

Price County Traffic Safety Commission Meeting Minutes

Date: June 2, 2022

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Place: Courthouse County Board Room 101; 126 Cherry St; Phillips, WI 54555

Meeting called to order at 1:00 pm by Dennis Wartgow, Commission Chairperson.

Roll Call: Present: Gerry Baier (WDOT Engineer), Joe Baratka (Price County Highway Department), Jerry Ernst (Park Falls Police Department), Jason McMillan (Phillips School District), Brian Roush (Price County Sheriff's Department) Dennis Wartgow (Price County Board Supervisor), Randy Wiessinger (Bureau of Transportation Safety). Excused: Kyle Dudek (Wisconsin State Patrol), Joshua Englund (Marshfield Clinic), Bruce Marshall (Attorney/Legal). Absent: Harold Herbst (Chequamegon School District), Gayle Stangle (Citizen Member). Also present: Vance Pollitt.

Items for discussion and possible action:

1. Public Comment and Communication: None.
2. Meeting Minutes – March 3, 2022: Motion Baratka/Wiessinger to approve the minutes of the March 3, 2022 meeting as presented. Motion carried.
3. Price County Local Road Safety Plan (Joe Baratka): Sent back draft of plan to Priscilla Tobias, project engineer. Final policy still in the works. Randy Wiessinger was identified as the law enforcement liaison.
4. Accidents Report: Two fatalities: March 17 State Highway 13 and Pine Grove Lane. April 10 State Highway 70 and Clover Creek Road. Six reportable crashes.
5. Law Enforcement Reports:
 - a. Price County Sheriff's Department: None.
 - b. Park Falls Police Department (Jerry Ernst): Work on 2nd Street South.
 - c. Phillips Police Department: N/A
 - d. US Forest Service: N/A
 - e. Wisconsin State Patrol: N/A
6. Wisconsin Department of Transportation
 - a. Bureau of Transportation Safety – Law Enforcement Liaison (Randy Wiessinger): Issue continues with ATV/UTV crash and fatalities and associated DNR funding to maintain supervision. Reviewed vehicle crash data. 57% alcohol or drug impaired compared to 39% for statewide. Discussion on change in law that eliminated the requirement for a road test for obtaining a driver's license.
 - b. Traffic Safety Engineer (Gerry Baier): Projects are the same as discussed at the last meeting. Three paving jobs let to American Asphalt. Four bridges projects in progress. Request for ATV Club poker run for six miles on State Highway 111 - will not be approved.
7. School Transportation Reports:
 - a. Chequamegon School District: N/A
 - b. Phillips School District (Jason McMillan): Summer school is in session.
 - c. Prentice School District: N/A
8. Other Reports:
 - a. Attorney/Legal: N/A
 - b. Citizen Member: N/A
 - c. Marshfield Clinic: N/A
 - d. Price County Board of Supervisors (Dennis Wartgow): None.
 - e. Price County Highway Department (Joe Baratka): Summer construction projects starting. Airport Improvement project in progress. County Highway YY bridge project. Routine spring projects. County I, M, O paving projects scheduled. County D project in progress.
9. Date of Next Meeting – September 1, 2022
10. Meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Jean Gottwald, County Clerk