

## MEETING OF THE ONEIDA COUNTY HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION

HELD ON 08/28/18 AT 12:30 P.M. AT THE ONEIDA COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT,  
RHINELANDER, WI

**MEMBERS PRESENT: KIRBY/CHAIRMAN, COOPER/SECRETARY, STEFONEK/COORDINATOR, OLIG/WISDOT BOTS, KEMNITZ/WISDOT, KONDZELA/RHINELANDER POLICE DEPT, WRYCHA & HOHENSEE/WISC STATE PATROL, ENGLAND/NICOLET COLLEGE, JENSEN/ONEIDA COUNTY BOARD, McELDOWNEY/LEGAL, KELLER/O.C. SHERIFF'S DEPT, ROOU/PELICAN TOWN CHAIRMAN**

### 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:** Jensen/England to approve the agenda. All ayes.
3. **Motion:** Jensen/Kemnitz to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. All ayes.
4. Discussed the intersection of South Faust Lake Road and Old Hwy 8. England felt the intersection could use some additional signage. Possibly a Yield sign for traffic on Old 8 turning onto South Faust Lake Road. He has seen people come down the hill and slide right through the intersection. Roou told the committee that in 2008 when the road was reconstructed, they cut down that hill by 4'; that was as much as they could at the time. They were told that if they made the intersection a T intersection, more accidents would occur. He felt most accidents at that location were because of drivers going too fast and/or alcohol related. Olig said the 3 accidents recorded since 2011 were at 7 am, 8 am., and noon. This would not warrant a study. Roou said there used to be a yellow flashing light at the intersection but it kept getting knocked down and/or stolen. Speed coming into the intersection is probably a factor also.
5. Oneida County crash history. Oneida County has 548 crashes to date. 483 of them are mapped in Community Maps. 20 from Rhinelander PD are not mapped. Three fatalities in Oneida County to date. Olig mentioned it sometimes take a long time to get toxicology reports back. Wisconsin is one of three states that has a machine available that can test for every drug.
6. Discussed Community Maps. Wisconsin Bureau of Transportation is hoping to one day have 100% of all crashes entered into Community Maps, as they happen.
7. 2018 Budget Items. Cooper reported that the vests and slap bracelets have been purchased for 2018. Kirby showed the group a new thing called '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. Discussed giving them out to all driver's education students. Possibly have each high school design their own logo for the cases. Kirby said he would talk to teachers at the schools to let them know what we are looking at doing for next year. May look into having a booth at teachers' conferences to let parents know about the cell slips also. Will look at buying these with the 2019 budget moneys. Cost estimate is \$3.85/each.
8. WisDOT Highway Safety Reports. Mobilizations: 'Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over' August 17 – September 3. Wisconsin has the lowest law enforcement participation in the country for this program, even though agencies can receive up to a \$4,000 equipment grant for participating. New law says anyone convicted of Failure to Yield violations or certain other Right-of-Way violations is required to successfully complete a Right-of-Way course. Course must be completed within 6 months or your operating privilege will be suspended up to 5 years. Course can be completed on-line. There is a seat belt app that can be used to do surveys and record cell phone use.
9. WisDOT construction updates. In Oneida County; USH 51 in Oneida/Vilas Counties; 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue to Tuckaway Drive reconstruct. Project will carry over into 2019.

10. County construction updates. A state project on the north end of Highway Y from S. Garth Lake Rd to USH 51 will begin September 4<sup>th</sup>; delayed a month because of Frontier Communications. Highway D closed today for a culvert replacement; will be open by the end of the day. Highway A in Three Lakes has a detour for large truck traffic. Local light traffic being let through. Highway J by the fish hatchery will be shut down in the next 30 days, for a day, for a culvert replacement. The DOT is having the highway department mill and overlay the Eisenhower Drive and STH 17 intersection in the next couple weeks.
11. Public Comments: Roou asked if the town could possibly get a light put up at the intersection of STH 17 and Old 8. Because of the curvature of the bridge and the bridge guardrail, it is hard to see traffic coming eastbound on Hwy 17 when you are sitting on Old 8 at the intersection. Kemnitz said he would send the town a permit and the guidelines but it would be the town's responsibility to pay for it.
12. Future meeting dates: November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018; February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019; May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019; August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019; November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019. All meetings are at 12:30 p.m. at the Rhinelander Highway Shop.
13. **Motion:** McEldowney/Stefonek to adjourn at 1:30 p.m. All ayes.

DRAFT

---

Committee Chairperson

---

Committee Vice-Chairperson