

# HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING

**Committee/Board:** HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMISSION

**Date of Meeting:** Thursday, August 16, 2018

**Location:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room  
Buffalo County Courthouse - Alma, Wisconsin

Buffalo County Highway Safety Commission members present were:

NAME:	REPRESENTING
VACANT	School Districts
Mike Schmidtknecht	Sheriff's Office
Randy Wiessinger- <b>EXCUSED</b>	WI DOT
Rick Tumaniec	WI DOT
Jerilyn Baures	Population
Norita Willadsen	Nurse
Bob Platteter	Highway Department
Bruce Fuerbringer-interim	Emergency Management
Sgt. William Berger	WI State Patrol
Melissa Brunner	Coordinator, Sheriff's Office

Public: Mr. Ron Geiselhar

Ms. Mary Anne McMillan Urell, County Board Chair, asked Mr. Bruce Fuerbringer to act as committee chair in order to elect a new chair and a vice chair.

Mr. Fuerbringer called the meeting to order at 1:05pm. The floor was opened for chair nominations.

Mr. Platteter nominated Mr. Fuerbringer, second by Ms. Baures. Declined by Mr. Fuerbringer.

Ms. Willadsen nominates Ms. Baures, second by Mr. Fuerbringer. Motion carried by committee.

Nomination of vice-chair: Mr. Fuerbringer nominated Mr. Platteter, second by Mr. Berger. Motion carried by committee.

Ms. Willadsen made a motion to approve minutes as presented, second by Mr. Fuerbringer. Motion carried.

Public comment: Mr. Geiselhar spoke of the parking issue in the City of Alma on Pine Street and issues with parking at Kwik Trip; there have been several accidents. The visibility has always been an issue; Mr. Geiselhar is looking to see if it would be possible to have it be just motorcycle parking on the street. There was committee discussion of a possible crosswalk in that area. Mr. Tumaniec stated that at least 15 feet on either side would be needed, which would be the only criteria for the state.

Sheriff Schmidtknecht excused for emergency call. Ms. Brunner advised the committee of one fatality since last meeting which occurred on July 2nd; semi versus truck on Highway 37. Speed of the truck was a factor. Both vehicles were traveling northbound. The semi was unable to see the truck passing as it too started to pass. Semi collided with the truck. The truck rolled several times over onto its passenger side, driver was not wearing his seatbelt but was not ejected from the vehicle.

Mr. Fuerbringer presented his LEPC/EM report. He's looking into a grant for a \$12,000 antenna backup/patching radio project as it is fiscally not possible to budget for 2018.

The quote for the fire/address signs has been received; there are plans to get the signs ordered this year so that they can be installed in 2019. There are Towns that haven't had their August meetings to approve the sign expenditures.

Emergency Management in conjunction with UW-Extension hosted an educational safety booth at the Buffalo County Fair. The WI State Patrol also participated with their "Little Convincer" seatbelt program.

Mr. Fuerbringer was part of a simulated river accident exercise which was based on the 1993 "butter fire" incident that occurred in Fountain City.

Mr. Platteter discussed the 35 MPH zone through Buffalo City. He discovered the signage was not distant consistent, which have since been rectified. Sheriff Schmidtknecht had identified that when traveling north out of town it was 50 MPH but signage coming into town was 55 MPH. The difference was split and it is now flagged as a 45 MPH zone. DOT permits the speed flashing signage which is usually located at speed zones. The cities are responsible to maintain their condition.

RAGNAR Race is this Friday. Also, there are some upcoming seal coating projects; the county should expect crashes.

Mr. Tumaniec advised the committee that the Highway 88 project has been suspended since Mathy Construction is tied up on another project. He's hoping they can start after the 20th. The Highway 37 project has been completed. Again, he discussed the passing zone issue at the CFC School; he was advised that there would be difficulty to grant any sort of exception.

Ms. Baures did not have anything new for the committee other than the CFC passing zone and Buffalo City parking issues.

Sergeant Berger stated that on July 29th, the WSP had an aircraft speed detail near County Road N, north of Cochrane and Prairie Moon.

Ms. Willadsen did not have anything to bring forward to the committee but did report that recently she saw many motorcycles with red/blue flashing lights in the area. Sergeant Berger figured it was a Governor's detail she had witnessed.

Next meeting to be held October 18th at 1:00pm.

Motion by Mr. Tumaniec to adjourn, second by Mr. Platteter. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Brunner

Coordinator, Buffalo County Highway Safety Commission