

**WINNEBAGO COUNTY
SPECIALIZED TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes

DATE: Tuesday, August 14, 2012

TIME: 1:30 p.m.

PLACE: Hooper Community Center

PRESENT:

Jason Kakatsch, East Central WI Regional Planning Commission; Katie Raymond and Lorraine Yarbrough, Cerebral Palsy & ARC; Dave Vickman, Oshkosh Transit; Holly Keenan, Making the Ride Happen; Lori Duclon, Public Health Department; Kathryn Nichols, Lutheran Homes of Oshkosh; Mark Ziemer, Senior Services of Oshkosh; Bob Poeschl, Winnebago County Housing Authority; Mike Norton, Winnebago County Board and Human Services Board; Lorie Ruck, Lakeland Care District; Becky Pinnow, American Red Cross; Mark Weisensel and Dorothy De Grace, Winnebago County Department of Human Services

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS:

Jason Kakatsch welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MAY 8, 2012 MEETING:

Kathryn Nichols moved for approval of the minutes of the May 8, 2012 meeting; seconded by Mark Weisensel and carried.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no comments.

4. UPDATES:

- Medical assistance transportation: Mark Weisensel said the ADRC (Aging & Disability Resource Center) Committee submitted a letter to state Secretary Dennis Smith asking for a program audit of Logisticare, which is the provider for non-emergency medical assistance transportation. Several other counties also sent letters asking for an audit because of inconsistencies with Logisticare. Secretary Smith replied to our request letter. Mark will keep the committee informed of the outcome. Jason Kakatsch encouraged everyone to continue to contact area legislators regarding any concerns.
- State and federal policy/funding: Jason said that a new federal transportation bill (Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century or MAP-21) was signed into law on July 6th. It authorizes transportation funding for the next two years. Jason said it has major implications in how transit funding is provided, especially with regards to population. It also commits more capital funding that could be used for maintenance costs.

5. NEW OSHKOSH TRANSIT BUS ROUTES IN 2013:

David Vickman said they plan to implement the new routes during the second week of January 2013. In a few months they will contact their stakeholders and hold various sessions around the city regarding plans for the new routes. He said the routes are changing because of input from the public for the Transit Development Plan. The three changes the community wanted to see are: 1) service to the Outlet Mall; 2) service to the YMCA on 20th Avenue; and 3) evening transportation service. Oshkosh Transit was not able to accommodate the third request because of budget constraints. Service hours will remain the same, and the para-transit system will not be affected by the changes.

6. POTENTIAL WINNEBAGO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION STUDY:

Mark Weisensel said over the years many people have moved to the rural areas, as well as many businesses. Our rural transportation system is limited to 10 one-way rides per month. There is a concern to find out the real need for transportation in the rural areas of the county. Mark said we would need to apply for some statewide planning money to do a study, and the ADRC agreed to fund the 20% local match. We will prepare a request for proposal asking for a consultant to do a needs study for transportation.

7. TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM UPDATES:

Mark Weisensel said the Department of Transportation, along with GWAAR (Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources), is preparing a "best practices" booklet for county transportation groups. They would like to include our Winnebago County accomplishments letter that we send annually to the County Board and Human Services Board as an example for other counties. The group agreed to this action.

Kathryn Nichols said they have been preparing for the changes to the Oshkosh Transit bus routes for 2013. They are in the process of hiring another driver for their transportation vehicles. She said they received word from the DOT that their grant which was submitted in February has gone through the initial review for 53.10 and will proceed for further review.

Lori Duclon said transportation issues continue for older adults in the rural areas.

Holly Keenan said her volunteers have been able to provide some rides to residents with medical needs who are traveling from the rural areas to areas beyond Winnebago County. They've also received a couple of calls from people looking for employment transportation. Holly suggested that having employers involved in transportation issues should be included in the transportation study. Holly said she continues to offer travel training and recently did the training with two individuals.

Dave Vickman said Atlas Cab is a new taxi provider in Oshkosh and they are allowing para-transit riders to ride for \$2.00 if they show their ADA card. He said Oshkosh Transit is not contracted with them.

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8. ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m. The next meeting of the Winnebago County Specialized Transportation Council will be held on November 13, 2012 at the East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Dorothy De Grace, Secretary, Human Services Department