

MANITOWOC COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION

January 21, 2020

Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office

Present: Scott Nelson, Jason Orth, Marc Holsen, Barb Herrmann, Andrew Hyer, Michael Polich, Julie Reimer, Rick Wolfe, and Holly Herzog.

Excused: Robert Barbier

Also Present: Rick Olig BOTS and Supervisor James Falkowski

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chairman Jason Orth.

Minutes: One correction was made to the minutes from the last meeting. The minutes stated that the recommendation made by the Traffic Safety Commission would be reviewed by the Highway Committee at their January meeting. This meeting was cancelled and the CORD K and CORD T intersection will be discussed at their February meeting instead. Motion to approve minutes as corrected by Michael Polich, second by Barb Herrmann; motion carried.

Public Input: James Falkowski stated that Brown County will be replacing some bridges and routing traffic into Manitowoc County. There will also be a large cheese plant moving to Maribel near the intersection of CORD Z and Pleasant Road. This cheese plant will require 2 driveways and employ 100+ employees. Village officials were again concerned and wondered if this would allow them to lower the speed limit on CORD Z as they have requested in the past. Marc Holsen stated he was unaware of this development, but the first step would be an application for driveway access. If a speed study/review was needed it would come after (if) permits are granted.

Site Evaluations: CORD K and CORD T in the Village of Kellnersville was reviewed at the last meeting and moved forward with a recommendation to the Highway Committee. No new requests have been received.

DOT Update Report from WI DOT-BOTS Representative: Rick Olig reported that last year in the State of Wisconsin we had 551 fatal accidents. This year we have 9 fatalities statewide as compared to 27 last year. The Governor's Conference will be held August 18 – 20 at the Chula Vista in Wisconsin Dells. Organizers are looking for topics.

Road side drug testing is almost complete. The Manitowoc Police Department has the final numbers for Manitowoc County, but so far nearly 50% of impaired drivers also have drugs in their systems.

The State is still looking at providing additional materials to assist officers teaching Drivers Education. PowerPoints are being developed incorporating real and local stories. They are also hoping to develop a curriculum to assist with Driver's Education training.

Trooper Hyer pointed out that there have been some changes to the Restricted Controlled Substances statute. Most changes are for clarification and to establish minimum thresholds for the laboratories for consistency. THC has not been removed.

Industrial hemp, CBD and legalization of marijuana in other states was discussed and the confusion that exists when trying to enforce.

Recent Fatalities:

12/22/19 a single male driver while evading police and entering the City of Two Rivers lost control of his car striking a utility pole. Driver was not wearing a seatbelt and died at the scene. DCI and WSP are investigating and reconstructing accident.

11/16/19 two males were fighting on an off-ramp. Upon reentering I43 they left the roadway, rolled over, causing their female passenger to become trapped under the vehicle. She died from her injuries. No weather issues, road was clear, no seatbelts. This accident is still under investigation.

11/19/19 two semis collided at CORD W and CORD K. The EB semi operated by an out-of-state citizen failed to stop at the stop sign. The out-of-state driver died.

The crash history for this intersection was reviewed which found only 2 injury accidents since 2005. Upon reviewing the roadway it was noted that double stop ahead signs and double stop signs exist at this intersection. No vision obstructions were noted. Scott Nelson stated this intersection does not meet state requirements for failure to stop review.

Marc Holsen noted that the Highway Department is putting in upgrades and rumble strips at intersections as they are able.

Next Meeting: April 21, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. at the Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office.

A motion to adjourn by Barb Herrmann, second Marc Holsen; motion carried.

Submitted by: Holly Herzog, Secretary