

# **ROCK COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION**

## Meeting Minutes July 15, 2020 – 10:00 a.m. Online Zoom Meeting

The 2020 Combined 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter meeting of the Rock County Traffic Safety Commission was held on Wednesday, July 15, 2020. This was an online Zoom meeting hosted by Captain Mark Thompson of the Rock County Sheriff's Office. The original 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter meeting was scheduled for April 15, 2020 but was cancelled due to COVID-19.

**In Attendance:** Mark Thompson, Diane Kowal, Madelyn Glaeden, , Ahnaray Bizjak, Terry Sheridan, Jason Dupuis, Randy Wiessinger, Tom Boguszewski, Charlene Schmid, Shena Kohler, Ryan Mayar, Terry Carlson, Duane Jorgenson, Ron Bomkamp and Phil Witkiewicz.

**Absent:** Troy Knudson, Jude Maurer, Rick Olig, Nick Elmer, Barry Irmen, Lisa Wellenkamp, Bridget Laurent, Kim Peerenboom, Brian Donohoue and Craig Morehouse.

Captain Thompson called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

### **Introductions**

Those present introduced themselves via Zoom.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Captain Thompson explained that as members' terms expired 8/31/2019, and we have submitted a new list for approval, we cannot vote to accept minutes at this time. Once the County Board approves the new members, we will vote on minutes from the following meetings: October 16, 2019; January 15, 2020 and July 15, 2020.

### **Fatal Crash Review**

First Quarter 2020

- **February 3, 2020:** 1 vehicle/1 deceased – 20-year-old female. 5500 Block of East Hwy 59 near CTH KK. Video reviewed. Excessive speed, failure to control, operate in an aggressive/reckless manner, distraction and alcohol/drugs were contributing factors. Captain Thompson pointed out that there are hills in the area, but they didn't seem to be a contributing factor. Madelyn Glaeden mentioned that seatbelts could possibly have saved the driver.

- **February 13, 2020:** 2 vehicles/1 deceased – 81-year-old male. 11219 N. Vickerman Rd. near E STH 59. Video reviewed. Deceased operated an ATV in an inattentive, careless or erratic manner. Snow and Ice were factors, as the car did not have time to stop. Randy Wiessinger asked if the ATV was plowing the driveway and Captain Thompson replied that he thought that was the case. Ahnaray Bizjak noted a curve in the road and asked about a sign to alert to the curve. Ryan Mayar thought there might be a policy regarding a certain amount of volume necessary to have a driveway warning sign, and single residence types typically don't meet the requirements. He would look into it further.
- **February 15, 2020:** 1 vehicle/1 deceased – 90-year-old female. STH 59 WB, near Berg Rd. Video reviewed. Ice and drifting snow were contributing factors.
- **March 6, 2020:** 1 vehicle/1 deceased – 18-year-old female. 2614 STH 213 NB near Sandale Dr. Video reviewed. Failure to control and suspected drug use were contributing factors. Captain Thompson noted that a seatbelt was not used. Madelyn Glaeden asked if the deceased had a medical history. None indicated.
- **March 8, 2020:** 1 vehicle/1 pedestrian/1 deceased – 68-year-old male. Randall St., east of Porter Ave. Video reviewed. No contributing factors other than alcohol. Driver dropped off passenger who then walked behind the car, and the driver backed into him. Unknown if passenger/pedestrian was intoxicated.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2020

- **April 7, 2020:** 1 vehicle/1 deceased – 46-year-old male. Prairie Ave. and Zick Dr. Video reviewed. Exceeding the speed limit and going too fast for conditions were contributing factors. Captain Thompson mentioned it is a new area in the county with lights and signage. It is also where the speed limit drops from 45 mph to 35 mph.
- **April 16, 2020:** 1 vehicle/1 deceased – 33-year-old female. Read Rd. and E STH 11. Video reviewed. No seatbelt. Alcohol was the only contributing factor.
- **April 19, 2020:** 1 motorcycle/1 deceased – 33-year-old male. STH 213 SB near Orfordville-Haover Rd. Video reviewed. Exceed speed limit, failure to control, ran off roadway were contributing factors. After viewing drone footage, it was noted by Captain Thompson that it would involve high speed to go that far in the ditch on a motorcycle. A sign warning of the curve was visible.
- **May 15, 2020:** 2 vehicles/1 deceased – 19-year-old female. Wisconsin Ave. and Keeler Ave. Video reviewed. Exceed speed limit, too fast for conditions, failure

to yield, disregard stop sign, operate MV in aggressive/reckless manner and alcohol were contributing factors. Captain Thompson noted it looked as though a stop sign was covered a little bit by a tree.

- **May 30, 2020:** 1 vehicle/1 deceased – 43-year-old male. USH 14 EB and Scharine Rd. Video reviewed. Disregard stop sign; operate MV in an inattentive, careless or erratic manner and alcohol were contributing factors. Madelyn Glaeden asked if there was a there was a “stop sign ahead” sign, and Captain Thompson replied that there was.

Ryan Mayer spoke regarding the crash on February 13, 2020 on Vickerman Rd and STH 59. Since the driveway was on Vickerman Rd and not STH 59, a hidden driveway sign would be a township issue.

Zoom screen sharing was turned over to Randy Wiessinger who shared his informational slides. He noted 50% of the fatalities were unbelted. Also, over 50% of the fatalities involved alcohol/drugs. In those instances, driver behavior is all that can be addressed. The Beloit area seems to be over-represented in the amount of crashes. Year-To-Date statistics were lower around the state during the Safer at Home initiative but went the other direction when lifted. The only spike for Rock County involved Motorcycle crashes. While Jefferson County had a spike in speed and drug/alcohol related crashes, Rock County trended the same from last year to current.

Randy displayed a Predictive Analytics map showing the top five high crash probability locations based on the previous three years’ worth of crash data. The areas are basically the same for speed related crashes as for impaired driving related crashes. All that can be done to help the situation is continued patrol and educational outreach in these areas.

Randy informed us of a Community Maps webinar available on July 29<sup>th</sup> at [www.ComunityMaps.wi.gov](http://www.ComunityMaps.wi.gov).

### **Old Business**

No old business

### **New Business**

No new business

### **Public input**

No public input

### **Set Next Meeting Date**

The 2020 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Traffic Safety Committee Meeting will be held October 21, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. It will most likely be a Zoom format again.