

MANITOWOC COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION

April 15, 2025

Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office

Present: Todd Blaser, Todd Cummings, James Falkowski, Jason Freiboth, Christine Glaser, Curt Green, Gregory Grotegut, Justin Hansen, Barbara Herrmann, Joseph Jeanty, Gary Mueller, Dave Murack, Jason Orth, Todd Rasmussen, Mason Simmons, Kyle Stotzheim, Melissa Wiesner

Also Present: John Musial.

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chairman Todd Cummings.

Minutes: Motion to approve minutes from January 21st made by James Falkowski, seconded by Joseph Jeanty. Minutes will stand as written.

Public Comment: None.

Retirement: Manitowoc Police Department Jason Freiboth to retire on June 6, 2025. John Musial to replace Jason Freiboth with official motion to be made at July 15th meeting.

Review of Significant Crashes: Todd Cummings reviewed MTSO crash #2025-01208 which occurred at 5518 Tompkins Rd on 02/21/25. An 18-YO male operating a 2003 Chevrolet Silverado traveling SB on Tompkins Rd struck the guardrail on east side of bridge and came to rest hanging off side of bridge over Mud Creek. Upon Valders FD personnel securing the truck and extricating the operator, it was discovered operator's right leg had been severed from mid-shin down. MTSO Deputy applied tourniquet due to life-threatening blood loss. Operator was airlifted to ThedaCare Regional Medical Center where he was treated for a partial right leg amputation. Blood ethanol content result of operator was 0.093 g/100 mL.

Follow-up on Site Evaluations:

Intersection of E Hillcrest Rd at STHY 147: Safety concern due to vehicles not stopping at intersection. Possible vision issue due to house in SW corner of intersection and confusion with hill while traveling WB. Review of crash data showed 2 PD crashes and 1 NFI crash at this location in 2024. Mason Simmons advised site evaluation will be conducted in mid-May at this location.

CORD XX/STHY 67 and STHY 67 / STHY 57: Mason Simmons advised a letter will be sent to the school district in spring to remove signage. School district will have 45 days to respond.

DOT Report from WI DOT-BOTS Representative: Todd Rasmussen reviewed crash data and reported there was 1 fatal crash in Manitowoc County thus far in 2025. Information was provided regarding the importance of reporting work zone crashes. Community Maps training videos and user guides were discussed with the March 2025 training video pertaining to failure to stop and failure to yield violations. The Children's Wisconsin Teen Driving Program was explained in conjunction with the Safe Roads Challenge Wisconsin app. The program educates teens about topics such as distracted driving, seatbelt use, speeding, and impaired driving. The next Drug Recognition Expert training classes will be held in October 2025. Deadline to register is July 1st. Emergency Contact Law was explained with a link to register on the DOT's website.

Todd Rasmussen discussed proposed legislation of interest to law enforcement. Lastly, the Governor's Conference will be held in Wisconsin Dells on August 19 and 20, 2025.

Recent Fatality:

6511 Homestead Rd: 2019 Ford Fusion operated by 21-YO female EB on Homestead Rd left the roadway, entered the right ditch, and struck an address sign before exiting the ditch. Vehicle then crossed a driveway and struck a large tree on the property before bursting into flames and coming to rest on its side south of the tree. Vehicle was fully engulfed upon first responders' arrival with female operator pronounced deceased. Toxicology revealed .0292 g/100 mL of alcohol in operator's system.

Next Meeting: July 15, 2025 at 10:00 am.

Motion made by Jason Freiboth to adjourn at 10:43 a.m.; seconded by Jason Orth. Motion carried.

Submitted by:
Christine Glaser, Secretary