

*The Kewaunee County Highway Safety Commission, in partnership with public and private organizations, is committed to developing and implementing a comprehensive strategy aimed at saving lives and preventing injuries by reducing crashes on our roads and highways.*

**Kewaunee County Highway Department  
E4280 CTH F  
Kewaunee, WI 54216**

**April 27, 2023 – 10:00 A.M.**

PRESENT:	Jason Veaser	Chief Deputy – Kewaunee Co. Sheriff’s Dept
	Eric Zellner	Lt. – Kewaunee County Sheriff’s Dept.
	Randy Wiessinger	WI DOT – WSP – BOTS
	Eric Sikorski	WIDOT - Engineering
	Sgt. Jenny Austin	Trooper – WI State Patrol
	Robin Mueller	Chief – Kewaunee Police Department
	David Depeau	Kewaunee County Corporation Counsel
	Cindy Kinnard	Public Health Nurse
	Tracy Nollenberg	Kewaunee Co Emergency Management
	Gary Paape	County Board Representative
	Jeff Kassner	Dworak Bus Service
	Joe Mastalir	Citizen Representative

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 AM by Chief Deputy Jason Veaser.

All members had received a copy of the January 26, 2023 meeting minutes.

A motion was made by Cindy Kinnard and seconded by Jeff Kassner to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

#### **CITIZEN COMMENTS AND REPORTS:**

Tom Schneider and Jane Seidl were present at today’s meeting to talk about the intersection of CTH F and CTH B in the Township of West Kewaunee. Tom stated that the driving factor behind his presence at today’s meeting was the level of noise

generated by semi-tractors traveling through that area nearly constantly throughout the day. Exacerbating the problem is the stop sign at that intersection since the semi-tractors are then louder when they leave the stop sign.

Tom suggested one method of correcting the issue, which would be to remove the stop signs on CTH B and make it a through way.

Jane agreed with Tom and had the same concerns regarding the noise level from semi tractors at the intersection.

## **REPORTS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS:**

### WISCONSIN DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION – ENGINEERING

Eric Sikorski was present at today's meeting. He advised that highway maintenance and pavement marking season is beginning. There are no set dates or locations where this will be occurring, but he noted it will occur whenever they can get the marking trucks to the area.

As for the 2023 road construction season, the only project of note is a milling and overlay project on STH 54, between Valley Rd. and Sunset Rd. He advised that there is no set start or end date; the bid was written such that the company has 50 working days to complete the project. Chief Deputy Veeseer asked if there would be any detours or road closures during this project. Eric advised that at this time he was unsure.

### WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – BOTS

Randy Wiessinger was present for today's meeting and shared the most recent county-wide crash statistics from Community Maps. He advised that as of the first quarter, there are 121 fatal accidents statewide. There were no fatalities in Kewaunee County in the first quarter. He stated that in 2022 there were reportedly 600 fatal accidents throughout the state of Wisconsin.

Randy went on to inform the members that he has been going around to all of the highway safety commissions to stress the importance of law enforcement officers filling out their crash reports both accurately and completely. He stated that the information provided to the DOT in these crash reports is how the departments are able to obtain grants such as Click It or Ticket.

Randy asked Chief Deputy Veeseer what type of educational materials officers would be likely to use. These materials would then be disseminated to departments to aid officers in more accurately preparing the crash reports. The popular consensus was either some type of training video or a train-the-trainer-type class. Randy also advised that the DOJ has an instructor update through Training and Standards that officers may have access to, as well. Sgt. Austin added that in the past, supervisors had a "blue book" which would provide guidance on completing crash reports and

wondered if that was also an option – though a digital format may be more practical than a printed one.

A few important dates Randy shared were July 26, 2023 which he advised is Speed Awareness Day, and NHTSA's Speed Awareness Campaign, which runs from July 10 through July 31, 2023.

Randy also advised that the Governor's Conference on Highway Safety is scheduled for August 23-31 and will again be held in Wisconsin Dells.

#### KEWAUNEE COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Todd Every was not present for today's meeting.

#### KEWAUNEE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Chief Deputy Veesser began by addressing the concerns brought forth by the citizens present at the meeting. – the intersection of CTH F and CTH B. It was asked whether a traffic study could be conducted, and from whom the request to the DOT would need to be made. It was believed that the request would have to come from a member of the Town Board. Other issues brought up with regard to that intersection included the blind spots on CTH B and the impact on current traffic if the stop signs were changed (removed from CTH B and placed onto CTH F instead).

It was asked if the town could enact a noise ordinance to help address the issue, since the noise level seemed to be one of the driving factors behind this issue. Chief Deputy advised that the County would have to adopt the ordinance in order for the Sheriff's Department to be able to enforce it. He added that even implementing extra patrols in the area is not necessarily helpful as the drivers communicate between themselves and are able to get the word out when patrols are in the area. This may stop the behaviors for a short time, but it isn't a feasible solution in the long run. Jeff Kassner also added that these commercial ag vehicles are exempt from any of the noise/equipment regulations currently in place, simply because they are commercial ag vehicles.

Tom Schneider, citizen, brought up provisions contained within Wisconsin State Statute 340.01 regarding agricultural commercial vehicles and implements of husbandry, including the legal definitions of each. Chief Deputy Veesser again advised that the Sheriff's Department has previously spoken with inspectors from Wisconsin State Patrol regarding this issue and they stated that a semi-tractor, such as the ones pulling the manure tankers for the local farms, fall under the definition of an agricultural commercial vehicle and are thus exempt from equipment regulation in the manner of a typical commercial-type vehicle. He did advise however, that he would reach out to a different WSP Inspector and get their opinion. Mr. Schneider also suggested review of a case that had gone through the Wisconsin State Court of Appeals – *State of Wisconsin vs. Marshland Acres, Inc.* (832 NW 2d 157 - Wis: Court of Appeals 2013).

Chief Deputy Veeseer advised that Breakfast on the Farm will be held at Salentine's Farm on the corner of CTH A and Valley Rd. He stated that based on Ullman's having hosted this event in the past, parking and traffic flow will likely be similar. He stated that when Ullman's hosted, they were able to arrange with the Township to run traffic one way on Valley Road in order to decrease congestion and ease the flow of traffic. No meetings have been scheduled as of this time.

Recent meetings held with manure haulers were well attended – in particular by the larger farms. Some of the topics covered were keeping the roads clean during operations and the importance of proper signage and flaggers when appropriate. He also advised that they made recommendations to the farms that each operation appoint a “safety officer” – someone who would ensure that all the proper signage is up, and to be a point of contact should the Sheriff's Department receive a complaint.

Lt. Zellner informed the group that the Sheriff's Department, as well as the surrounding county departments, are participating in the Click it or Ticket grant and speed enforcement grants. Extra patrols for these special enforcements will be taking place through the entire summer.

He also advised that he did locate several brochures he wished to have translated into Spanish (during the previous meeting, Cindy Kinnard advised that they had received funding for this and offered assistance to any of the county departments who may want to take advantage).

#### ALGOMA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Remiker was not present for today's meeting.

#### KEWAUNEE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Robin Mueller was present for today's meeting. Chief Mueller wanted to address one problem within the City of Kewaunee which seems to be chronic, and that is speeding – on River Road specifically. She advised that the speed limit on River Rd. starts at 25 MPH, and then changes to 35 MPH closer to the City Limits. In that area, there are approximately 4 homes which are very close to the road. She advised that most people who travel that road know that the increase in speed is coming, and speed up well before the actual change – which is where the houses are closest to the road. Chief Mueller asked if it would be possible to push that 35 MPH speed increase out a little further from those houses, keeping the posted speed limit at 25 MPH for a greater distance out of the city.

Randy W. advised that any speed change, plus or minus ten MPH from the current speed limit, would not require a speed study if it is a county road.

He also advised that if the road in question is within the city, the city is free to change the speed limit if it wishes to do so even if it is a county road as it is in the city and they have authority to change it, the same as a township could. Chief Mueller advised that she would bring this up at the next City Council meeting.

#### LUXEMBURG VILLAGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Gulbrand was not present for today's meeting.

#### COUNTY BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

Gary Paape was present for today's meeting and only had to share that he is beginning to see an increase in the amount of farm traffic on the road, which is typical for this time of year. Some discussion followed about how the county has dealt with mud on the road and other farm-related complaints.

#### DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Tracy Nollenberg was present at the meeting and advised that Severe Weather Awareness Week had just concluded, and the RAVE system was again used to provide notifications of severe weather to the citizens of the county.

#### WISCONSIN STATE PATROL

Sgt. Jenny Austin was present for today's meeting. She shared that their current recruit class is now down to (18) troopers, and those will graduate in July. She also stated that they are currently advertising for the next class, and it will begin shortly after the current one finishes.

Wisconsin State Patrol will be running their Click it or Ticket enforcement between May 15 and June 4. Sgt. Austin also advised that aircraft zones will also be implemented in Brown County and other areas of Northeast Wisconsin.

Chief Deputy Veeseer advised that in the past Kewaunee County has requested Trooper Inspectors visit the county as they are more knowledgeable about commercial-type vehicles, and thanked Sgt. Austin for State Patrol's continued support.

#### KEWAUNEE COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

Cindy Kinnard was present at today's meeting. She had a few upcoming events that she wished to mention.

A free skin cancer screening is being held in Luxemburg at the Bellin Clinic. She advised that over 120 people have made appointments to be screened.

Rural Safety Days is scheduled for May 16. She reported that around 300 people are expected to attend.

There is a 5k and 10k walk/run scheduled for May 20 that leaves from Bruemmer Park and travels into the City of Kewaunee. Chief Deputy Veaser advised that the Sheriff's Department could assist with extra patrols during that time, if necessary.

#### CORPORATION COUNSEL

Attorney David Depeau was present for today's meeting but had nothing new to share.

#### SCHOOL BUS TRANSPORTATION

Jeff Kassner was present for today's meeting but had nothing new to share.

#### CITIZEN REPRESENTATIVE

Joe Mastalir was present for today's meeting but had nothing new to share.

**CRASH SPOT MAPS/ACCIDENT STATISTICS:** The Sheriff's Department shared the 1st Quarter Crash Data and Spot Maps.

**OLD BUSINESS:** No old business was discussed.

The next two meetings are scheduled for Thursday, **July 27, 2023** and **October 26, 2023**, and will be held at the **Kewaunee County Highway Department, Large Meeting Room**, at **10:00 AM**.

Motion to adjourn was made by Cindy Kinnard and seconded by Jeff Kassner. Motion carried.

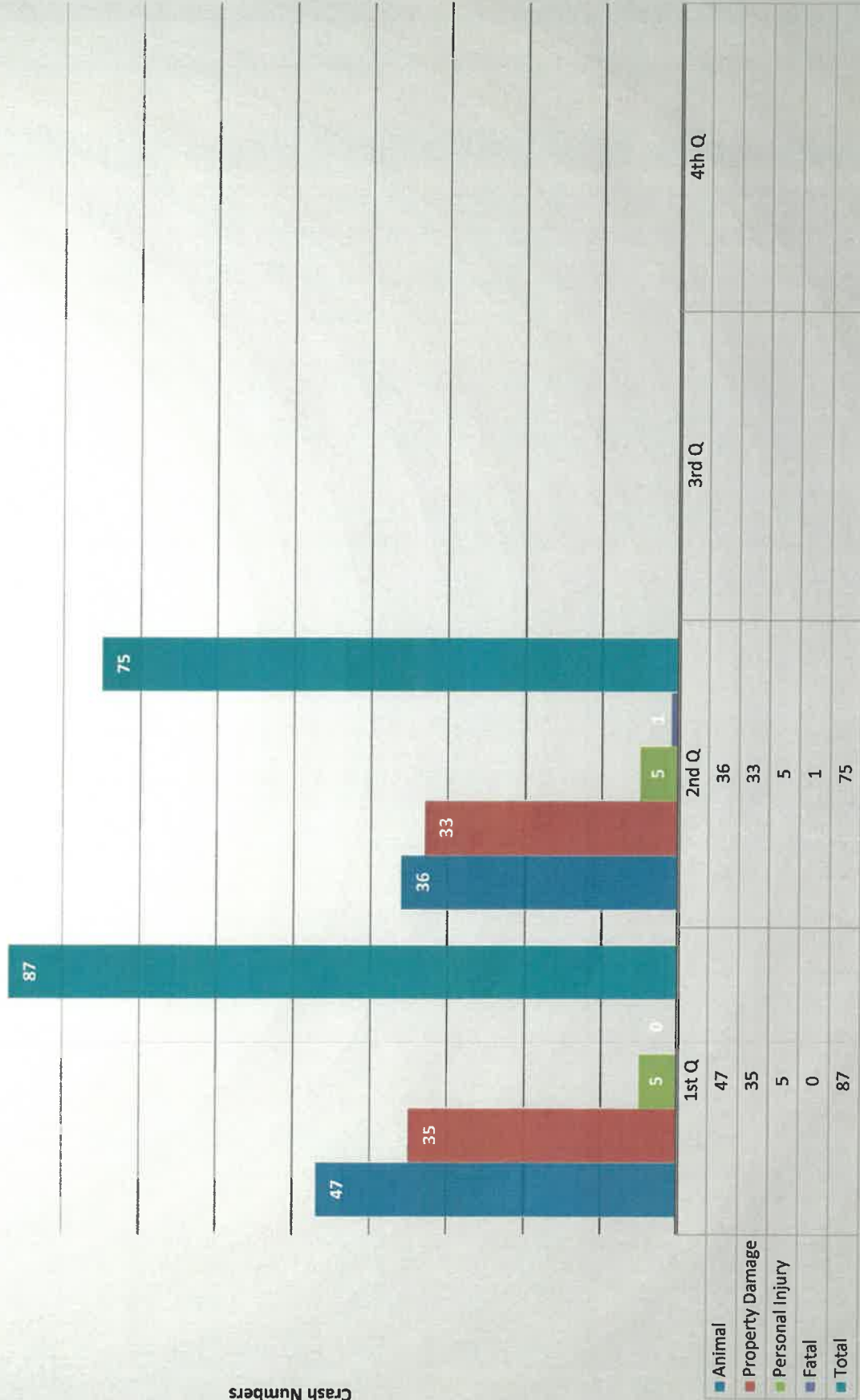
Meeting was adjourned at 10:55 A.M.

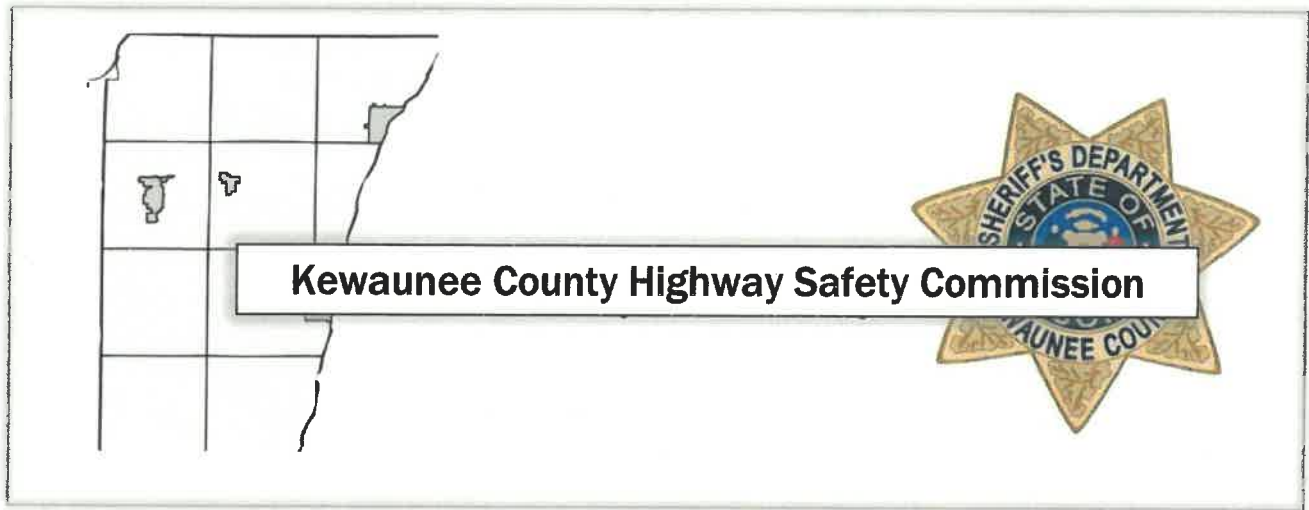
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# Crash Analysis by Type & Totals

Crash Numbers





## Kewaunee County Quarterly Crash Data

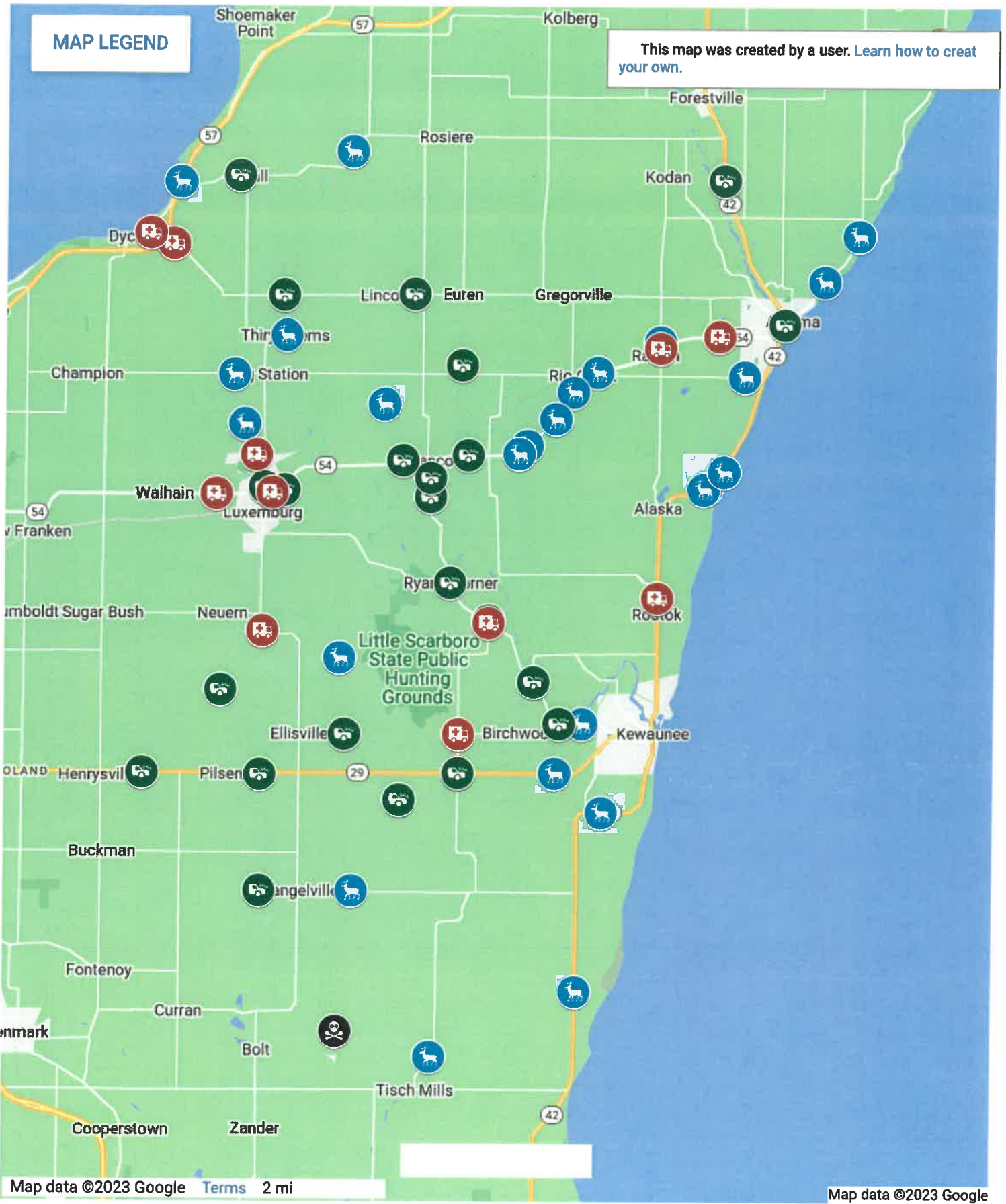
July 27, 2023

Months - 2023 - 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	April	May	June	Quarter Totals	2022 Totals
Deer Accidents	7	22	7	36	58
Injury Accidents	2	2	1	5	11
Property Damage Accidents	12	8	13	33	34
Fatalities	1	0	0	1	0
Total Accidents				75	
Previous Year Totals (2022)	58	11	34	0	103

QUARTER TOTALS - 2023	1 <sup>ST</sup>	2 <sup>ND</sup>	3 <sup>RD</sup>	4 <sup>TH</sup>	Yearly Totals to Date
Alcohol Related Accidents	4	5			9
Car/Deer Accidents	47	36			83
Accidents/Fatalities	0	1			1
Total Accidents	87	42			129

2023 Total = 129





**Kewaunee County Highway Safety Traffic Commission - 2023**

Coordinator: Matt J. Joski, Sheriff  
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Deputy Coordinator: Jason J. Veese, Chief Deputy  
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Highway Commissioner: Todd Every  
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Kewaunee WI 54216  
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Highway Engineer: Eric Sikorski, PE - WI DOT Traffic Engineer  
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WI DOT – BOTS: Randy Wiessinger  
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WI State Patrol: Sgt. Jenny Austin  
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Trooper Logan Christel  
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County Traffic: Lt. Eric C. Zellner  
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Law: David DePeau – Corporation Counsel  
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Population Centers: Robin Mueller, Chief – KPD  
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Additional Members:

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Joseph Mastalir (Citizen representative)  
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