

Draft

Minutes of the meeting of the Public Safety Committee

Special Meeting regarding Bus Safety

June 29, 2020; 2:00 p.m.; Assembly Room; LCO College Auditorium

Members present: Helen Dennis, Ron Buckholtz, James Schlender, Dale Schleeter

Others present: Tom Hoff – Sawyer County Administrator, Doug Mrotek – Sawyer County Sheriff, Joe Sajdera - Sawyer County Chief, Greg Ripczinski – Sawyer County Lieutenant, Jessica Hutchinson – LCO Schools, Craig Olson – Hayward Schools, J.T. Wohling – Hayward City Police, Wes Peters – Hayward City Police, Joel Clapero – Hayward City Police, Tim Debrot – LCO Tribal Police, Gilbert Kingfisher – LCO Schools, Paul Wessel – Hurricane Busing, Andrew Grimm – Winter School District, Debbie Sands, Cindy Lehner – Deputy County Clerk

Virtual presence: Rebecca Roker – Corporate Council, Chendra White – Indianhead School, Margarette Guyzette – Indianhead Transportation, Adam Zopp – Winter School District, Pat Sturzl – Bruce School District

Chair James Schlender gave a presentation with statistics on the dangers our students face approaching and leaving the school bus.

The group discussed identifying areas where high volume traffic and school bus stops are located and coordinate with law enforcement to have police presence during school bus drop times, moving some of the bus stops from primary to secondary roads, looking at grant money to put cameras in the school buses, adding a second adult to buses as a monitor. Also discussed was creating a school bus awareness campaign much like the current 'click it or ticket'; developing campaign partnerships with parents, schools and communities to publish school safety awareness; and moving portable speed limit signs around to areas of high traffic.

Rebecca Roker informed the committee that the county cannot create an ordinance to address failure to stop for a school bus but to potentially look at the city creating a stricter ordinance for failure as well as the reporting of the incident deadlines. No action was taken.

Andrew Grimm with the Winter School District stated that they have recently put high definition cameras in their buses that allow them to capture violators and pursue a citation.

Ron Buckholtz stated that Indianhead has a second adult on their buses to assist with loading and unloading of their students. Ron mentioned that monitors need to be trained on what to watch for.

Adjourned 3:00 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Cindy Lehner