

1 **Minutes**

2 Kankakee County Safety Committee

3 In-person Meeting

4 **Wednesday, November 1st, 2023 @ 9:30 AM**

5 **2nd floor – Conference Room**

6 **Kankakee County Administration Building**

7 **189 E. Court Street, Kankakee, IL 60901**

8
9 Members in attendance: Dr. Mike Gingerich - chair, Kenneth Mallindine – Kankakee Police Department,
10 Greg Heiden – Kankakee County Highway Department, Delbert Skimerhorn – Kankakee County Planning
11 Department, & Tom Caldwell - IDOT

12 Staff members in attendance: Rob Fischer, Michelle Sadler, & Ben Wilson.

13 **Call to Order:**

14 The meeting was then opened by Chairman O’Brien at 9:30AM. A quorum was established.

15 **Public Comment:**

16 None at this time.

17 **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:**

18 The minutes from the August 2nd, 2022 Safety Committee meeting were unanimously approved by the
19 committee. A primary motion for approval was made by Delbert Skimerhorn, then seconded by Greg
20 Heiden.

21 **K (fatal) and A (Incapacitating Injury) Crash Discussion - 2023:**

22 Rob Fischer presented the group with a map featuring data indicating where fatal (K) and incapacitating
23 (A) injuries have occurred in Kankakee County since the beginning of 2022. This was created in lieu of the
24 quarterly presentations that the committee had been seeing during the past few meetings, in order to
25 give a bigger scope of the areas where K and A crashes have become the most prevalent throughout the
26 county.

27 112 K or A crashes had been recorded throughout the aforementioned time period. Upon discussion and
28 review with the committee, members decided the best and most efficient way to look at proactive,
29 preventative measures to deter crashes is to look at the attributes of the episodes, in order to see what
30 they may have in common, if anything.

31 Categories such as time of day, weather, substance abuse, distracted driving, age of participants, type of
32 vehicle, speed, and any other qualitative information that can be gathered from the narrative of incident
33 reports, while be parsed in order to see if there are actions which can be taken to reduce crashes at any
34 particular point. The matter will resurface at the subsequent Safety Committee meeting.

35 **ATV Report:**

36 Prompted by a recommendation from the previous committee meeting, Fischer brought a comprehensive
37 report on ATVs, UTVs (Utility Task Vehicles), Golf Carts, and other OHVs (Off-Highway Vehicles) to the
38 committee.

39 The report was also prompted by a spate of recent ATV accidents which occurred in the county, one of
40 which involved the death of an eight-year-old boy. The report is in draft form, as further statistics and
41 analysis will be needed to determine the direction of the project. The issue is expected to be brought up
42 at future meetings.

43 The report featured a look at the types of vehicles, their physical attributes, the manor of use across a
44 spectrum of roadways, as well as various rules and regulations from around the country, as well as from
45 here in Illinois. Various statistics were also discussed as well.

46 A look at what regulations and statistics neighboring states adhere to was also featured. From a county
47 level, the committee discussed what, if anything, should be looked at as it relates to safety. The evidence
48 is inconclusive at this stage of the report.

49 **New Business:**

50 There was no new business at this time.

51 **Old Business:**

52 There was no old business at this time.

53 **Other business:**

54 There was no other business.

55 **Next Meeting date:**

56 The next Kankakee County Safety Committee meeting is scheduled for February 7th, 2024 at 9:30AM, in
57 the 2nd floor Conference Room of the Kankakee County Administration Building.

58 **Adjournment:**

59 Chairman Gingerich adjourned the meeting at 10:31 AM with a primary adjournment motion from Delbert
60 Skimerhorn, followed by second motion from Greg Heiden.