

# MANITOWOC COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING NOTICE

DATE: Tuesday, January 17, 2023

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

PLACE: Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office (Conference Room A)

1025 S. 9th St., Manitowoc, WI 54220

The meeting is open to the public, but portions of the meeting may be closed if this notice indicates that the commission may convene in closed session. The following matters may be considered and acted upon at the meeting:

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Approval of previous minutes.
- 3. Public Comment.
- 4. Appointment of Benjamin Meinnert replacing Brian Kohlmeier (retired) and Joseph Jeanty replacing Dave Funkhouser (retired)
- 5. Request for site evaluations: Assessment of intersection at CORD XX and North Ave/Dairyland Dr, Cleveland.
- 6. Follow-up on site evaluations from prior meetings.
- 7. DOT update report from WI DOT-BOTS representative.
- 8. Report on recent fatalities.
- 9. Next meeting date: April 18, 2023 at 10:00 am

Date: January 5, 2023

By: Holly Herzog, Secretary

Any person wishing to attend the meeting who requires special accommodation because of a disability should contact the County Clerk's office at 920-683-4003 at least 24 hours before the meeting begins so that appropriate accommodations can be made. Persons who are members of another governmental body, but who are not members of this commission, may attend this meeting. Their attendance could result in a quorum of another governmental body being present. Such a quorum is unintended and they are not meeting to exercise the authority, duties, or responsibilities of any other governmental body.

January 17, 2023 Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office

**Present:** Jason Freiboth, Greg Grotegut, James Falkowski, Jason Orth, Justin Hansen, Barb Herrmann, Rick Olig, Joseph Jeanty, Curt Green, Ben Meinnert, Dave Murack, and Holly Herzog.

Also Present: Eric Sikorski, WI DOT

Excused: Mike Polich and Todd Blaser

**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

**Appointments:** Motion to appoint Two Rivers Police Chief Benjamin Meinnert to replace Brian Kohlmeier, and Kiel Police Chief Joseph Jeanty to replace Dave Funkhouser by James Falkowski, second by Greg Grotegut; motion carried.

#### **Requests for Site Evaluations:**

**Assessment of intersection at CORD XX and North Ave/Dairyland Dr., Cleveland**. Greg Grotegut presented a letter from the Village of Cleveland requesting evaluation of this intersection for a 4-way stop and also safety/visibility improvements.

This section of highway is scheduled to be milled and paved in 2023. Two accidents occurred in the last 5 years at this location, and the possible addition of a Dollar General was noted. Pictures of the intersection were reviewed and the curvature of the road does affect visibility to the south. It was also noted that semis have difficulty turning east bound. Greg Grotegut stated the markers will be updated when road work is completed, and it might be possible to change or manipulate the triangle median.

Motion by Greg Grotegut to deny the request for a 4-way stop due to crash data, second by Joseph Jeanty; motion carried.

Request by Greg Grotegut to table further review of the intersection until follow up and review can be completed with DOT engineers regarding triangle median and visibility. Matter tabled by Chairman Jason Orth.

Site Evaluation Follow Up: None

**DOT Update Report from WI DOT-BOTS Representative:** Rick Olig reported 4 fatal accidents in 2023 as compared to 15 last year at this time. Overall in 2022 there were 596 fatalities as compared to 593 in 2021. Community Map improvements and analysis tools were discussed. See attached copy of PowerPoint.

#### **Recent Fatalities:**

10/31/22: 22<sup>nd</sup> St near Pierce St., Two Rivers. Operator found on roadway ejected from motorcycle. Operator was not wearing a helmet and was impaired by alcohol.

11/04/22: N 10<sup>th</sup> St. at Manitowoc River bridge/pier, Manitowoc. Vehicle left the roadway and drove into the river. Windows were open and subject was wearing a seatbelt. Cause is unknown as no drugs, alcohol, or previous medical conditions were known. A wasp was located on the victim's body.

11/08/22: CORD W at Milwaukee St., Rockland. North bound truck initiated a passing maneuver hitting south bound car causing fatality and vehicle fire. Roadway was flat, level, free of debris and dark. North bound operator cited for passing into on-coming traffic causing death.

Next Meeting: April 18, 2023 at 10:00 am.

Motion to adjourn at 10:42 am by Barb Herrmann, second by Rick Olig; motion carried.



# MANITOWOC COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING NOTICE

DATE: Tuesday, April 18, 2023

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

PLACE: Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office (Conference Room A)

1025 S. 9th St., Manitowoc, WI 54220

The meeting is open to the public, but portions of the meeting may be closed if this notice indicates that the commission may convene in closed session. The following matters may be considered and acted upon at the meeting:

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Approval of previous minutes.
- 3. Public Comment.
- 4. Request for site evaluations:
  - CORD X and STHY 67 intersection reinstallation of rumble strips
- 5. Follow-up on site evaluations from prior meetings:
  - Assessment of intersection at CORD XX and North Ave/Dairyland Dr Cleveland.
- 6. DOT update report from WI DOT-BOTS representative.
- 7. Report on recent fatalities.
- 8. Next meeting date: July 18, 2023 at 10:00 am

Date: April 3, 2023

By: Holly Herzog, Secretary

Any person wishing to attend the meeting who requires special accommodation because of a disability should contact the County Clerk's office at 920-683-4003 at least 24 hours before the meeting begins so that appropriate accommodations can be made. Persons who are members of another governmental body, but who are not members of this commission, may attend this meeting. Their attendance could result in a quorum of another governmental body being present. Such a quorum is unintended and they are not meeting to exercise the authority, duties, or responsibilities of any other governmental body.

April 18, 2023 Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office

**Present:** Jason Freiboth, Greg Grotegut, James Falkowski, Jason Orth, Rick Olig, Joseph Jeanty, Ben Meinnert, Richard Barbier, Todd Blaser, Brian Nack, Mason Simmons, WSP Trooper, and Holly Herzog.

Also Present: Cleveland Gombar and Drew Holland, WI DOT

**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

#### **Requests for Site Evaluations:**

**CORD X and STHY 67 intersection (reinstallation of rumble strips):** Greg Grotegut stated it was brought to his attention that rumble strips located at this intersection were paved over sometime after 2008. The question before the Commission is whether to reinstall them. Greg Grotegut spoke to the two homeowners in the area with one stating he did not want rumble strips and the other stating he did not care.

Crash statistics were reviewed. Mason Simmons explained rumble strips would be an appropriate solution for this location. Visibility is good at this intersection. Based on the speed limit three sets of rumble strips would be recommended, but since it is a County highway it would be up to the County's discretion. Other remedies were discussed including additional signage and flags. One rumble strip was proposed to limit the noise nuisance to homeowners in the area.

Motion: A motion by Greg Grotegut to recommend the installation of double stop signs on CORD X and STHY 67 with permanent flags along with the installation of one rumble strip on CORD X on either side of STHY 67 in a location deemed appropriate by the Highway Commissioner, second by Brian Nack; motion carried.

#### **Site Evaluation Follow Up:**

**Assessment of intersection at CORD XX and North Ave/Dairyland Dr., Cleveland**. Greg Grotegut presented a letter from the Village of Cleveland at the last meeting requesting evaluation of this intersection for safety/visibility improvements. This matter was tabled at the last meeting pending review by DOT engineers regarding the triangle median and visibility.

Mason Simmons explained the median is very small and not distinguished. He recommend a bigger median with larger delineators. Greg Grotegut stated he would like to add a stop bar also. Greg Grotegut stated this area will be repayed in August of 2023.

Motion: A motion to recommend the installation of a stop bar at the intersection of CORD XX and Dairyland Dr. after the paving project in August of 2023 with other possible improvements to the median, second by Brian Nack; motion carried.

**DOT Update Report from WI DOT-BOTS Representative:** Rick Olig reported that 113 fatal accidents have occurred in 2023 as compared to 140 in 2022. So far for Manitowoc County crashes and fatalities are both down in 2023. Impaired accidents are up 14% and distracted drivers are up 22%. The DOT BOTS also wanted to reminder officers to complete Government Property Tags so reimbursement can be sought from individuals causing the damage. Traffic Safety and the Governor's Conference dates were given and are contained in the attached PowerPoint. The legislative update featured ignition interlock and reckless driving changes being proposed. Rick Olig also reminded agencies that specialized data and data analysis is available upon request.

#### **Recent Fatalities:**

03/29/23: CORD V E of Tannery Rd. Semi carrying a load of lumber proceeded onto the soft shoulder which pulled the truck into the steep ditch causing semi and trailer to overturn. Driver was pronounced dead at the scene. Wisconsin State Patrol is inspecting the commercial motor vehicle and the DOT will also conduct an investigation because it was a detoured route.

Next Meeting: July 18, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

Motion to adjourn at 10:48 a.m. by Rick Olig, second by Richard Barbier; motion carried.



## **MEETING NOTICE**

DATE: Tuesday, July 18, 2023

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

PLACE: Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office (Conference Room A)

1025 S. 9th St., Manitowoc, WI 54220

The meeting is open to the public, but portions of the meeting may be closed if this notice indicates that the commission may convene in closed session. The following matters may be considered and acted upon at the meeting:

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Approval of previous minutes.
- 3. Public Comment
- 4. Request for site evaluations:
  - Town of Maple Grove requested a review of the intersection at CORD K and CORD W
  - Town of Maple Grove requested a review of the intersection at USHY 10 and CORD W
  - Speed limit reduction CORD R between Menasha Ave and Redwood Dr
  - Speed limit reduction CORD S between Kohlbeck Ln and Truman St in Whitelaw
  - Speed limit reduction CORD R between Quarter Rd and CORD Y
- 5. Follow-up on site evaluations from prior meetings:
  - Update intersection at CORD XX and North Ave/Dairyland Dr Cleveland.
- 6. DOT update report from WI DOT-BOTS representative.
- 7. Report on recent fatalities.
- 8. Next meeting date: October 17, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

Date: July 6, 2023

By: Holly Herzog, Secretary

Any person wishing to attend the meeting who requires special accommodation because of a disability should contact the County Clerk's office at 920-683-4003 at least 24 hours before the meeting begins so that appropriate accommodations can be made. Persons who are members of another governmental body, but who are not members of this commission, may attend this meeting. Their attendance could result in a quorum of another governmental body being present. Such a quorum is unintended and they are not meeting to exercise the authority, duties, or responsibilities of any other governmental body.

July 18, 2023 Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office

**Present:** Jason Freiboth, Greg Grotegut, James Falkowski, Jason Orth, Rick Olig, Joseph Jeanty, Ben Meinnert, Jason Russ, Brian Nack, Mason Simmons, Curt Green, Justin Hansen, Daniel Hartwig, Barbara Herrmann, Gary Mueller, Dave Murack, Mike Polich, and Holly Herzog.

Excused: Todd Blaser

**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

#### **Requests for Site Evaluations:**

**Town of Maple Grove requested a review of the intersection at CORD K and CORD W:** Greg Grotegut stated the intersection currently has 2 flagged stop signs and stop ahead signs. Crash data was reviewed. Three injury accidents have occurred at the intersection since the detour for USHY 10 began. Drivers are also using this route as CORD W is closed. Construction on USHY 10 should be completed this fall. Construction on CORD W will take a little longer.

Motion: A motion by Greg Grotegut to table any further discussion on this intersection until the construction projects are completed, second by Brian Nack; motion carried.

**Town of Maple Grove requested a review of the intersection at USHY 10 and CORD W:** Greg Grotegut stated the intersection currently has 2 stop signs. Crash data was reviewed. This roadway is also experiencing more traffic than normal because of detours and construction in the area. Mason Simmons stated the DOT has reviewed this intersection and it is scheduled for realignment in 2026.

Motion: A motion by Greg Grotegut to take no action as the DOT has plans in place for the 2025-2026 construction year, second by Mike Polich; motion carried.

**Speed limit reduction for CORD S between Kohlbeck Ln and Truman St in Whitelaw:** Greg Grotegut received a letter from the Village of Whitelaw President Randal Christiansen requesting a speed study and possible speed reduction. A speed study was conducted by the Highway Department showing an average speed of 56.8 at the reduce speed ahead to 30 mph sign. The Village would like a 40 mph sign at that point. Mason Simmons stated signs warning drivers of the reduced speed limit should be used if an additional transition zone is added. Mike Polich stated he has observed the area and did not note any problems. The transition zone is surrounded by farm fields. Crash data revealed one crash in the last 10 years.

Motion: A motion by Greg Grotegut to recommend to the Highway Committee to deny this request based on the findings of the speed study, second by James Falkowski; motion carried.

**Speed limit reduction on CORD R between Quarter Road and CORD Y:** Greg Grotegut received a request from the Town of Kossuth regarding this section of CORD R. A speed study was conducted. Gary Mueller stated 85% traveled about 61 mph with the average being 55 mph. Crash data revealed numerous deer crashes, one injury and one property damage crash in the last 10 years.

Motion: A motion by Greg Grotegut to recommend to the Highway Committee to deny this request based on the findings of the speed study and crash data, second by Mike Polich; motion carried.

**Speed limit reduction on CORD R between Menasha Ave and Redwood Dr:** A request was received from Vinton Construction to reduce the speed in front of their business from 45 mph to 35 mph. Mason Simmons stated that the County may not have the authority to make this change. The County can make a recommendation to the State DOT. Greg Grotegut stated it does get very busy when Vinton is pulling out with equipment and trucks. Gary Mueller stated cars frequently pass on the right driving on the shoulder. This stretch of CORD R is scheduled to be resurfaced next year. A review of crash data showed 10 accidents in 12 years.

Motion: A motion by Greg Grotegut to lower the speed limit pending review of State statutes and make a recommendation to the Highway Committee to review this request, second by Brian Nack; motion carried.

#### **Site Evaluation Follow Up:**

**Assessment of intersection at CORD XX and North Ave/Dairyland Dr., Cleveland**. Greg Grotegut stated the paving project for this area will be completed in August. Matter to be reviewed at October meeting.

**DOT Update Report from WI DOT-BOTS Representative:** Rick Olig reported that 285 fatal accidents have occurred in 2023 as compared to 302 in 2022. When reviewing contributing factors on submitted accident reports 7.2% show none. BOTS would like to remind officers to complete this area as funding and grants are determined from this information. Work Zone accidents should be completed with care indicating if accidents occurred before, in or after the work zone. This allows BOTS to make safety improvements for future projects. Governor's Conference is August 28-30 in Wisconsin Dells. Speed Awareness Day is July 26<sup>th</sup> and Impaired Driving will run from August 16<sup>th</sup> – September 4<sup>th</sup>.

Legislative Update: Carjacking will now be a separate statute, open containers may be prohibited in ATV/UTVs, and forfeitures for failing to stop for a school bus may increase. School bus driver's license renewal may include a verbal safety exam.

#### **Recent Fatalities:**

05/09/23 I43 NB S of Center Rd: Vehicle left roadway, rolled, and partially ejected driver. Passenger indicated driver looked at phone prior to leaving the roadway. Accident occurred on 05/09/23 and driver died on 05/28/23. Inattentive driving.

07/06/23 Point Creek Rd at Fountain Park Ln: Vehicle turning left on Fountain Park Ln was hit by truck passing on the left in a no passing zone. Roadway was level, flat and had good visibility. Operator error.

05/31/23 STHY 67 at Persnickety Pl: Pedestrian in crosswalk was struck by turning vehicle. Officers stated this is a busy intersection as Sargento employees use this route. Additional lighting could improve visibility but would not have been factor in this accident as it occurred at 1000 am.

Next Meeting: October 17, 2023 at 10:00 am.

Motion to adjourn at 10:57 am by Joe Jeanty, second by Ben Meinnert; motion carried.



## **MEETING NOTICE**

DATE: Tuesday, October 17, 2023

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

PLACE: Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office (Conference Room A)

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- 1. Call to Order
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- 3. Public Comment
- 4. Request for site evaluations:
  - Intersection at CORD Q and CORD V
- 5. Follow-up on site evaluations from prior meetings:
  - Intersection at CORD XX and North Ave/Dairyland Dr Cleveland
  - Speed limit reduction CORD R between Menasha Ave and Redwood Dr
- 6. DOT update report from WI DOT-BOTS representative.
- 7. Report on recent fatalities.
- 8. Next meeting date: January 16, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

Date: October 3, 2023

By: Holly Herzog, Secretary

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October 17, 2023 Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office

**Present:** Jason Freiboth, Greg Grotegut, James Falkowski, Joseph Jeanty, Ben Meinnert, Mason Simmons, Curt Green, Justin Hansen, Daniel Hartwig, Gary Mueller, Dave Murack, Mike Polich, Todd Blaser, Randy Wiessinger, and Holly Herzog.

Also present: Paul Granger, Mishicot PD; Theresa Becker, Mishicot Ambulance; Becky Paasch, Cleveland citizen; and Amanda Ziarnik, Coroner's Office

**Excused:** Jason Orth

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Michael Polich.

**Minutes:** Motion to approve minutes as written by Jason Freiboth, second by Ben Meinnert; motion carried.

**Public Comment:** Theresa Becker from Mishicot Ambulance stated she wished to discuss the intersection at CORD Q and CORD V. She was requesting additional safety measures on the East and West sides of CORD V.

Becky Paasch from the Village of Cleveland wished to express her concern over a possible new road by the CORD XX ramp. This road would access the Clear Sky Rehab Center to be built in this area. Greg Grotegut stated he was unaware of any such approval, and access in this area has been denied in the past. Greg Grotegut stated access off of Westview Road would be better, but may not be available. The Highway Department has received no access request. Greg Grotegut stated he would follow up with the Village. Becky Paasch requested that no contact be made with the Village on her behalf.

## **Requests for Site Evaluations:**

**Safety review of the CORD Q and CORD V intersection:** Theresa Becker requested this review and was present at the meeting. As a member of the Mishicot Ambulance she was concerned with the accidents that have occurred at this intersection and requested additional safety measures be implemented. Crash data from 2010 to 2023 was reviewed. It was noted that there are stop ahead signs on both sides of the road, stop signs, and 3 sets of rumble strips. Most accidents occur with South and West bound traffic.

Mason Simmons pointed out that signage and rumble strips would be the most effective measures available and those are present. Since most accidents occur during the late morning or mid-day timeframe flashing lights would not be very effective.

Motion by Greg Grotegut to make a recommendation to the Highway Committee to place permanent flags on the primary stop signs and update existing signage at the intersection of CORD Q and CORD V, second by Dan Hartwig; motion carried.

## Follow-up on site evaluations from prior meetings:

**Assessment of intersection at CORD XX and North Ave/Dairyland Dr., Cleveland:** The Highway Department has completed improvements including repainting markings, adding a stop bar, and adding reflective posts in the median. Pictures of improvements were shown. Ben Meinnert stated the intersection is better, but vision issues still exist and traffic from the new Dollar General adds to the difficulty.

**Speed limit reduction on CORD R between Menasha Ave and Redwood Dr:** The speed reduction was approved by the Highway Committee and County Board. New signs have been installed dropping the speed to 35 mph in front of Vinton Construction and 45 mph at Redwood Dr.

**DOT Update Report from WI DOT-BOTS Representative:** Randy Wiessinger stated so far this year Manitowoc County has 7 fatalities as compared to 8 in 2022. The state as a whole has 445 this year as compared to 479 last year. Motorcycle fatalities are up 30% at 97 with over half of those being single vehicle crashes.

The Judicial Outreach Liaison program is new and provides a connection between BOTS and the WI Judicial System providing education on how judgments can affect traffic safety efforts. BOTS is also working on data quality issues focusing on improving narratives on accident reports to not only include what and how, but why.

Safe Roads Challenge is a new APP that encourages safe driving through competition and rewards. BOTS is hoping to eventually use the data gathered by the APP/game to identify trouble spots on the highways.

Coroner Green discussed improving data collection for alcohol and drug impairment. Randy Wiessinger stated information was available through Community Maps, but remembering to add results as they are received is still a challenge.

#### **Recent Fatalities:**

09/01/23, Marshek Rd at Rameker Rd: Single vehicle crash were operator lost control, over corrected, rolled and was ejected. Alcohol and vehicle issues were contributing.

09/06/23, CORD C at STHY 67: Vehicle West bound on CORD C left the roadway hitting an embankment and building causing fatal injury to all 3 occupants. Excessive speed contributed.

09/10/23, USHY 10 at Grimms Rd: West bound truck crossed the centerline striking mid-size SUV causing fatal injury to both operators.

**Other business:** Jason Frieboth asked about delaminating registration plates. Randy Wiessinger stated plates are being replaced every 10 years, but individuals can request a replacement by paying a fee.

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

Motion to adjourn at 10:58 am by James Falkowski, second by Greg Grotegut; motion carried.