

MARQUETTE COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 8, 2025

Marquette County Sheriff's Office
Public Safety Room – Montello, WI

Members present: Mike Kowalski, Aaron Williams, Joe Konrath, Trace Frost, Dave Benson, Mike Raddatz, Karen Wampler, Rob Lulling, Glen Bubolz, Justin Hart, Brian Trebiatowski, Ron Barger, Judi Nigbor, Michael Kohnke, and Stephanie Warren.

The Traffic Safety Committee meeting was called to order by Chairperson Mike Kowalski at 9:00 a.m.

Moved by Mike Raddatz and seconded by Dave Benson to approve the agenda as presented. **Motion carried.**

Moved by Joe Konrath and seconded by Dave Benson to approve the minutes of the October 2, 2024, meeting. **Motion carried.**

Citizen Concerns

John Hoffman expressed traffic concerns at the Lake Ave and Underwood Ave intersection due to obstructions from the Emporium and the metal yard objects for sale on their property. He was also concerned about pedestrian traffic using the crosswalk near that intersection. He also wanted speed reductions at STH 23 from CTH C to 16th Rd. A third location of concern was Stevens Ave and Lake Ave with the possibility of more signage being used.

Old Business

1. No changes to the roadway will be made to STH 23 near Mekan River Outfitters after a review was performed by DOT.
2. A no passing zone on STH 23 near W4311 and W4315 is being reviewed.
3. The Highway Committee reviewed UTV/ATV usage on all county roads and found no issues. At the December meeting they voted to continue to allow all county roads to be open to UTV/ATV traffic.
4. Continue to report traffic sign obstructions for tree trimming & brushing on roadways.
5. The 2024 traffic grant was successful, and the speed sign is being utilized throughout the county.

New Business

1. Speed reduction signs on STH 23 from CTH C to 16th Road have once again been requested. The DOT has done two speed studies in 2014 and 2023 and found a speed reduction was not supported. Red flags were added to the 25

- mph speed limit signs. Flashing beacons would require a permit and would cost the municipality approximately \$2,100 to obtain.
2. Crash data at the intersection of Underwood Ave and Lake Ave does not support any changes. Flashing crosswalk signs would need a permit from the state. Michael Kohnke stated that the obstruction from the Emporium and the metal yard objects for sale have been taken care of as the grass area is an easement and nothing should be placed in this area.
 3. The sheriff's office will be hosting TIM Training on April 29th and May 1, 2025, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. A brochure will be sent out.

Crash Review

Preliminary totals indicate there has been a total of 398 crashes with 126 injuries and 0 fatalities in 2024 for Marquette County. 22 of the crashes had 36 serious injuries. Crashes went up by 5% in Marquette County compared to 2023.

Transportation Safety Report and Highway Safety Input

Trace Frost advised that preliminary totals for 2024 are 564 fatalities in the State of Wisconsin, which is the same as 2023. This number will change.

There have been 22 horse/buggy crashes with 1 fatality throughout the state in 2024. Marquette County has had 7 crashes since 2018. A flag will be added to Community Maps soon to indicate these types of crashes.

The DNR provides information on ATV/UTV crashes on roadways. There were 39 fatalities on ATV/UTV's in 2024.

The 50th Annual Governor's Conference will be on August 19 & 20, 2025 at the Kalahari in Wisconsin Dells.

A roadside screening tool has been developed to recognize impairment that is not alcohol or drug related called Driver Orientated Screening for Cognitive Impairment (DOSCI). There are 9 basic questions to ask with a point system to provide justification to complete a Driver Condition Report.

Highway Construction Update

2025 construction projects will be a bridge replacement on Dover Ave in the Town of Crystal Lake over the Mecan River. Dover will be closed during the duration of this project which is scheduled to start in June and be completed in August.

CTH D/Causeway – Final paving will be done in the spring.

CTH J east of STH 22 to the county line will be re-paved.

If funding allows CTH A south of CTH M and CTH Z will be done.

Other Business

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:54 a.m. The next meeting was set for April 2, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.

Submitted by Stephanie Warren