

Price County Traffic Safety Commission Meeting Minutes

Date: December 2, 2021

Time: 1:00 p.m.

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

Meeting called to order at 1:02 pm by Dennis Wartgow, Commission Chairperson.

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

Items for discussion and possible action:

1. Public Comment and Communication: None
2. Meeting Minutes – September 2, 2021; Motion Baratka/Marshall to approve the minutes of the September 2, 2021 meeting as presented. Motion carried.
3. Price County Local Road Safety Plan (Joe Baratka)
 - a. First workshop for the Price County Local Road Safety Plan held on November 4th. Second workshop in February 2022 to continue planning. Goal through data and observation is to develop a plan for low-cost safety improvements for immediate impact, determine capital improvement projects, identify additional funding sources, such as grants, as well as public outreach and driver education.
4. Accidents Report
 - a. Reviewed by Randy Wiessinger. 5 year average of fatalities is 2.
5. Law Enforcement Reports
 - a. Price County Sheriff's Department (Brian Roush): Not present
 - b. Park Falls Police Department (Jerry Ernst): Not present
 - c. Phillips Police Department: Not present
 - d. US Forest Service: Not present
 - e. Wisconsin State Patrol (Kyle Dudek): Present remotely; Nothing new to report
6. Wisconsin Department of Transportation
 - a. Bureau of Transportation Safety – Law Enforcement Liaison (Randy Wiessinger): Statewide fatalities for 2021 is 548, one less than 2020 for year-to-date data. UTV/ATV: 43 fatalities YTD, mainly on the road and not on the trails. This has been an increase. There has been one UTV/ATV fatality in 2021 in Price County.
 - b. Traffic Safety Engineer (Gerry Baier): 2021 projects completed, including Kwik Trip shoulder paving. 2022 road projects: Flambeau River bridges in Fifield and Park Falls, Elk River bridge north of Phillips and Highway 8 railroad bridge east of Prentice. 2022 road projects: Highway 13 Fifield to Park Falls and Park Falls north and Highway 13 County Highway A South. Recap, all is State Highway 13, except a railroad bridge on HWY 8. Center lane rumble strips discussed and should be included on State Highway 13.
7. School Transportation Reports:
 - a. Chequamegon School District (Harold Herbst): None, Not Present
 - b. Phillips School District (Jason McMillan): None, Not Present
 - c. Prentice School District: None, Not Present
8. Other Reports:
 - a. Attorney/Legal (Bruce Marshall): Nothing to report
 - b. Citizen Member (Gayle Stangle): Not present
 - c. Marshfield Clinic (Joshua England): Road project around hospital is complete for 2021. Final topcoat to be applied in the spring of 2022.
 - d. Price County Board of Supervisors (Dennis Wartgow): Nothing to report
 - e. Price County Highway Department (Joe Baratka): In Winter maintenance mode now. State and some County salt brine applied to help if under the proper conditions to be used. Additional salt coming January 2022. Soo Lake draw down allowing for two culverts to be addressed potentially the week of December 13th, weather permitting.
9. Date of Next Meeting – March 3, 2022
10. Meeting Adjourned at 1:39pm

Respectfully submitted: Erica Bockerstette, Deputy County Clerk