

Portage County Traffic Safety Commission Meeting Minutes

10:00 a.m., Tuesday, December 4, 2018

Law Enforcement Center Conference Room, Stevens Point, Wisconsin

Members Present: Chief Dep. Daniel Kontos, President/Cty. Hwy. Safety Coordinator
Sgt. Gina Boettcher, VP/Traffic Safety Officer
Rhae Stertz, Secretary of Transportation Rep – Law Enforcement
Don Jankowski, Portage County Safety Officer
Rick Olig, Secretary of Transportation Rep – Highway Safety
Lt. Ryan Fox, Plover Police Department
Christian Budzinski, County Executive Appointment – Education
Attorney David Ray, County Representative, Law
Nathan Check, County Highway Commissioner
Deputy Joe Mulrooney, TIM Committee Representative
Lt. Josh Ostrowski, Portage County Sheriff's Office
Joe Gemza, Assistant Chief of EMS, SPFD
Al Haga, County Board Chairman
Sgt. Steve Spath, Stevens Point Police Department

Members Absent: James Williams, Emergency Management Coordinator
Chris Holman, County Executive
Jeffrey Schuler, Director, Portage County Planning & Zoning

Members Excused: Daniel Brugman, WisDOT NC Region Traffic Safety Engineer
Scott Rifleman, Portage County Coroner

Others Present: Mike Panosh, WisDOT/BOTS
Kasia Norgaard, Portage County Sheriff's Office
Kim Delikowski, Portage County Sheriff's Office

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Kontos at 10:00 a.m.

Quorum Call: Introductions as Needed

A roll call was read and a quorum of the Traffic Safety Commission (TSC) was present.

Approval of September 4, 2018, Meeting Minutes

Motion/second by Check/Fox to approve the minutes of September 4, 2018, Traffic Safety Commission Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Notice

President Kontos declared members of the public who wish to address the Committee on specific agenda items must register their request at this time, with such comments subject to the reasonable control of the Commission President as set forth in Robert's Rules of Order.

Correspondence None.

Status of Highway Construction and Safety Projects/Repair Proposals

➤ **State Projects:**

- No one present. BUS 51 (Hickory to Minnesota) is in winter shutdown and will continue with the remaining work in the spring.
- Tentative 2019 Projects
 - STH 66/Main St (Plover River Bridge) – Deck replacement on westbound bridge on STH 66/Main Street over Plover River (west of Country Club Dr.) Westbound traffic will be shifted over to eastbound lanes with single lane for each direction running bidirectional. Speed will be temporarily reduced within work zone.

➤ **Portage County Highway Department Projects (Check)**

- 2018 Projects
 - All 2018 Projects complete at this time.
- 2019 Projects
 - CTY. RD. I
 - Total reconstruction Cty. Rd. Z to Collins Lake Rd.
 - Completion sometime next year.
 - CTY. RD. F (Cty. Rd. W to Hwy. 73)
 - CTY. RD. Q (Through Amherst Junction)

➤ **Municipal Projects**

- No one present.

County Traffic Safety Coordinator Report (Kontos)

Nothing at this time.

Crash Spot Map/Law Enforcement Agency Report

- **Portage County Sheriff's Office:** *Traffic Accident Summary Report for 07/01/2018 to 09/30/2018.* Sgt. Gina Boettcher stated there were 139 total accidents, 137 reportable during second quarter of 2018. There were 33 personal injury accidents, 4 fatal and 24 property damage accidents. There were 9 hit and run accidents, 2 involving personal injury and 4 involving property damage. There were 43 people injured and 7 vehicles in accidents involving alcohol. There were 4 fatalities:
 - **8/4/18 @ 5:50 AM on Old Hwy 18 & Schiller Dr. – Town of Hull**
 - Driver traveling at high rate of speed causing vehicle vs. tree. Driver killed; passenger with severe injuries. Driver had .20 blood alcohol w/benzoids & methamphetamines present.

- **8/19 /18 @ 12:47 PM on Hwy 10 & North Ln - T-Stockton near County Materials/Concrete (State Patrol)**
 - Two vehicle crash – detailed under “New Business” below.
 - **8/28/18 @ 7:28 AM on Hwy 66 W & West River Dr. W – Town of Linwood**
 - Older driver, no witnesses. Vehicle ran off road; driver dead on scene. No tests given, suspected but non-confirmed medical issues.
 - **9/30/18 12:10 PM - Cty Rd. B & Hwy. 10 – Town of Amherst (State Patrol)**
 - Elderly couple failed to stop at stop sign. Vehicle went across all lanes Cty. Rd. B, rolled and driver killed. No tests given.
- **Stevens Point Police Department:** (Spath)
09/04/2018 to 12/4/2018. Sgt. Steve Spath stated there were 157 accidents during this time period of 2018, 156 reportable. There were 33 personal injury accidents, 0 fatal and 12 property damage accidents. There were 25 hit and run accidents, 4 involving personal injury and 2 involving property damage. There were 37 people injured and 0 people killed, and 5 vehicles in accidents involving alcohol.
- **Village of Plover Police Department:** *Traffic Accident Summary Report for 07/01/2018 to 09/30/2018.* Lt. Ryan Fox stated there were 49 accidents during the second quarter of 2018, all reportable. There were 12 personal injury accidents, 0 fatal and 6 property damage accidents. There were 4 hit and run accidents, 0 involving personal injury and 1 involving property damage. There were 12 people injured and 0 people killed, and 0 vehicles in accidents involving alcohol.

WisDOT Traffic Safety Engineer’s Report (Brugman via email)

- WisDOT installed several signs near intersection of CTH PP on STH 66 as result of public requests and several crashes that occurred this summer (8/28/18). Night arrow installed on curve to east of River Dr. and intersection warning sign installed prior to CTH PP for eastbound direction. No additional signs for westbound.

Bureau of Transportation Safety Report (Panosh/Olig)

- **Grants:**
- Speed grant to run next summer July through August, 2019. \$25,000 award with reinforcement running twice/week. Grants based off crash data and awarded to help cover extra enforcement; accurate and complete reporting important. Olig discussed data comparison of quarters.
 - Drive Sober will be 2/14/18 through 1/1/19. Mobilization encouraged for all agencies. One-line - easy reporting through WISE Grants with number of

hours for traffic enforcement. Can be tallied in TraCS. Reports to be submitted by 1/15/19. One out of four agencies get \$4,000 for equipment. Agencies can win for every mobilization and at luncheon.

- Portage County won \$4,000 for Click-It-Or-Ticket participation and \$500 bonus at luncheon.
- Drawing for Labor Day drive sober not done yet; Plover PD also participated in.
- **TraCS Conference**
 - Unknown will now be an option for time of crash.
 - New TraCS diagram tool including satellite view tool.
 - TLT override has been disabled. Only supervisor will be able to override.
 - Failure to maintain control will be changing; possibly included in speed flag.
- **Governor's Conference:**
 - 8/20/19 through 8/22/19 at Glacier Conference Center at Wilderness Lodge. Information will come out early 2019.

Traffic Safety Legislation (*Olig/Check*)

- Nothing at this time. Legislature designating money vs. DOT secretary having total control; federal money to cover larger projects vs. state funding to be allocated to smaller projects.
- County Highway Association working on work zone safety bill which will include automated speed enforcement and flagger bill of rights, giving flaggers same powers statutorily as school bus drivers and crossing guards for reporting accidents and offences. Bill will also require Drivers Ed courses to include work zone module.

Emergency Medical Services Operations (Gemza)

- Multi-vehicle crash on I39 was great exercise of MABIS box alarm. Four separate vehicle inhabitants left scene and went to ER afterwards. After Action Review in progress soon.

Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Operations (Mulrooney)

- One TIM classroom training held October 19th, 2018, at Portage County Highway Department.
- Several incidents past couple months requiring TIM team deployment on I39 and Hwy. 10. Incidents discussed at TIM meeting prior to this meeting.

Chief Deputy Kontos:

- Cameras on I39 up and running (six cameras: BUS 51, Stanley St., Hwy 10, Cty Rd HH, Cty Rd B & Hwy. 54). Can see snapshots on 511 website; live and recording; updated every 30 seconds on 72-hour loop. Cameras do not pan – are stationary, but can be adjusted by TMC when contacted by Comm Center. If Trans

portal account, not HD capable yet but being worked on. Timely notification to TMC is necessary if recording needed.

- Letter Commission sent to Secretary of Transportation and cameras added back to project. No word back yet regarding dynamic message boards. Traffic Incident Management Committee will reissue letter to new administration and new Secretary of Transportation and hopefully message boards will be added to next I39 project. We are eligible if funds available.

Upcoming Traffic Safety Training Opportunities

None. Governor's Conference information stated above.

Public Education Programs and Opportunities

None.

Traffic Safety Grants Update

- As discussed earlier.

Locations of Traffic Hazards & Recommended Improvements (Budzinski/Kontos)

- Budzinski discussed possible hazard of railroad track crossing by students. Kontos suggested School District Hazard Plan needs to be updated and reviewed.
- Roundabout by SPASH has had several accidents. Pedestrian traffic will increase once new Sentry building operational. Kontos suggested roundabout safety as project for committee. Topic will be added to next quarter's agenda.

Unfinished Business

None.

New Business

- Fatal Crash Review (Stertz)
 - 8/19/18 @ 12:47 PM on Hwy 10, ½ mile east North Ln, T-Stockton near County Materials/Concrete. Driver error, not infrastructure.
 - Unit 1 traveling eastbound in lane 2; Unit 2 traveling eastbound in lane 1.
 - Unit 1 pulled into right turn lane, turned into County Concrete's driveway, swung left and pulled in front of Unit 2, intending to do U-turn. Unit 2 struck driver's side of Unit 1. Driver of Unit 1 killed. Driver of Unit 2 serious injury.
 - Slide presentation by Stertz included photos and diagrams of crash.
- Next quarter – Portage County Sheriff's Office will discuss 9/30/18 Cty. Rd. B & Hwy 10 fatal crash.

Adjournment

Motion/second by Haga/Jankowski to adjourn meeting at 11:00 AM. Motion carried unanimously. Next meeting of the Traffic Safety Commission is Tuesday, March 5, 2019, at 10:00 AM in the Law Enforcement Center Training Room at Portage County Sheriff's Office..

Respectfully submitted,
/s/

Kim Delikowski
Recording Secretary