

COMMITTEE: FOREST COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION
DATE: May 19, 2022
TIME: 1:00 P.M.
PLACE: FOREST COUNTY BOARDROOM

CALL TO ORDER

Ronald Skallerud called the meeting to order at 1:05 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Terry Lukas, Lynne Black, Anthony Weber, and Ronald Skallerud

Absent: Mike Miller, Jimmy Landru, Tina Anderson, and William Anderson

Others Present: Eric Bath, Tony Kemnitz, Rick Olig, Samantha Hoffman, Todd Mulvey, and Michelle Gobert

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Lucas to approve the agenda as presented, second by Black. All present voting (AYE). Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Black to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2022 meeting, seconded by Lucas. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Todd Mulvey (Roads Program Manager of the Forest County Potawatomi Community (FCP)) gave an update about the following upcoming FCP roads projects and grant applications:

- Highway Realignment project on Youngs lane on the Stone Lake Reservation, Town of Lincoln.
- Hwy 8 Underpass pedestrian and bike path by Kwe Da Kik Lane.
- Tribal Transportation Program Safety Fund (TTPSF) to place striping and signs on walking and bike path on Fire keepers Road.
- Future grant application for walking and bike path from Love Knot Road to Otter Creek Road.
- FCP has also purchased six speed tables to place on three Tribal roads.

DOT UPDATES

Kemnitz provided the committee with an overview of the 2022 WisDOT construction projects.

- US Hwy 8 (Oneida County line to Boulevard Avenue in the City of Crandon) 6.6 miles of pavement resurfacing and bridge rehabilitation. Construction is underway and is expected to last until November. The Roadway will be open to traffic throughout the project.
- WI 32/55 (Crandon Rail Road Overhead to Railroad Avenue in the Town of Argonne) 5.8 miles of pavement resurfacing. Northeast Asphalt was awarded the bid for the project. The roadway will be open with single-lane closures.
- WI 32 (Crandon – Three Lakes) Scott Creek (mid-June), Pine Creek (July 5 through September 1), and Julia Creek (after Labor Day) crossing culverts will be replaced. Musson Brothers were awarded the bid. The roadway may be closed to traffic from June 15th for about 15 days for the Scott Creek project. For the Pine Creek Project, the road is expected to be closed from July 5th through September. The detour will be via US Hwy 45 south to US Hwy 8 east to Hwy 32 north.

- WI 32 (Oconto County line to County HWY C) 4-miles of pavement replacement and resurfacing to include curb and gutter in Carter. Northeast Asphalt was awarded the bid for the project. Construction is scheduled from mid-August through November.

Kemnitz advised that all project information is available on the “511WI.gov” website.

B.O.T.S. UPDATES

Olig advised the committee of the 2022 statewide crash statistics. There were 185 reported fatalities through 5/18/22 as compared to 161 reported on that same date in 2021. From January – April 30th of this year, Forest County has had a total of 39 crashes resulting in 1 fatality and 13 personal injuries. He also provided the 2021 Forest County crash statistics. Additionally, Olig provided advised that the community maps crash flags have changed as of March 2022. This will provide some changes on how information is gathered and reported related to crash statistics. Therefore, coss-comparisons to prior year data may not match due to the changes.

Olig pointed out that the current program being enforced is “Click It or Ticket”, he also indicated that they are looking to have a Speed Awareness Day on July 27th. Olig provided the following training opportunities:

- Governor’s Conference on Highway Safety – August 29 – 31, 2022 at the Chula Vista Resort.
- Drug Recognition Expert training that will be fully funded by WIDOT/BOTS.
- Community Maps 2022 Quarterly User Group Meeting – June 29th 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm via Zoom.

Olig provided information related to two legislative updates:

- Act 164 allows local government to designate two-speed limits on highways designated as ATV routes. One for DOT-regulated vehicles and one for ATVs/UTVs.
- Act 255 allows local highway department and municipal roads department-owned vehicles to be equipped with green warning lights.

Frost stated that 2021 crash numbers were higher not only for Forest County but was a trend that was noticed statewide. It was believed that the main factor for the increase was related to the lack of travel during the COVID-19 pandemic.

DISCUSSION ABOUT CROSSWALKS AND SIGNAGE

Samantha Hoffman and Michelle Gobert from the CAN Coalition wanted to know how they could improve the signage and road marking at key crosswalk locations in Crandon and Laona. They were advised by Kemnitz that the municipality would need to apply for a permit and if granted signage and road markings could be authorized. After the initial placement, it would be the municipality’s responsibility to maintain the road markings.

SET NEXT MEETING DATES

- August 18, 2022, at 1:00 P.M.
- November 17, 2022, at 1:00 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, motion by Lukas to adjourn, second by Weber. All present voting (AYE). Motion carried.

These minutes are not official and are subject to change. They will be officially approved at the next scheduled Traffic Safety Commission meeting.