

## Minutes of the Bayfield County Traffic Safety Commission

Thursday, November 18, 2021

The regular meeting of the Bayfield County Traffic Safety Committee was called to order by Chief Deputy Andy Runice at 8:58am on Thursday, November 18, 2021, in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) as well as online via Microsoft Teams.

**Attendees:** Andy Runice -Chief Deputy, Bob Anderson- Highway Commissioner, Jake Benson-Highway Patrol Superintendent, Dan Kontos-WI DOT/DSP BOTS, Dan Bieberitz and Aaron Christ- WI DOT, Sean Berkowitch- WI State Patrol, J. Benton-Red Cliff, Sheree Collins-Education Representative, Meagan Quaderer-Emergency Management, Deb Milanowski-Sheriff's Office

**Approval of minutes:** Motion by Bob Anderson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sheree Collins to approve the meeting minutes from August 19, 2021

**Public input:** No comments

**Report from Bayfield County Traffic Safety Coordinator:** Review of accidents. A lot of deer crashes. Lots of speeding & speeds that are high (80-90). Also noticed an increase in drug arrests.

### **Report by WI DOT Traffic Safety Coordinator-Dan Kontos:**

Reviewed spot map of County 235 crashes (2020=244). Most counties & the State are going up.

One fatality this year so far. 2020=4

Review crash flags: deer 39.6%; speed 20.9% 657 18.7%; Distracted 8.9%; teen 7-7%

65+ counts for 33% of the population

Teens represent 4% of population

Alcohol & drugs count:

	<u>County:</u>	<u>Count:</u>	<u>State:</u>
Alcohol	11.1 %	26	5.4%
Drugs	3.8%	9	1.80%

NW part of the State is typically higher in this than the SE portion of the State.

Bay Co. higher in seatbelt usage at 95.3%. The State is 88.1%

Statewide crashes are up from last year, fatalities are up and so are injuries from last year.

Review of predictive analytics: Winter vs. Summer not much change between the two. Areas that have the more serious crashes stayed the same between winter and summer.

Reduced speed limit to 35 about 200 feet further So. in Red Cliff

Review of legislative updates: Not much happening. The same three bills (acts) still there.

Resource Highlight:

1. Rural Safety center. org

2. TSC Guideline updates are located on the TSC Resources tab on community Maps.

**Report of State Patrol-Sean Berkowitch:** Introduction of Sean Berkowitch. They are working hotspots still but the predictive analytics campaign in Superior is done.

**Report of Wisconsin DOT-Dan Bierberitz and Aaron Christ**

Projects 2021

Co. M completed with shoulder & clean up to do

2022 Projects

1. Sznaider to Co. A- on US 2-resurfacing project
2. Co. E to Hwy 2-on 63- resurfacing project
3. Replace Eau Claire Bridge-replacing
4. Pine Creek Bridge -contractor in line for Replacement

**Bayfield Co Highway Department-Bob Anderson**

Working on pretreatment on curves + bridges for winter, finishing projects for the year, and paved gravel patches by Pigeon Lake. Overall, getting ready for winter. Intro of Jake Benson as the patrol superintendent.

**Education Representative-Sheree Collins**

Driving Schools-still no contact yet. Pending legislation regarding no skills test. Not a good concept.

**Red Cliff -Jeff Benton**

Safety Officer- applying for funds to have someone on staff as a Safety officer.

Construction on Co. Hwy K and a new service station too.

**Emergency Management-Meagan Quaderer**

Nothing to report except the local government tower on Star Route will be done and a local government tower will be put in Red Cliff.

***Next Meeting is scheduled for February 17, 2022, at 9:00am at the Bayfield County Sheriff's Office in the EOC and remotely.***

Anderson motion to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kontos. Motion carried (10-0).

Submitted by: Deb Milanowski

Minutes approved on: 2/17/22