

MEETING OF THE ONEIDA COUNTY HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION

HELD ON 02/18/2020 AT 12:30 P.M. AT THE ONEIDA COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT,
RHINELANDER, WI

**MEMBERS PRESENT: STEFONEK/COORDINATOR, COOPER/SECRETARY,
OLIG/WISDOT BOTS, KEMNITZ/WISDOT, ENGLAND/NICOLET COLLEGE,
GAUTHIER/RHINELANDER POLICE DEPT, ELLENBECKER/RHINELANDER HIGH
SCHOOL DRIVER'S EDUCATION, KELLER/OC SHERIFF'S DEPT,
McELDOWNEY/LLEGAL, FIENE/OC FORESTRY, HOUP/LAKELAND TIMES**

The following matters were taken up to wit:

1. Stefonek called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. It was noted the meeting was properly posted and the media notified.
2. **Motion:** Gauthier/England to approve the agenda. All ayes.
3. **Motion:** Gauthier/England to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. All ayes.
4. Oneida County Crash History and Data for 2019. 745 Crashes, 7 fatalities and 210 injuries. 4 of the fatalities were not wearing seat belts. The crashes reported do not include car vs deer crashes. Of the 745 crashes, 59 involved alcohol or drugs, and 99 involved teen drivers (that does not mean the teen caused the crash, only involved). Of the 745 crashes, 214 involved drivers +65 years of age (that does not mean they caused the crash, just involved). Since the first of the year, 3 reported crashes at the roundabout, resulting in only property damage. There is no recent information on seat belt usage in Oneida County. An older survey showed male drivers between 18 and 30 years old driving pickup trucks were more likely to not wear seat belts.
5. Budget Items for 2020. Cooper is gathering information on dash cameras for flaggers in construction zones for the county workers. Many things to consider, including how to back up the recordings, where to position the cameras in the truck, and what other equipment will be needed. Corporation Counsel said we have to keep the information for at least 121 days.
6. 2019 Crash Stats Review was covered in #4 above.
7. WisDOT County Profile report. This was displayed as the public side of Community Maps. This included the Anatomy of Oneida County and a 'Did you know' section. Crashes in this section include car/deer crashes. Fiene mentioned that accidents and fatalities on ATV's and snowmobiles are tracked on the Department of Natural Resources website.
8. Kemnitz updated the committee on the State construction projects upcoming in 2020. The contractor is completing the punch list of things to finish up on the Highway 51 project through Woodruff. WisDOT is reviewing the signing in the new roundabout at USH 8 at Highway 47 that was built last year. Some adjustments may be made this year. A Polymer overlay will be placed on the bridge deck on Highway 8 just east of the roundabout. Highway 51 will be milled and will receive an asphalt overlay from County Y to Oneida Street. Highway 47 will be milled and will receive an asphalt overlay from Highway 8 to McNaughton. Highway 17 will be milled and will receive an asphalt overlay from Polyanna Road to Highway 70.
9. Stefonek mentioned that Highway C will be reconstructed from the Ice Arena near Highway 17. We are planning on 5.33 miles East but it depends on where the bids come in. It may need to be less. If money permits, he would like to have the intersection of Highway D & E, and head west on Highway D toward Lake Tomahawk for approximately ½ mile. Stefonek asked about rumble strips and their effectiveness. Kemnitz said that past reports

showed that center rumble strips reduced head-on collisions by 44% and shoulder rumble strips can help avoid crashes by 38%. Rumble strips have been a proven national safety benefit.

10. **Public Comments.** Kemnitz mentioned that the portable speed trailer has burnt out lights and the trailer now needs to be replaced; so it is not available. Stefonek mentioned that he has received complaints about the abundance of signs near the roundabout, making it confusing as to what direction to proceed. Ellenbecker questioned the speed limit on Kemp Street in the westbound lane after crossing the bridge, and why the 25 MPH speed limit is so far past Chamber of Commerce. When he is with students vehicles fly around them once they reach the four lane. The 45 MPH sign is way up by gas station now. It was also questioned why the 25 MPH sign in the eastbound lane was so far out. Why both sides could not go 45 MPH to 35 MPH to 25 MPH. Bruce explained that the Public Works committee was going to review the speed limit after 90 days construction completion. It should be on an upcoming agenda.
11. Future meeting dates. May 19, 2020; August 18th, 2020; November 17th, 2020.
12. **Motion:** Olig/Kemnitz to adjourn at 1:25 p.m. All ayes.

Committee Chairperson

Committee Vice-Chairperson