

# MEETING OF THE ONEIDA COUNTY HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION

HELD ON 05/18/21 AT 12:30 P.M. AT THE ONEIDA COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER,  
WINNEBAGO STREET, RHINELANDER, WI

**MEMBERS PRESENT: HEGEMAN/COORDINATOR, KIRBY/CHAIRMAN, COOPER/SECRETARY, OLIG/WISDOT, BAIER/WISDOT, GAUTHIER/RHINELANDER POLICE DEPT, ENGLAND/NICOLET COLLEGE, ELLENBECKER/RHINELANDER DRIVER'S EDUCATION, McELDOWNEY/LEGAL, YOUNG/SHERIFF'S DEPT, JENSEN/PUBLIC**

## The following matters were taken up to wit:

1. Kirby called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. It was noted the meeting was properly posted and the media notified.
2. **Motion:** Jensen/Kirby to approve the agenda. All ayes.
3. **Motion:** England/Gauthier to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. All ayes.
4. Oneida County Crash History and Data for 2020. No crashes to discuss. Gauthier mentioned TIM (Traffic Incident Management) is looking at getting towing companies involved in the program. TIM is a collaborative effort of public safety and transportation agencies, consists of a planned and coordinated multi-disciplinary process to detect, respond to, and clear traffic incidents so that traffic flow may be restored as safety and quickly as possible and improving responder safety.
5. 2021 Budget items. Baier thought that blinking lights on walkers and bikers makes them able to be seen from a long distance. Also discussed reflective walking vests. Cooper mentioned that we still have quite a few reflective slap bracelets left. **Motion:** Gauthier/Jensen to approve having Cooper order blinking clip-on lights, under \$2.00 each. All ayes.
6. WisDOT Profile Report. Olig reported statewide fatalities as of 5/17/21 for 2021 is 148 compared to 150 in 2020. Yearly fatalities for 2020 was 594 compared to 550 in 2019. Oneida County fatalities to date is 1. Total Oneida County fatalities for 2020 was 6 compared to 7 in 2019. In Community Maps, you can now select more than one municipality. Five-year comparison of crashes for teen drivers and drivers over sixty-five years of age. 'Click it or Ticket' runs May 24<sup>th</sup> – June 6<sup>th</sup>, and 'Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over' runs August 20<sup>th</sup> – September 6<sup>th</sup> and again December 17<sup>th</sup> – January 1<sup>st</sup>. Wisconsin Governors Conference, virtual, held August 17–19, 2021.

Legislative Updates: Proposed – reduction in marijuana possession fines; increased penalties and changes for intoxicated operation of ATV, UTV, Off-Hwy Motorcycle, Motorboat, and snowmobile; Cell phone ban while driving with increased fines; doubling fines for violations in emergency or roadside response areas (like construction and maintenance zones; increased fines and imprisonment times for Fentanyl possession, manufacturing, or delivery; allowing Whip lights on ATV's. Proposals that Passed Senate – Allow a 15 year old to obtain an instruction permit (now 15 years and 6 months); Increase the allowable weight for a UTV from 2,000 pounds to 3,000 pounds. Signed into law by Governor Evers – Cocktails to Go

7. WisDOT Construction Updates. Baier updated the committee on the State construction projects. Projects for 2021 include:
  - Highway 17 from Rhinelander to the Vilas County Line. Culvert replacement will continue, and a pavement resurface will be done.
  - A small section of Highway 70 west of Minocqua will have pavement replacement, curb, gutter, ramps, and loops, will start in July.
  - Highway 32 east of Three Lakes will have a large culvert replaced.
  - Two small sections on USH 51 between Tomahawk and Minocqua resurfaced.2022 projects include:
  - Highway 32 east of Three Lakes will have multiple large culverts replaced
  - USH 45 from Highway 32 in Three Lakes to the Vilas County line resurfaced with curb, ramps, and culvert replacements.

- Highway 47 from Kildeer Rd to Vilas County line resurface, with culvert and beamguard replacements.
8. County Construction. Hegeman reported that they have begun work on the reconstruction of Highway D from Swamp Lake Road to the Cranberry Marsh and on Highway D from County O to Maplewood Lane, then from the Echo Chain box culvert to the Sand Dam Bridge. Then in late July, Highway E will be reconstructed from Highway J to Frederick Drive. Chip sealing will be done on west Highway N from USH 8 to the Lincoln County line and Highway Y from the Lincoln County line to the Little Rice Town shop. Miscellaneous seal cracking around the county all summer.
  9. Public Comments. Jensen mentioned that he was very disappointed about the outcome of the resolution to get more money for road construction for the county and very disappointed at the Non-support from the media.
  10. Future meeting dates. August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021; and November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
  11. **Motion:** Cooper/McEldowney to adjourn at 1:40 p.m. All ayes.

---

Committee Chairperson

---

Committee Vice-Chairperson