



PORTAGE COUNTY

MEETING MINUTES

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION

PORTAGE COUNTY ANNEX
CONFERENCE ROOMS 1 & 2
1462 STRONGS AVENUE
STEVENS POINT, WI 54481

Tuesday, December 7, 2021

10:00 AM

REMOTE ATTENDANCE & COMMENT

To attend this meeting by telephone : dial 1-608-338-1399, after dialing the number you will then be asked to enter in a meeting number. Use the following meeting number: 163 231 068, then press #

To attend this meeting by video: email snowk@co.portage.wi.us no later than December 5th, 2021 to request an invite be sent to you.

Due to COVID-19 and the potential risk to members of the public who attend meetings in-person, any person who plans to attend the meeting remotely, but wishes to comment on an agenda item can send their comments via email to snowk@co.portage.wi.us. The deadline for sending comments by email is 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting. Emailed comments will be delivered to committee members at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. Remote comment by the public during the meeting will be at the discretion of the Chair.

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to Order at 10:00 AM (Ostrowski)

Members Present: J Ostrowski, B Beaudoin, T Kemnitz, D Kontos, C Budzinski, J Gemza, A Haga, D Jankowski, J Mueller, R Fox, C Loiselle

Members Excused: N Check, R Stertz, J Mulrooney

Members Absent: D Brugman, D Ray, C Holman, S Rifleman, J Schuler, B Weinert, A Luchini

Others Present: M Wiza, S Beduhn, D Ladick, D Johnson, B Porter, J Kitowski, K Snow

PUBLIC NOTICE

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 Committee Chair as set forth in Robert's Rules of Order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of September 7th, 2021 Minutes

Motion/Second to approve the September 7th, 2021 Minutes by Jankowski/Fox. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

2. Status of Highway Construction and Safety Project/Repair Proposals

- Wisconsin Department of Transportation
 - Hy 54 Interchange Safety Concerns
 - I 39 & Cty B Crossover
- Portage County Highway Department
- Municipal Projects

Wis DOT (Kemnitz)

- In 2021, Portage County had four large projects totaling \$11M
- Upcoming 2022 Projects
 - I 39 from Marathon County line to Cty X - resurfacing
 - HY 10/HY 66 from Country Club Ln to Wildwood Dr - safety improvement project on intersection and turn lane improvements with I 39 bridge redecking, expect significant traffic impacts
 - I 39 from Waushara County line to Birch Dr - resurfacing

Portage County Highway (Johnson)

- No updates on Hy 54 interchange or I 39 & Cty B Crossover
- 2022 Projects
 - Mil and fill on Cty HH from city limits to Cty P
 - Reconstruction of Cty Z from Polonia to Cty A

Municipal Projects - None

3. County Highway Safety Coordinator Report

4. Crash Spot Map

- Portage County Sheriff's Office
- Stevens Point Police Department
- Plover Police Department

Review of Q3 2021 Traffic Accident Statistics by agency (Loiselle, Mueller, Fox). One fatal crash in County with two fatalities, one fatal crash in Stevens Point resulting in one fatality.

5. WI DOT Traffic Safety Engineer's Report

(Kemnitz)

- Hy 161 & Cty A/T Safety Review based on citizen concern - review determined Level of Service Safety, speed and sight lines were within normal, crash was result of driver error, looking at increasing ditch maintenance and possibly moving signs to increase sight distance
- Hy 66 & Cty A review based on October crash - to increase level of stop control must have two failure to stop crashes in 12 month period or three in five year period, intersection does not meet requirements, crash determined to be situational due to heavy fog conditions

6. Bureau of Transportation Safety Report

(Kontos)

- From crash spot map review - 10 Fatal Crashes YTD, 2 in 2020 YTD and 4 for five-year average
- Top Crash Flags - 65+ Drivers, Deer, Teen Drivers, Speed and Distracted Driving
- Non-Class D crashes - percentages are low for county like Portage
- Portage County Seat Belt usage in 2021 at 94.1% compared to Statewide at 88.1%
- Predictive Analytics - Top five high crash probability areas same in Summer and Winter months
- December is National Drunk & Drug-Impaired Driving Prevention Month with Drive Sober mobilization from Dec 17 - Jan 1
- No movement on legislative bills
- TSC Guidelines were updated in Oct 2021 and available on Community Maps in Resources

DISCUSSION

7. Traffic Safety Legislation

(Gemza)

Bill 297 which increases penalties for violations in Emergency Response Areas was signed by the Governor on Dec 6

8. Emergency Medical Services Operations

(Gemza)

Good job was done by all involved in the Nov 25 mass casualty crash. Brought in outside agencies to assist in patient transport.

9. Traffic Incident Management Operations

10. Upcoming Traffic Safety Training Opportunities

(Kontos)

SPPD and PLPD will be co-hosting a TIM class on Dec 16 and Dec 22 from 1 PM - 5 PM

11. Public Education Programs and Opportunities

(Kemnitz)

On Nov 3rd, met with Town of Hull board members and citizens to go thru state statutes and modifying speed zones and the applicable laws

12. Traffic Safety Grant Updates

(Ostrowski)

Submitted request for Predictive Analytics Crash Reduction project in September. Still under review.

13. Locations of Traffic Hazards and Recommended Improvements

(Ostrowski)

Citizen complaint on Cty J between Hy 10 & Cty HH regarding noise and speed of larger vehicles and use of jack brakes of vehicles going NB approaching the 45 MPH zone. N Check did a speed study and shared results.

DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION**14. I 39 Dynamic Message Boards**

(Johnson)

No additional action at this time.

15. Discussion/Possible Action Re: Regarding Special Meeting Attendance (Portage County Ordinance 3.1.47 & 3.1.48)

- Request for special meeting attendance
- Approval of attendance of special meetings
- Special meeting attendance reports

PRESENTATION**16. June 14th, 2021 Fatal Crash Review by the Portage County Sheriff's Office (Harding Rd & Mosquito Bluff Rd)**

(PCSO Detective Porter)

- Occurred in the early morning hours of June 14th. First call came in at 3:41 AM but time of crash is unknown.
- Slight downslope and curvature to roadway as travel southbound. No lights in area, dark, dry pavement and no weather factors.
- Both occupants were ejected, no seatbelt use.
- Driver sustained fatal injuries to chest/head area mainly from steering wheel as vehicle rolled. Occupant received minor injuries. Cab portion detached from chassis.
- Road closed for approximately 7 hours from Cty D to 3rd Ave for evidence collection. Not a major inconvenience to the public.
- Inattentive Driving and Alcohol use factor to the crash. Lack of seatbelt use and age of vehicle suspected of contributing to fatality. Based on reconstruction, speed and roadway were not factors to the crash or fatality.

CORRESPONDENCE

NEXT MEETING DATE March 1st, 2022 at 10:00 AM, LEC Training Room

ADJOURNMENT

Motion/Second to adjourn by Kemnitz/Fox at 10:56 AM. Motion carried unanimously.

Notice: Any person who has special needs and plans on attending this meeting in-person or remotely should contact the Facilities Office at 715-346-1598 as soon as possible to ensure that reasonable accommodations can be made.

Notice: A quorum of the Portage County Board of Supervisors, or any committee thereof, may be present at this meeting.

DRAFT