

MINUTES OF THE BAYFIELD COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, February 14, 2019

The regular meeting of the Bayfield County Traffic Safety Committee was called to order by Sheriff Paul Susienka at 9:01 am on Thursday, February 14, 2019 at the Bayfield County Emergency Operations Center, Washburn, WI.

Attendees: Paul Susienka- Sheriff, Ross Baker-WI DOT Representative, Don Swedberg-Community Representative, Trooper Cory Shilts-State Patrol, Paul Johanik-Highway Commissioner, Deb Milanowski-Bayfield County Sheriff's Office

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Don Swedberg, 2nd by Paul Johanik to approve the minutes from November 15, 2018. *Motion carried (4-0)*

Public Input: None

Report from Bayfield County Traffic Safety Coordinator: Reviewed Community Maps for the 2018 year. 362 total crashes with 162 being deer/animal accidents. There were 2 fatalities for the year (no alcohol involved in either). Of the 362 accidents, 58 of these had reports of injuries, 27 had the alcohol flag checked and 5 had the drug flag checked. Discussed semis on the road. Shilts is still running into the same problems of distracted drive, cell phone use, falsified logs and following too close. Discussed the County G detour. Biggest issue involved complaints about the traffic on the road. The people living on the road were just not use to that amount of traffic. Discussed the use of headlights in low visibility events. New law requires headlights and there seems to be a lot of noncompliance. Bayfield County will work on this through patrol.

Report from WI DOT Traffic Safety Coordinator: Ross provided an update on the upcoming construction projects for Bayfield County. The first is a mill & overlay on Hwy 112 between Hwy 118 and Hwy 2. Should last about 2 months and have flaggers. Next, Hwy 13 at Terwilliger. Replacing culverts and will be 2 lanes with a temporary bypass. This will go on from June-September. Paul Johanik brought up the project from Ino Bar to Hwy 63 on Hwy 2. Will be reduced to one lane and have flaggers. Ross brought up a concern at Engoe Road and Hwy 13 from an accident last year. Making left hand turn onto Engoe causes a problem as there is no bypass and not a lot of room to put one in.

Report from BOTS LE Liaison: Randy was unable to make the meeting; however, we did review the State fatality report we are down statewide from 58 fatalities at this time in 2018 to 40 in 2019. Updated the committee with the Governor's Conference this year. It will be held 8/20 -23, 2019 in Wisconsin Dells (handouts provided and reviewed electronically).

Report from State Patrol- Inspector Shilts inquired about any changes to road postings this year. Paul Johanik indicated that there will be nothing different from last year. Shilts inquired about the Birkie as he has been assigned to Bayfield County during that weekend. Hoping to get his assignment within the next few days. Paul Johanik indicated that the Highway dept. will have on tuck dedicated to that area

during the Birkie. The Sheriff brought up the issue of McNaught Rd and that the Birkie would like that road closed for parking. The decision is a Town decision.

Reminder that the Book Across the Bay is this upcoming weekend of February 15-17, 2019.

Next meeting is scheduled for 5/23/19 at 9:00am at the County Boardroom in the Bayfield County Courthouse.

Meeting ended at 10:00am

Submitted by: Deb Milanowski

Minutes Approved on: 5/23/19 9:03am