

**WINNEBAGO COUNTY  
SPECIALIZED TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL MEETING**

**Minutes**

**DATE:** Tuesday, February 13, 2018

**TIME:** 1:30 p.m.

**PLACE:** Hooper Building

**PRESENT:** Nickolas Musson, ECWRPC; Susan Garcia Franz, Winnebago County Health Dept; Holly Keenan, Lutheran Social Services; Darin Beyer, Oshkosh City Cab / Cabulance; Mike Norton, County Board and Human Service Board Member; Larry Lautenschlager, County Board and Human Services Board Member; Mark Weisensel and Pam Bartelt, Winnebago County Department of Human Services

**1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS:**

Nickolas Musson welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. Introductions were made.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 8, 2017 MEETING:**

Mark Weisensel moved for approval of the minutes of the November 14, 2017 meeting; seconded by Mike Norton and carried.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Mike Norton brought up discussion on the rates for bus passes in the area. The utilization of passes and types of passes is in the process of being looked at and will be shared at a future meeting.

**4. EASTERSEALS GRANT UPDATE:**

Winnebago County received an Easterseals grant for \$100,000. Part of this grant covered a two day workshop that was held in September, 2017 where an action plan was created on how to use the money. Four objectives were created by this group which they have been working on since that time. First one is a focus on marketing and social media. A second one is setting up a pilot project with some health care agencies. The third objective is to look at some ride-share van pools with different employers. Last one focuses on a coordination effort to get a handle on all the assets available and how best to coordinate them.

Regarding social media, it was decided to focus on Making the Ride Happen (MRH) and getting them an independent website where all the services would be listed, the referral forms, etc. This would open the door to other social media options as well.

The healthcare agency pilot project has been working with Partnership Health to assure that clients are getting to their scheduled appointments in order to reduce no-shows. MRH has been a resource for this project. There are meetings set up for Theda Care and Aurora to set up the potential for the pilot project.

The last meeting for the coordination plan confirmed agreement to reach out to a consultant. Nick reached out to Carol Wright from Easterseals who had assisted in setting up the first workshop. She is going to help set up another workshop where they will set up the coordination side of setting up an action plan.

There are a lot of changes going on in the region with the Oshkosh Transit development plan, the commuter service feasibility study from Fond du Lac to Green Bay, Valley Transit is doing a transit development plan reviewing the entire system, and county public human service coordinated plans.

Mike Norton mentioned that in the next phase of technology, a phone application might be of great help to the community. The option of text messaging and online scheduling is being looked at to connect consumers with available services.

#### **5. MRH WINNEBAGO COUNTY VAN UPDATE:**

Holly Keenan shared that they started using the van October 1, 2017. The end of the year report showed 19 rides were provided covering 552 miles and 12.3 hours. All these rides originated in Winnebago County mainly filling the gaps for people from Oshkosh needing to get to Appleton with most of the rides being for medical appointments. For January 2018 there were 14 trips covering 465 miles and 9 hours. There were some adjustments made to the van to stabilize the loading of passengers.

Mike Norton inquired about the qualifications of using this service. Holly shared that they would not duplicate a service that was already available. When consumers call, they would first be directed to current options of services available depending on their needs.

5310 update - Holly shared that she was awarded funding for the city of Appleton and Neenah-Menasha-Appleton metro area an amount of money for the mobility management and the volunteer program. They did request and were awarded a vehicle from the state and it will arrive late summer or early fall.

#### **6. TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM UPDATES:**

Holly shared a situation where transportation was needed during the middle of the night. It was confirmed that Cabulance does run 24/7 and would be the option to use for transport.

Another situation was addressed for the residents of the Fox Crossing area in regards to service. Ambulatory residents would be able to use Northern Dial-A-Ride and Running Inc would be used for those needing assistance.

Mike Norton shared that there is a meeting with Oshkosh Transit this week to talk about updates for the development plan and securing of large busses. There is an area of concern for students having access to transportation in the southeast area of Oshkosh. Clarification is needed for options available by the school district, public transportation, etc. and communication with accessing the service. Discussion was had to identify any areas of concern in order to address any transportation issues.

Holly shared that the Omro Community Center see a transportation need and are thinking of applying for the 5310 program for funds to run a van between Omro and Oshkosh. There will not be a specific route for now but will run on demand/response.

Mark Weisensel shared that the 2019 budget process has begun looking like there will be a little increase in the transportation funding.

Susan Garcia Franz from the Winnebago County Health Department shared that she works on transportation subcommittee. There is a nationwide need to take action on being sure people have access to transportation.

Nick mentioned that they are well into the process of the Oshkosh Transit development plan update as well as the Valley Transit updates. The County Coordination plan is working on their 5 year plan and will be meeting Tuesday, May 22, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon in the Oshkosh Human Services Building where everyone is invited.

Holly shared that Esther Transportation Committee has been invited to a meeting on March 10, 2018 where the Coalition for More Responsible Transportation and Esther are meeting to provide education to the community about regional transportation authorities and help grow support to offer additional funding.

**7. NEXT MEETING DATE:**

The next meeting of the Winnebago County Specialized Transportation Council will be held on May 8, 2018 at 1:30 p.m. at East Central.

**8. ADJOURNMENT:**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:45 p.m.

Upcoming Meeting: August 14, 2018 (Hooper); November 13, 2018 (East Central)

Respectfully submitted by: Pam Bartelt, Human Services Department