

**WOOD COUNTY
TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING**

Date: March 13th, 2024

Time: 10:30 AM

**Place: Conference Room
Wood County Highway Dept
Wisconsin Rapids, WI**

WebEx Info:

<https://woodcountywi.webex.com/woodcountywi/j.pjp?MTID=ma7c8dc8c6dbd3b78e9904307ad8b4c89>

Agenda

Present – Roland Hawk Wood County Hwy, Todd Horn DOT BOTS, Cara Abts WisDOT, Joseph Zurfluh Wood County Board Supervisor, Bill Clendenning Wood County Board, Emily Covarrubias Wood County Emergency Management, Rhae Stertz - WI State Patrol, Brandon Whipple – Wood Co Highway, Mel Pedersen – Grand Rapids Police Department, Virtually – Lance Pliml Wood Co Board President

1. Meeting called to order by Roland Hawk at 10:30 AM.
2. Minutes of the December 2023 Traffic Safety Commission Meeting.

Motion by Roland Hawk to accept the minutes, second by Mel Pedersen. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Report from Charles Hoogesteger on area traffic fatalities presented by Roland Hawk
 - a. 12/26/23 – US HWY 10 near Day Rd. Unit 1 was westbound in the eastbound lane. Unit 2 was eastbound behind a semi; when unit 2 moved to the fast/inside lane, Unit 1 and 2 struck head on. Driver of Unit 2 was killed, passenger in unit 2 was injured and driver of unit 1 had significant injuries but expected to survive. Driver of Semi was uninjured. Full recon was completed, reports are pending.
 - b. 2/16/24 – Single vehicle crash. CTH N near Lang Rd. Unit 1 was southbound on CTH N when it failed to negotiate a curve and the vehicle left the roadway. The vehicle rolled, flipped then struck nearby utility pole. Driver and lone occupant was dead at the scene. Speed was a factor in this crash.
4. Updates on Wood County Highway Projects

- a. County Trunk Highway Z from Hwy 73 to Hwy 13. Number of structures and culverts are in need of repair. Pavement will be replaced. Road will be closed in segments. Projected start date in June.
- b. Highway U from south of intersection of Whitrock to County Trunk W. Complete pavement replacement is planned.
- c. Highway S – in conjunction with Portage Co – pulverizing and resurfacing planned.
- d. Double BB – realigning of intersection is in planning stages.
- e. Number of Maintenance projects (chipp sealing pavement resealing) scheduled from June through July.

5. Cara Abts is present for WISDOT.

- a. Upcoming 2024 Project Forecast
 - a. WIS 80 (Juneau Co Line to WIS 173 N) 5 mile pavement replacement – Town of Remington. Work to be done under detour.
 - b. WIS 54 (County G to Seneca Road) 5-mile pavement resurfacing – Port Edwards. Work to be done under detour.
 - c. WIS 73 (WIS 173 to WIS 54) 2-mile pavement resurfacing – Port Edwards to Nekoosa
- b. Safety and Operational Reviews
 - a. WIS 186 Speed Zone Review – data being collected at the request of Village of Vesper for speed reductions to 35 mph.
- c. WIS 13 Emergency Alternate Route Development
 - a. DOT has turned this over to signing engineer and is now in their hands.
- d. 2018 – 2022 Top Crash spot screening process – Evaluations of crashes at the following locations to determine safety upgrades to mitigate crash trends if appropriate.
 - a. WIS 54 at WIS 73 and Port Road – Port Edwards
 - b. WIS 54 at County W/Riverview Expressway – Wis. Rapids
 - c. WIS 54 at Washington Street/Baker Drive- Wis. Rapids
 - d. WIS 54 at 32nd Street (north) – Wis. Rapids

6. Local Program Specialist report –

- Todd Horn, Law Enforcement Liaison, reports for the DOT. See attached PowerPoint he shared with us. Todd reviewed fourth quarter crashes, reports and noted certain crash statistics are continuing to trend downward and reviewed community maps data for Wood County. Also highlighted was the new Law Enforcement Phlebotomy training program, 511 Wisconsin Program, Legislative updates, and upcoming safety initiatives such as National Work Zone Awareness week (April 15-19) and Click It or Ticket (May 20 – June 2).

- The upcoming Governor's Conference on Highway Safety is scheduled for August 19-21 in the Wisconsin Dells.

7. WisDOT Predictive Analytics Project

- a. No change in current status.
- b. Message boards are continuing to be utilized on Hwy 54 and Hwy 10, notifying drivers of accident reduction areas.
- c. Time frame for study with Sheriff's department plans to go through this Summer and then analytics will be reviewed to previous years'

8. Other business

- a. Hwy A from Pittsville to Hwy 10 in Marshfield – Talking with dept for possibility of transferring it to a State Highway. Committee meetings and discussions are being presented on this matter.
- b. School Bus Cameras: Safeway from Kellner reached out to Grand Rapids PD, they are considering applying for grant for cameras for their school busses.

9. Public Comments - No public comments

10. Adjournment – Motion to adjourn by Roland Hawk, second by Mel Pedersen at 11:28 a.m.

Minutes taken by: Emily Covarrubias – Wood County Emergency Management

These minutes are preliminary until reviewed and voted on at the next Traffic Safety Meeting.