

**County of Buffalo  
Alma, Wisconsin  
Notice of Public Meeting**

**Committee:** Buffalo County Highway Safety Commission  
**Date:** Thursday, January 20, 2022  
**Time:** 1:00pm  
**Location:** County Courthouse, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conference Room  
**Appear Virtually:**

**Agenda**

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
2. Approval of October 2021 minutes
3. Review/Discussion/Action-Coordinator position
4. Citizen concerns on posted agenda items
5. Citizen concerns on non-posted agenda items
6. Sheriff Schmidtknecht – Sheriff’s Office Update
7. Lucas Teska - Emergency Management Update
8. Bob Platteter – Highway Department Update
9. Dan Kontos - Regional Program Manager – WisDOT Updates and Highway Safety Plan Solicitation
10. Rick Tumaniec P.E. – WisDOT Systems Planning and Operations Update
11. Jerilyn Baures – Population Representative Update
12. Josh Reed – Education Representative Update
13. Sgt. Jason Bakken- State Patrol Update
14. Beth Sass- Medical Representative Update
15. Adjournment

**DATE NOTICE WAS FAXED/EMAILED/MAILED AND POSTED:** January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**NOTICE TO: Emailed:** Committee Members; **Emailed:** County Clerk’s Office

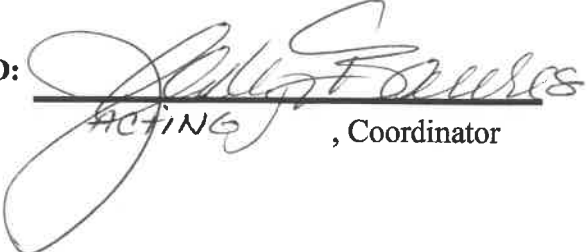
**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** If unable to attend, please contact Melissa at the Buffalo County Sheriff’s Department (608) 685-6273.

**PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES:** If you require special accommodations in order to attend this meeting please contact the county administrators office at (608)685-6234.

**PUBLIC ACCESS TO BUFFALO COUNTY COURTHOUSE:** The SOUTH Entrance will be the only access to the building after 4:30 p.m.

**MEETING CALLED BY:** Jerilyn Baures, Chairperson

**SIGNED:**

  
ACTING, Coordinator

# HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING

**Committee/Board:** HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMISSION

**Date of Meeting:** Thursday, October 21, 2021

**Location:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room  
Buffalo County Courthouse - Alma, Wisconsin

Buffalo County Highway Safety Commission members present were:

NAME:	REPRESENTING
Josh Reed - <b>EXCUSED</b>	School Districts
Mike Schmidtknecht and Lee Engfer	Sheriff's Office
Dan Kontos	WI DOT
Rick Tumaniec	WI DOT
Jerilyn Baures	Population
Beth Sass	Medical
Kelly Johnston	Highway Department
Lucas Teska - <b>EXCUSED</b>	Emergency Management
Sgt. Jason Bakken	WI State Patrol
Melissa Brunner	Coordinator, Sheriff's Office
Mike Johnson	Alma Police Department

**Others:** WSP-Sgt. Greg Venne, and Grae Reinhardt-Nelson Fire Department left at 1:30pm.

**#1. Call to Order/Roll call:** Ms. Baures called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.

**#3. Introduction of newly appointed Medical position member-Beth Sass-**Ms. Sass has an extensive medical background, and has been working as an EMT since 1978.

**#2. Approval of July Minutes:** Motion to approve draft minutes made by Sheriff Schmidtknecht, second by Mr. Johnston. Motion carried.

**#4. Citizen concerns on posted Agenda items:** Mr. Reinhardt wanted to discuss safety concerns at the intersection of Highway 35/25. The Nelson Fire Department has gone to several accidents there recently.

**#5. Citizen concerns on non-posted Agenda items:** None

**#6. Sheriff Schmidtknecht – Sheriff's Office update:** Discussed the fall Flood Run. It went well. Hwy 88 towards the Cream curve has had several motorcycle accidents in the vicinity. There was discussion of chevron placement for that section of road. Mr. Tumaniec stated that chevrons should be carried through a curve. He will follow-up with the DOT to add additional chevrons and report back to the committee.

Chief Deputy Engfer stated there have been issues with visibility and malfunctioning of the stoplight near the Hwy 35/37 construction. Mr. Tumaniec will look into it.

**#7. Discussion of Hwy 35/25 intersection:** Discussion of Hwy 35/25 intersection. Mr. Reinhardt stated his department has gone to several crashes at the intersection. Traffic coming south from Pepin, turning onto Hwy 25 are cutting the left turn short. Discussion of rumble strips, flashing stop light. Trempealeau County has a similar situation going on as Buffalo County. The Highway Safety Improvement Program may be able to fund improvements at this intersection according to Mr. Tumaniec. He'll look into it.

**#8. Emergency Management Report:** Ms. Baures read Mr. Teska's submitted report. Mr. Fuerbringer has since retired and Mr. Teska's position has now become 70% Emergency Management and 30% Risk Management. The EMPG/EPCRA grants for 2022 have been submitted, and he is working on closing out the 2021 EMPG/EPCRA grants. There is a draft of the Multi-Hazards Mitigation Plan 2021-2025 for review and there will be a public hearing on October 27<sup>th</sup>.

**#9. Highway Department Update:** Mr. Johnston stated that the state projects have wrapped-up for the year. Hwy 35/P will continue through late fall. November 3<sup>rd</sup> is scheduled for paving of County Rd. BB. ATV/UTV, no major concerns brought to his attention. Chief Johnson wanted the committee to know that signage won't be manufactured and put up prior to December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**#10. Dan Kontos-DOT update:** Mr. Kontos reported that as of last meeting, year to date for Buffalo County, 162 total crashes, 3 Motor Vehicle fatalities, 24.1% had speed as a contributing factor, 12.7% had alcohol/drug as a contributing factor, seatbelt usage is just below 94%. Discussed Predictive Analytics for problem areas of the county. This data is based upon 5-years of crash data.

**Some upcoming dates to be aware of:**

November 8-14: Crash responder safety week

December: National Drunk & Drug-Impaired Driving Prevention Month

**#11. Rick Tumaniec-DOT update:** Mr. Tumaniec advised that there is only a utility permit going on right now. November 9<sup>th</sup> there will be bridge rehab done on the Pepin dike bridge, just a short duration.

**#12. Jeri Baures-Population update:** Nothing additional beyond the Hwy 35/25 discussion.

**#13. Josh Reed-Education update:** Ms. Baures read an email from Mr. Reed. He wanted the committee to know that AHS has offered shortened driver's education classes to their students.

**#14. Sergeant Bakken-WSP update:** Sgt. Bakken introduced himself, as well as Sergeant Venne to the committee. Bakken is taking over as the sergeant assigned to Buffalo County.

**#15. Medical update:** Ms. Sass didn't have anything additional at this time.

**#16.** Next meeting is set for January 20, 2022 at 1:00pm.

Ms. Sass made a motion for adjournment, second by Mr. Tumaniec. Adjournment at 2:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

---

Melissa Brunner, Coordinator