

HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING

Committee/Board: HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMISSION

Date of Meeting: Thursday, January 19, 2017

Location: 2nd Floor Conference Room
Buffalo County Courthouse - Alma, Wisconsin

In the absence of the Chairman, Ms. Brunner called the Buffalo County Highway Safety meeting to order at 1:05pm, on Thursday, January 19, 2017 in the 2nd Floor Conference Room of the Buffalo County Courthouse, Alma Wisconsin.

Buffalo County Highway Safety Commission members present were:

NAME:	REPRESENTING
Bob Bott	WI DOT
Rick Tumaniec	WI DOT
Jerilyn Baures	Population
Bob Platteter	Highway Department
Bill Berger	WI State Patrol
Melissa Brunner	Coordinator, Sheriff's Office

Other Attendees: Randy Weissinger-WI DOT, and Investigator Lee Engfer

Ms. Brunner called agenda item #2, approval of the October 2016 minutes. Ms. Baures made a motion to approve the October 2016 minutes as presented, second by Mr. Tumaniec. Motion carried.

Public concerns. Mr. Engfer discussed issues pertaining to STH Highway 35 and ice-fishermen. Fishermen are parking on the west side of the highway, just south of the Alma wayside. In December, there was an accident in that area, which resulted in significant damage to two vehicles; one belonging to an ice-fisherman's.

There was discussion as to whether or not there could be signage during certain times of the year. Unfortunately, no. The highway department has winged out their plowing as far as they can. Mr. Tumaniec will look into what other areas, of similar nature, have done to remedy their parking issues. Sergeant Berger wondered if more grading would need to be done to the shoulder. Mr. Tumaniec will look into the signage possibility. The Dyke Road is also an issue. Maybe DNR can be contacted regarding the issue.

Ms. Brunner mentioned that there are still issues with the newly installed guardrail on Highway 88. There have been complaints that the guardrail imposes sight hazards at Highway 88 and Waumandee Creek Road, together with some private driveways.

Mr. Platteter discussed the Highway 88 guardrail issue and Highway 35 ice-fisherman issues. He informed the committee that County Road ZZ bridge is set to be completed and re-opened the last week in March and Schoepp's Valley is set for a wood structure bridge the end of March.

Mr. Bott presented the quarterly Community Mapping statistics. There have been 16 total fatalities in Wisconsin due to speed and inattentive driving, which is on a rise. Buffalo County had more accidents with a higher age group.

Mr. Engfer discussed that Buffalo County has been seeing an increase of non-local clubs (i.e. car clubs, cycle clubs). Many of these non-locals are not familiar with the terrain in Buffalo County which is a cause for an increase of accidents.

Mr. Tumaniec updated the committee that there will be crack-fill road work on Highway 25 to Stockholm in July. He advised that County Road U to Highway 37 won't be completed until 2020. There was discussion if land owners could be contacted to put in a water retention project on Highway 37 for maintaining purposes.

Ms. Baures discussed that at one point, Sergeant Haigh brought up to her that on Highway 35 by C-FC School there is a passing zone south of the school and a passing zone north of the school driveway, which creates a multi-passing issue. Who is at fault if there should be an accident while passing? Mr. Tumaniec will look at the road layout and get back to the committee.

Mr. Engfer mentioned that there have been many backups by the Spur Station at 35/54. He's looking at getting cameras from a Grant that can be placed at several locations. There was discussion that the Highway Department is putting up cameras in several locations to check weather conditions, maybe camera placement can be worked out to benefit law enforcement as well.

Sergeant Berger touched base that it is a good idea to have monitoring through a camera system as a screening device. Currently, he is working on projects with weigh stations.

Adjourned at 2:17pm.

Next meeting: April 20, 2017 at 1:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Brunner

Coordinator, Buffalo County Highway Safety Commission