# MINUTES

## WOOD COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION

The Wood County Traffic Safety Commission met at the Wood County Highway Department, 555 17th Avenue North, Wisconsin Rapids, WI on **February 22, 2017** at 10:30 a.m.

PRESENT REPRESENTING

Dennis Polach Wood County Board

Dan Brugman Wisconsin DOT

Bob Bott Wisconsin DOT/BOTS Specialist

Melvin Pedersen Grand Rapids Police Department

Roland Hawk Wood County Highway Department

Steve Kreuser Wood County Emergency Management

Sarah Roach Wood County Emergency Management

Ashley Tremmel Wood County Highway Department

Lonn Radtke Port Edwards Police Department

Joe Zurfluh Wood County Board

Bill Winch Wood County Board

Bill Clendenning Wood County Board

Tony Kemnitz Wisconsin DOT

Lance Pliml Wood County Board

Steve Kreuser called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

1. Introductions were made.

2. **Minutes of the November 30, 2016 Traffic Safety Commission Meeting.**

Motion to accept and place on file minutes from the November 30, 2016 Traffic Safety Commission meeting made by Roland Hawk. Seconded by Bill Winch. Motion approved unanimously.

3. **County Road Projects for 2017**

Roland Hawk discussed the 32 miles of County road projects, which is the same as last year. He also stated they are hosting a meeting at the Mead on March 9th 2017 at 8:30am for all towns and municipalities to talk about structures and guidelines for those structures. The time is from 8:30am until noon and is free, also includes a lunch. He also stated that any road closures in the county would be reported to the WI DOT so they can put those on the 511 site.

4. **Report from the Department of Transportation Engineer**

Dan Brugman, WI DOT, explained the DOT looked at the intersection by Jokers bar and determined that it was not above their threshold. Bill Winch asked about STH 73 from CTH HH, Dan will look into the schedule for this area and report back

5. **Local Program Specialist Report and Highway Safety Plan Solicitation**

Bob Botts, WI DOT/BOTS, discussed with the committee the traffic statistics. Wisconsin is currently down 13%. There is a high percentage; almost 80% of traffic crashes involve local residents, therefore, a way to impact local drivers is by social media and law enforcement education. Broadcasting safe driving can help educate traffic safety.

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Bob mentioned that the DOT is in Stage 2 of grants, Bob put in for a grant for Wood County. All grants are task force and one agency has to administer.

6. **Other Business brought properly before the Commission:**

Bill Clendening stated his concern about the new reconstruction of Chestnut St and 8th St in Wisconsin Rapids. Tony Kemnitz, WI DOT, stated that it was a safety project given to the city and that is what they choose to do with that intersection. Lance Pliml, Wood County Board, mentioned that they created a problem that was non-existent.

Steve Kreuser, Wood County Emergency Management, and Shawn Becker, Wood County Sheriff’s Department have stepped in with the Amish, they will go to the schools to talk about safety with the students.

Roland Hawk, Wood County Highway Dept, mentioned that the road postings will begin 2/23/17 starting in the southern part of the county. He also mentioned they pulled the frost tubes

7. **Public Comments.**

No public comments

9. **Adjournment.**

*Bill Winch made a motion to adjourn at 10:54 a.m. Seconded by Roland Hawk. Motion approved unanimously.*

The next Traffic Safety Commission meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 24th at 10:30 a.m.

at the Wood County Highway Department.