB near MM157. The driver gradually crossed the median and crashed into a tree. It is believed that the driver fell asleep.

02/02/19 at 2734 CORD CR. Semi vs pedestrian. The pedestrian was an elderly man wearing dark clothing while mailing or retrieving the mail at 1:00 am. Driver did not see pedestrian.

04/07/19 at CORD R and Old Y Rd. Two motorcycles. The passenger of the second motorcycle was ejected and succumbed to her injuries when they rear ended the first motorcycle which was slowing or stopping. Alcohol and weather were contributing factors, no helmets.

04/08/19 on CORD XX near Herr Rd. SUV vs bicycle. Both were EB. Still under investigation. Operator of the motor vehicle is cooperating with the investigation.

Other Business: Rick Olig stated that DRE representatives may be attending Traffic Safety meetings in the future. He also stated that there are openings in the DRE and ARIDE classes and encouraged agencies to send officers.

Next Meeting: July 16, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. at the Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office.

A motion to adjourn at 11:11 am by Rick Olig, second Marc Holsen; motion carried.

Submitted by: Holly Herzog, Secretary