

**WOOD COUNTY
TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING**

Date: September 13th, 2023

Time: 10:30 AM

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

WebEx Info:

<https://woodcountywi.webex.com/woodcountywi/j.php?MTID=m45d21cd786de61530f1854625a0e5eb2>

Agenda

Present – Roland Hawk Wood County Hwy, Dan Kontos DOT BOTS, Cara Abts WisDOT, Joseph Zurfluh Wood County Board Supervisor, Bill Clendenning Wood County Board, Dennis Polach Wood County Board, Emily Covarrubias Wood County Emergency Management, Charlie Hoogesteger Wood County Sheriff’s Department, Lance Pliml – Wood County Board, Trevin Szulczewske WI State Patrol, Brandon Whipple – Wood Co Highway, Mel Pedersen – Grand Rapids Police Department

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

Motion by Roland Hawk to accept the minutes, second by Joseph Zurfluh. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Charles Hoogesteger reports on three traffic fatalities throughout the last quarter
 - a. 8/26/23 on Mill Rd in Arpin
 - b. 8/7/23 at the intersection of Y and M in the Town of Auburndale
 - c. 7/27/23 on S Cedar Ave in the City of Marshfield
4. Updates on Wood County Highway Projects
 - a. CTR F has been painted, resurfaced from HH to CTH 10 and is almost complete. It’s part of a research project to see if J-Band aids in deterioration of route.
 - b. 48th and W: Roundabout project is officially in the works.
 - c. Co Trunk X – Part of a research project to look at rapid penetrating emulsion to seal up cracks and how they deteriorate.

- d. CTR F – 80/20 mix of produced asphalt is being applied in hopes that there is an impact on the reducing the amount of emission production per new research project.
5. Cara Abts is present for WISDOT today to report for Tony Kemnitz.
 - a. 2024 Construction Projects: STH 54 in and west of Port Edwards, STH 73 in Nekoosa, STH 80 south of Babcock will have projects next year. Port Edwards project will be detouring traffic while the Wisconsin River Drive is reconstructed.
 - b. Review of the speeds on USH 10 south of the RAB in Marshfield. The 85th percentile speeds not support a change to 45 mph south of the RAB.
6. Local Program Specialist report –

See attached PowerPoint. Dan then went through the second quarter crashes, reports and noted certain crash statistics are still continuing to trend downward and many upcoming safety initiatives planned for the year. Also highlighted was the upcoming safety initiatives that include Child Passenger Safety week and National Car Seat Checks.
7. WisDOT Predictive Analytics Project
 - a. Over the summer, the Hwy 54 message boards that were placed that notifies traffic of “crash prediction areas”. The boards have received positive comments from the public.
 - b. Some boards will be rotated around to different areas in the county – Marshfield will use one next and be used for coverage in questionable areas.
 - c. The Sheriff’s department pursues speed and seatbelt grants to increase patrols on a number of state highways throughout the area.
 - d. A number of flashing “stop ahead” signs have been green lit to come out of the Highway department’s maintenance budget. Grant requests for these signs were refused after being submitted.
8. Other business
 - a. A Hazmat incident safety training event is being planned with ERCO, Wood County Emergency Management, Dispatch, Port Edwards and Nekoosa Fire Departments. The training will be made realistic has possible to help plan for possible future incidents and the public will be made aware.
 - b. Cross Country Meet will be at the end of the month out in Grand Rapids. They plan to utilize some of our message boards after talking with directors of this conference to help alleviate traffic issues on Griffith Avenue.

9. Public Comments - No public comments

10. Adjournment – Motion to adjourn by Roland Hawk, second by Joseph Zurfluh at 11:39 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.