

MEETING OF THE ONEIDA COUNTY HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION

HELD ON 11/27/18 AT 12:30 P.M. AT THE ONEIDA COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT,
RHINELANDER, WI

MEMBERS PRESENT: KIRBY/CHAIRMAN, COOPER/SECRETARY, STEFONEK/COORDINATOR, OLIG/WISDOT BOTS, WRYCHA/WISC STATE PATROL, ENGLAND/NICOLET COLLEGE, ELLENBECKER/RHI S.D. DRIVER'S ED TEACHER, GAUTHIER/RHINELANDER P.D., KELLER/O.C. SHERIFF'S DEPT, KINGMAN/RHI PUBLIC WORKS, SCHREIER/ONEIDA COUNTY BOARD, HERRETT & JEROW/RHI CITIZENS, GASKILL/LAKELAND TIMES

The following matters were taken up to wit:

1. Kirby called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. It was noted the meeting was properly posted and the media notified.
2. **Motion:** England/Stefonek to approve the agenda. All ayes.
3. **Motion:** Stefonek/Cooper to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. All ayes.
4. Discussed the speed limit on Kemp. Gauthier began by explaining that the speed reduction on Kemp Street was brought to the City Council at a recent meeting. The speed limit is 45 MPH and goes down to 25 MPH just before the bridge going into town. The problem is people are not slowing down. The two lanes go down to one and people fight for position so they don't slow down. The city would like to see the speed limit reduced to 25 MPH from the roundabout all the way to town. Stefonek said the city swapped Kemp Street for Lincoln Street so the County has jurisdiction over Kemp Street. He feels that reducing the speed to 25 MPH would just cause a speed trap. Schreier said the city is encouraging more pedestrian and bike traffic and with the new park on Boyce Drive and the walking path to Culvers, it is dangerous crossing Kemp Street by Boyce Drive. When you are on Boyce Drive at the intersection, visibility is not good when you are looking west because of the bridge railings. Traffic is speeding across the bridge. He suggested more signage for the cross walk to alert traffic. Herrett said if you could slow them down to 25 where it is posted 25, but traffic is not slowing down. Stefonek said county roads cannot be lowered more than 10 MPH unless a speed study is done. He feels 45 may be a bit fast, but 25 is too slow. Gauthier said Rhinelander PD will put a counter up to gather data and a speed indicator to slow down traffic. Jerow said the intersection of Boyce Drive and Kemp is dangerous to cross. Possibly move 25 MPH speed limit further down Kemp St to get traffic to slow down sooner, before they get to the bridge. Kirby reminded everyone that we are an advisory committee and could only make recommendations. Kingman arrived and told the committee that he felt the DOT turned Kemp Street over to the City and an agreement was made between the County and City to have the County maintain Kemp and the City to maintain Lincoln. He thought there would be a different dynamic after the roundabout was in. Stefonek felt the county would possibly agree to a reduction to 35 MPH, but probably not 25 MPH, when the roundabout was put in. **Motion:** England/Stefonek to support the reduction of the speed limit on Kemp Street. All ayes.
5. Oneida County crash history. Oneida County has 6 fatalities for 2018 to date. Discussed recent fatal crash on Highway 8 West by Shady Rest Road and a serious injury accident, also on Highway 8 West in the passing lane by Memorial Forest Road. Weather was a factor in both accidents; speed also on the Memorial Forest location. Keller said the Oneida County Sheriff's Dept is working on strategies to help in the areas where accidents are occurring. Tomahawk fall ride had no fatalities this year.
6. Olig discussed Community Maps. New features recently added. Satellite maps of locations can now be added to the crash reports. Can pinpoint streets, locations. By using specific tools, like time of day the accidents are occurring, you can almost predict when accidents will happen. If you can predict them, you may be able to prevent them.
7. 2018 Budget Items. Kirby discussed the new 'cell slips'. While you are driving you put your phone in this cell phone bag and any calls that attempt to go through will not ring. Hence, less distractions while driving. Kirby met with three of the area schools and they are excited to design their own logos for the cell slips. A suggestion was made to

have Velcro straps attached to them so the driver can affix the bag to something in the vehicle so it stays in place. **Motion:** England/Gauthier to approve the purchase of the cell slips, along with Velcro straps out of the \$1,900 2019 budget. All ayes.

8. WisDOT Highway Safety Reports. Report showing all Oneida County crash history for 2018, CM mapping history by agency (Rhineland PD at 84%), and Mobilizations in the area (only Minocqua PD was involved with any mobilizations this year). Governor's Conference is August 20th – 22nd.
9. No WisDOT construction updates.
10. County construction updates. Stefonek reported that all county construction is done for the season. Next year another phase of Highway D will be done. The final phase of Highway Y will be done in 2020.
11. Public Comments:
 - Kingman reported that the City of Rhineland has an \$18 million project being done next summer on Stevens Street. A \$5 million grant has been received for the project. It will be a complete reconstruction and will include new city sewer and water.
 - England mentioned a questionnaire he received regarding non-compliance of drunk driving offenders.
12. Future meeting dates: February 19th, 2019; May 21st, 2019; August 20th, 2019; November 19th, 2019. All meetings are at 12:30 p.m. at the Rhineland Highway Shop.
13. **Motion:** England/Stefonek to adjourn at 1:55 p.m. All ayes.

Committee Chairperson

Committee Vice-Chairperson