

MINUTES OF THE BAYFIELD COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, May 18, 2021

The regular meeting of the Bayfield County Traffic Safety Committee was called to order by Chief Deputy Andy Runice at 9:04 am on Thursday, May 20, 2021, in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

Attendees: Sheriff Paul Susienka (9:26am), Chief Deputy Andy Runice, Ross Baker-WI DOT Representative, Dan Kontos- WI DOT/DSP BOTS, Bob Anderson (9:10am)- Highway Commissioner, Sgt. Pat Kraetke-WSP, Don Swedberg-Citizen Representative, Eric Howell, Deb Milanowski-Bayfield County Sheriff's Office

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Dan Kontos, 2nd by Ross Baker to approve the minutes from November February 18, 2021. *Motion carried (4-0)*

Public Input: Eric Howell with Northwest Regional Planning provided an overview of what they can offer to our area. They provide transportation services, planning services and safety planning. Can help the county with creating/writing a safety plan. The safety plan would allow us to see where there are problems and ways to help those to reduce crashes. Price and Marathon counties have started working on safety plans with Northwest Regional Planning.

Report from Bayfield County Traffic Safety Coordinator: Discussion of current traffic issues. No fatalities in the first quarter. Currently 83 crashes with 13 injuries. Mostly due to conditions of the roadway and driver actions. Community maps updates reviewed.

Report from BOTS LE Liaison: Reviewed year to date numbers for Bayfield County and the State. Crashes for Bayfield County are down from 2020 at 111. No fatalities currently which is down from 2 in 2020 at this same time. High crash probability map reviewed. Main highways where crashes occur are 2 (in Keystone) & 13.

Upcoming campaigns include 5/24-6/4 Click it or ticket; Governor's Conference 8/17-19 (virtual); 8/20-9/6 Driver Sober; 10/27 Tracs User Conference.

Reminder that the Tracs transition needs to be done by this fall. Legislative updates reviewed.

Report from Wisconsin State Patrol: Derek Hanson is no longer in the reconstruction unit. He moved to Inspector. Trent Bentley will be in the reconstruction unit, and he is from Gile. Done with the Douglas County predictive analytic study and they have moved to Rice Lake.

Report from Bayfield County Highway Dept.:

Project for this year is in Cable from Co. M to Co. D.

Will be doing clean up on Highway 13, then Hwy 2, then Hwy 63. Will have a 3-year rotation removing trees and debris from the side.

Report from WI DOT Traffic Safety Coordinator:

Discussion of the intersection of Hwy 13 and Engoe Rd. Still doing research to see if a passing lane would be needed. Iron River Project starting. This from Iron River Co. Rd E on Hwy 2 with no closure.

Hwy 118 starting around 7/1 and closed to through traffic. Detour in place.

Cornucopia reported traffic issues with speed and pedestrians. 45 mph reasonable. Will be painting a crosswalk and putting in boardwalks.

Committee Member Report: None

Next meeting is scheduled for 8/19/21 at 9:00am at the Bayfield County Sheriff's Office in the EOC and remotely.

Motion by Paul Susienka, 2nd by Dan Kontos to adjourn. Motion carried (7-0)

Meeting ended at 10:12 am

Submitted by: Deb Milanowski

Minutes Approved on: 8-19-21