

# MEETING OF THE ONEIDA COUNTY HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION

HELD ON 11/19/2019 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,  
MEURER/WISC STATE PATROL, ENGLAND/NICOLET COLLEGE,  
GAUTHIER/RHINELANDER POLICE DEPT, JENSEN/COUNTY BOARD, KELLER/OC  
SHERIFF'S DEPT, McELDOWNEY/LEGAL**

## 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:** Gauthier/Kemnitz to approve the agenda. All ayes.
3. **Motion:** Meurer/Gauthier to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. McEldowney and Kemnitz abstain. The rest - all ayes.
4. Oneida County Crash History and Data. Statewide: 464 fatalities to date compared to 469 this time last year. Oneida has had 7 fatalities to date. Two fatalities this quarter. One on State Highway 17 in Sugar Camp and one on County 'B' in Pelican Lake. New added features in Community Maps. Top header includes totals for all information requested. Non-mapped crashes are now listed. There is a flag for 65+ drivers.
5. Budget Items for 2020. Cooper is getting pricing for dash cameras for flaggers in construction zones for the county workers.
6. WisDOT Highway Safety Reports. Governor's Conference scheduled for August 18, 2020. Work Zone legislation proposal: Flagman, emergency and roadside personnel observes vehicle violating a failure to yield, can report it to law enforcement and a citation can be issued.
7. WisDOT Construction updates. Wrapping up Minocqua project for the season. Large projects for next year: Resurfacing of 2.2 miles of USH 51 south of Hazelhurst; Wisconsin River bridge on STH 47 epoxy overlay; Resurfacing 12.4 miles on STH 47 from Rhineland to McNaughton; STH 17 resurfacing 17.4 from Menards to Eagle River with multiple culvert replacements.
8. County Construction. Stefonek reported that county construction has wrapped up also. Piggy backed with the DOT roundabout project for a good price. The 25 MPH speed limit sign was moved back a bit to help slow down traffic before the bridge. That, and the merge lane that was added, has helped slow traffic down. The remainder of the road stays at 45 MPH. Committee agreed to re-evaluate speed limit after 90 days from construction completion.
9. Discussed speed limit on STH 17 bypass. Jensen said it is easier and faster to go through town rather than use the bypass. There is no reason that stretch between STH 17/Boyce Drive and STH 17 bypass turning north toward Printpack. There is only one driveway along the whole stretch, and its Musson Bros. Kemnitz said a study would need to be done. The Highway Commissioner would just have to request a study. Kemnitz would do the study and hand his finding over to DOT management. Management would then make a determination as to whether or not to raise the speed limit.
10. Discussed County Winter Snow Plowing Policy. Stefonek thanked law enforcement for calling in slippery and icy road conditions. He told them the person on call for the county cannot be everywhere at all times. Stefonek

informed them that the state roads in Oneida County are Class 2; which means there is 18-hour service on these roads. Not 24 hour. When a long storm occurs, it is a liability for us to have our plow drivers on the road more than 12 hours. We pull them off and have them come back at 3:00 a.m. Oneida County roads are not 24-hour service roads.

11. Public Comments: Kemnitz looked into complaints of vehicles going too fast on STH 47 through Lake Tomahawk. After further study, the speed limit is appropriate; it is a law enforcement issue.
12. Future meeting dates: February 18, 2020, 9:30 a.m. at the Rhinelander Highway Shop.
13. **Motion:** Jensen/McEldowney to adjourn at 1:30 p.m. All ayes.

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Committee Chairperson

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Committee Vice-Chairperson