

MANITOWOC COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION

January 16, 2024

Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office

Present: Todd Blaser, Kim Bradley, Jason Freiboth, Henry Glick, Greg Grotegut, James Falkowski, Daniel Hartwig, Holly Herzog, Ben Meinnert, Ryan Menges, Gary Mueller, Brian Nack, Rick Olig, Jason Orth, and Mike Polich.

Also present: Christine Glaser

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Jason Orth.

Minutes: No changes noted. Minutes will stand as written.

Public Comment: None.

Appointment: Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office Christine Glaser to replace Holly Herzog due to retirement. Motion made by Mike Polich; second by Daniel Hartwig; motion carried.

Follow-up on Site Evaluation:

Safety review of the CORD Q and CORD V intersection: Greg Grotegut reported placing permanent flags on the primary stop signs and updating existing signage at the intersection.

DOT Update Report from WI DOT-BOTS Representative: Rick Olig stated so far this year Manitowoc County has had 10 fatalities (4 to be added, not reported to the State/processed yet) as compared to 16 in 2023. The state as a whole has 523 this year as compared to 574 last year.

The Law Enforcement Phlebotomy (LEP) pilot program is new and enables law enforcement to perform legal blood draws in a timely cost-effective manner. Suspects are transported directly from location of traffic stop/arrest to the jail, avoiding the use of hospital staff. Using trained law enforcement personnel to conduct legal blood draws results in a timelier collection and greatly reduced cost to the agency. Contact information was provided for the NHTSA LEP Toolkit as well as information for Steve Krecji and Amy Miles of the LEP program.

Information provided on 511 and the new Maintenance Decision Support System (MDSS) which provides updates on road conditions.

Information provided on legislative bills regarding Driver Education Grants, DOT Emergency Contact Records, Alcohol Regulation, ATV/UTV Open Containers, driver's ed rule suspension as of 12/31/23, and 2024 Wisconsin Spring DRE School course schedule.

Recent Fatalities:

12/25/23: I-43 SB at Fischer Creek Rd. NB two-vehicle crash where operator of striking vehicle rear-ended vehicle in front of it, causing both vehicles to enter median. Striking vehicle collided with guardrail face. Both vehicles overturned. Striking vehicle overturned and came to rest between concrete support post and guardrail of Fischer Creek Rd overpass. Driver and 1 passenger in striking vehicle were transported via ambulance for injuries sustained. Striking vehicle contained 2 fatalities. Vehicle which was struck contained two passengers who were transported to hospitals by EMS for injuries. Preliminary investigation indicates the striking vehicle's speed and

driver condition may have been contributing factors to crash. WPS conducting full crash reconstruction.

12/26/23: I-43 SB at Westview Rd. SB vehicle left lane of travel, entered median, and struck the guardrail. Vehicle crossed SB lanes and entered west ditch, striking a tree. Operator pronounced dead on scene. Operator has a history of a medical issue which may have contributed to crash along with his short stature and being positioned close to the steering wheel.

12/28/23: I-43 NB at CORD JJ. Vehicle was NB on I-43 and veered into the west median before striking embankment/inlet in median. Vehicle then minimally struck the guardrail just before the Manitowoc River and went airborne before striking a rock embankment near the river and coming to rest on its tires. No witnesses to crash. Date and time of crash unknown at this time. Kim Bradley of WI DOT to request Mason Simmons review crash, specifically the potential embankment/inlet in the median just prior to guardrail.

Next Meeting: April 16, 2024 at 10:00 am.

Motion to adjourn at 10:33 am by Daniel Hartwig, second by Ben Meinnert; motion carried.

Submitted by: Christine Glaser, Secretary