

MEETING OF THE ONEIDA COUNTY HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMISSION

HELD ON 08/18/15 AT 12:30 P.M. AT THE RHINELANDER, WI, HIGHWAY SHOP

MEMBERS PRESENT: KIRBY/CHAIRMAN, PANOSH/DOT BOTS PROGRAM MGR, COOPER/O.C. HWY SECRETARY, WRYCHA/STATE PATROL, BENNETT/O.C. HWY COMMISSIONER, GAUTHIER/O.C. SHERIFF'S DEPT

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:** Keiffer/Bennett to approve the agenda. All ayes.
3. **Motion:** Keiffer/Bennett to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. All ayes.
4. Highway Safety Reports:
 - As of Sunday, Wisconsin fatalities total 322, of which 52 are motorcyclists. Oneida County has had 1 fatality to date; Lincoln has had 4. End of 2014 saw 498 fatalities, the lowest since WWII.
 - Governor's Conference next week.
 - 70 MPH on certain highways that have no cross traffic.
 - In Legislation right now is a bill to ban headphones while driving, with exceptions for construction and maintenance vehicles.
5. Construction updates by Keiffer:
 - Discussed 70 MPH zones
 - A comprehensive study was done on the location of a fatality on STH 17 near CTH A. State Patrol also did a reconstruction. The study found no sight distance issues, no signing issues, and no issues at all; everything in the area is in proper order. The result found that the accident was caused by driver error. The driver turned in front of an oncoming vehicle and the fatal had no seatbelt on. A speed study was also done and found a lot of speeding in this area, but the majority of offenders were locals. WisDOT will be putting red flags on top of the "Reduced Speed Limit Ahead" signs to try to slow down traffic.
 - Reconstruction on USH 51, from Rocky Run to CTH Y, will be let in January, 2016
 - Reconstruction of the Bearskin Trail Bridge will be let in March, 2016
 - Minocqua bridge, lay down asphalt, 2017
 - Reconstruction STH 17 and CTH G intersection, 2018
 - Reconstruction of USH 8 and STH 47 intersection, 2019
6. Public comments
 - Bennett asked Keiffer is the County Highway Department was going to be receiving portable rumble strips. Keiffer said some counties are, but he was not sure which ones. Three Wisconsin county workers have been hit and killed on construction sites this year. The portable rumble strips would help alert traffic to slow down in construction zones.
 - Wrycha asked what WisDOT would do if they received a lot of complaints about the noise from stop sign rumble strips. Keiffer said the DOT would investigate the possibility of having them filled in.
 - Wrycha also asked about additional enforcement through the USH 8 construction zone during the Tomahawk Harley Ride, or if construction would be halted during that time. Keiffer said he did not know but would find out.
7. Future meetings scheduled for: November 17th, 2015. All meetings are at 12:30 p.m. at the Rhinelander Highway Shop.
8. **Motion:** Wrycha/Cooper to adjourn at 1:15 p.m. All ayes.

Committee Chairperson

Committee Vice-Chairperson