# WINNEBAGO COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION Meeting Minutes – October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023

### **Members Present:**

William Anthes – Winnebago County Sheriff's Office
Chris Gorte – Oshkosh Police Department
Bob Doemel – Winnebago County Highway Department
Kevin Kuklinski – Winnebago County Highway Department
Rick Olig – WI DOT BOTS
Matt Albrecht – Menasha Police Department
Scott Morrison – Oshkosh Area School District
Mason Simmons – Wisconsin DOT

## Attendance and introductions

Meeting called to order at 9:00 A.M. by Chris Gorte. Members were recorded and collected. Motion made to approve the minutes from the July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023 meeting.

### **Public Comment**

None

### Review of county-wide fatal traffic crashes

1) Neenah PD: On Harrison Street at Wilson Street 8/12/2023. Motorcyclist struck a pole and died from their injuries.

## Pending or Proposed Legislation

Reckless homicide law was signed into law. Bill introduced that would allow law enforcement to impound vehicles for reckless driving and fleeing situations.

#### **Round Table Discussion**

Rick stated that as of September 1<sup>st</sup> there were 440 traffic fatalities in Wisconsin in 2023 which is down slightly from last year at this time. In comparison, there has been 5 fatalities in Winnebago County since January 2023 versus 8 in 2022. Rick also stressed the importance of having descriptive narratives on all crash reports as it greatly benefits engineers. He also mentioned that the DOT now has a judicial outreach liaison, Todd Meurer. This person is a liaison between the WI highway safety office (BOTS) and the WI judicial system. This will enhance traffic safety efforts.

Mason stated that the state has received several complaints of heavy traffic at Hwy 76 and Larsen Rd. Bob Doemel stated that he has personally observed a lot of drivers in this area distracted on their phones.

Bob stated that the County Highway Dept. purchased a high-capacity brine maker to better prepare the roads for snow.

**Next Meeting:** January 10th, 2024 at 09:00 A.M. at the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office.

Motion made to adjourn. Motion carried.