

MINUTES
(Tuesday) November 11, 2025 – 8:00 A.M.
HIGHWAY SAFETY SUB-COMMITTEE
UPPER CONFERENCE ROOM AT THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
202 VANDYKE STREET, OCONTO, WI 54153

www.ocontocountywi.gov

(Draft minutes –until approved by committee)

PRESENT: Brandon Hytinen, Bill Elias, Todd Marohl, Vanessa Hasenberg, Rich Heath, Jordan Tonella, Zach School, Jody Rost, Jason Shallow, Gregg Gajewski

TIME MEETING BEGAN: 8:00 A.M.

1. Call to Order

Hytinen called the meeting to order at 8:00 A.M.

2. Approval of Agenda

A. Change of Sequence – None.

B. Remove Items – None

Motion by Shallow/School, to approve the agenda. The motion was voted and carried.

3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Motion by Elias/Shallow, to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2025 meeting. The motion was voted and carried.

4. Communications

- Brine process was discussed as well as educating the public to reduce concerns.

5. Review Vehicle Accident and Claims Report

- Roller tipped over while traveling on edge of mat. No injury. Recommend to build up shoulder prior to operation for more support under roller. Hytinen stated a roller is in the budget for 2026, which will improve safety due to drum width.

6. Review any Work Comp Claims

Hytinen discussed one claim since last meeting.

- Dump truck tire blew due to rock stuck between tires. Employee was walking behind truck when the tire blew, causing ringing in the ears. School stated tires blowing is an ongoing issue. Rost has been watching for this and notifying drivers over radio if he sees the issue. Recommend drivers roll ahead a few feet to check duals after unloading.

7. Review Observation Cards

Elias went through 2 observation cards received since last meeting.

- 1) September 22, route and seal operation on STH-22. There was no fog in Suring or Oconto when crew headed to jobsite. Dense fog rolled in on job site while setting up traffic control. Job foreman called Marohl and was told to use best judgement for safety. Forman decided to pull off jobsite and wait for it to clear. The weather conditions worsened in that area and the job was rescheduled. Gajewski stated there is a big risk with working even in clear conditions and the fog adds extra concern. Elias recommends anyone can make the decision to call off an operation whenever there is a concern. Do not want someone to get hurt while waiting to hear an answer from patrol superintendent. Tonella questioned if WisDOT has a vision distance requirement while working.
- 2) Request for body cameras to use during flagging operation. Hytinen shared Kewaunee County is wearing them and received product specifications. The purpose is to record license plates of motorists that create unsafe conditions. Video can then be shared with sheriff's department. Motion by School/Tonella to order 2 cameras. Motion was voted and carried. Elias will look into ordering.

8. Review Safety Check Lists

None

9. Follow Up on Safety Issues or Concerns from Last Meeting

- Elias talked to Stage and reduced speed limit to 20 mph on hauling road. Recommend also lowering speed to 25 mph at gate entering hotmix plant. Tonella will install.
- Elias looking at better option to improve dismount operation regarding chain/jig. Will follow up at next meeting.
- Marohl talked to Ruelle with WisDOT and received support to rent additional attachment for skidsteer to improve safety on concrete repair operation. Marohl will research best option and

then get final approval from Ruelle. A trailer is being ordered in 2026 which will free up existing trailer to haul extra equipment.

10. Review any New Safety Issues or Concerns

- Rost – Radios do not work on longer jobsites, such as recently paved CTH-T. Hytinen recommends using the regular channel when we don't have reception. Elias will talk to EM Spice to research better radio options.
- Marohl – Would like more lighting added to outside of hotmix plant for work starting before daylight hours. Shallow will look into lighting options that can be mounted to existing structures.
- Tonella – Would like to leave snow fence at each property in spring to save time and reduce potential injury from handling. Discussion on attachment for rolling fence. At this time there is not a safe recommendation for that operation.

11. Announcements/General Information/Guests (No action to be taken)

- (2) tri-axes from 2024 budget at Monroe Truck have been delayed to December.
- Silica Testing passed, no issues with current operation.
- Truck 119 going to Packer City for warranty work.
- Contracted with Chris Hohol for safety coordination and training. Hytinen, Heath and Hasenberg meeting to review policies and required trainings. Elias would like to get more of the department trained for confined space, and is requesting an audit of the hotmix plant.
- Brine tank being cleaned, discussed importance of using screen and innertube for hose to avoid pumping of river bottom.
- Reminder to everyone to fill out observation cards and bring any potential hazards to our attention.
- Hytinen thanked everyone for working safely and asked we all watch out for others, especially the newer employees.
- Reminders as plow season approaches – make sure you can see behind before backing up plow truck. Drive ahead and turn around when possible instead of backing in a lane of traffic. Watch for iced over steps on truck or pavement when you exit truck.

12. Next meeting set for March 10 at 8 am.

Recommended to attend:

1. Gregg Gajewski
2. Casey Zaidel
3. Logan Calewarts
4. Thailer Collier
5. Corey Ondik

13. Adjournment

Hytinen declared meeting adjourned at 9:30 am.

Vanessa Hasenberg, Recorder

Date Posted: November 13, 2025