

ROCK COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

October 16, 2019 – 9:00 a.m.

Rock County Sheriff's Office – Large Conference Room

The 2019 3rd quarter meeting of the Rock County Traffic Safety Commission was held on Wednesday, October 16, 2019 at the Rock County Sheriff's Office at 9:00AM.

In Attendance: Jude Maurer, Diane Kowal, Robert Tylo, Hank Brill, Madelyn Glaeden, Dan McGonagil, Tom Boguszewski, Lisa Wallenkamp, Mark Thompson

Absent: Barb Barrington-Tillman, Barry Irmen, Bill Miller, Ahnaray Bizjak, Curt Fell, Dennis Ryan, Duane Jorgenson, Erik Chellevoid, Jason Dupuis, John Olsen, Marilyn Bondehagen, Rich Lefeber, Rick Olig, Ryan Mayer, Shena Kohler, Terry Sheridan, Troy Knudson.

Capt. Maurer called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Introductions

Introductions were made in roundtable fashion.

Approval of Minutes

Tom Boguszewski motioned to approve the minutes of July 17, 2019. The motion was seconded by Lisa Wallenkamp.

Fatal Crash Review

It was discussed that one of the fatal accidents was a suicide, and although it will not be included in a final tally, it would be discussed and reviewed at this meeting.

- **July 16, 2019:** 1 vehicle/1 deceased – 20-year-old male. I39 near CTH MM. Video reviewed. Attempted to pass on right gravel shoulder, failure to control vehicle, excessive speed, operate in an aggressive manner. ME: Toxicology not back yet. Blunt force injuries of torso and lower extremities.
- **July 31, 2019:** 2 vehicles/1 deceased – 38-year-old male. Holiday Drive east of Kennedy Road. Video reviewed. Apparent suicide, collision with a parked vehicle, 100% acceleration indicated. Speed upon impact was 46.9 mph. No seatbelt. ME: Toxicology 0.215% bac. Blunt force trauma of torso.
- **August 4, 2019:** 2 vehicles/ 1 deceased – 53-year-old female. West STH 59 and North STH 213. Video reviewed. Failure to yield, disregard stop sign, OWI causing injury and death. ME: Blunt force injuries to head, torso and extremities.

- **August 9, 2019:** 2 vehicles/1 deceased – 68-year-old female. West Beloit Newark Road at West STH 81. Video reviewed. Failure to keep in designated lane. Unknown cause. ME: Deceased had one prescription drug in system, diabetic, but unknown if medical event occurred. Blunt force trauma of torso and extremities.
- **August 9, 2019:** 1 vehicle/1 deceased pedestrian – 45-year-old male. STH 51 southbound near Bawood. Video reviewed. Pedestrian wearing dark clothing, jaywalking, not visible. ME: Toxicology 0.349% bac. Blunt force trauma of head, neck and torso.
- **August 20, 2019:** 2 vehicles/1 deceased – 23-year-old male. I39 southbound near STH 11. Video reviewed. Crashed into disabled vehicle in left lane. ME: Blunt force trauma of torso and lower extremities.
- **August 24, 2019:** 2 vehicles/1 deceased – 68-year-old female. West USH 14 and North Tuttle Road. Video reviewed. Failure to yield. Went through stop sign without slowing down, unknown reason. ME: Toxicology not back yet. Blunt force trauma of head and torso.
- **September 8, 2019:** 2 vehicles/1 deceased – 20-year-old male. East High Street east of McEwan Lane. Video reviewed. Crashed into parked dump truck, passenger deceased. Homicide by intoxicated use of vehicle, operating while suspended causing death. No seatbelt, no passenger airbag deployment. ME: Toxicology 0.143% bac. Blunt force trauma of head and neck.
- **September 9, 2019:** 2 vehicles/1 deceased – 29-year-old female. West CTH B and Coon Island Road. Video reviewed. Disregard stop sign, distracted by mobile phone. No seatbelt/safety equipment. ME: Blunt force injuries of head, neck and torso.
- **September 24, 2019:** 1 motorcycle/1 deceased – 39-year-old male. Cranston Road south of Oxford Lane. Excessive speed, failure to control, operative in aggressive manner. No helmet. ME: Toxicology not back yet. Multiple blunt force injuries of head and torso.
- **September 25, 2019:** 2 vehicles/1 deceased – 59-year-old male. STH 11 westbound and I39 southbound. Violate red traffic light, hit and run, reckless homicide. ME: Blunt force trauma of head, neck and torso.

Old Business

Randy Wiessinger gave an update on the legislative summary process that can be viewed on Community Maps. This section of Community Maps has public access. Many items are not traffic safety related, but it is a convenient way to keep track of the legislative

processes for many bills. He is willing to help anyone wanting to support or oppose any of the introduced bills.

New Business

Randy Wiessinger and Bob Travis (analyst) showed charts and graphs to illustrate that crash numbers are down compared to this time last year. Total last year was 24 versus 19 this year with a 5-year average of 20. Total statewide crashes this year so far total 431 versus 461 this time last year. Bob's six-year graph showed the same trends.

Fatal accidents involving driver's 65 years and older and accidents involving alcohol made up the majority of accidents. Randy pointed out that an elderly person is less likely to survive a major accident. Lisa Wallenkamp noted that elderly people are more likely to suffer a medical event that could cause an accident.

Of note, there were no teen fatalities for 3rd quarter this year or last year. Also, construction zone crashes are trending upward in Rock County.

Madelyn Glaeden asked what impact is expected with Illinois passing the legalization of marijuana. Randy Wiessinger responded with the expectation of more impaired drivers. A discussion ensued regarding the difficulty in detecting levels of intoxication with marijuana. Road-side saliva tests are being developed and drug impairment detection training is ongoing.

Public Input

Set Next Meeting Date

The 2019 4th quarter Traffic Safety Committee meeting will be held at 9:00AM on Wednesday, January 15, 2020 at the Rock County Sheriff's Office. The other 2020 meeting dates are April 15, July 15 and October 21.

Tom Boguszewski motioned to adjourn the meeting. Lisa Wallenkamp seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Kowal
Secretary II