

**WINNEBAGO COUNTY
SPECIALIZED TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes

DATE: Tuesday, November, 10, 2020

TIME: 1:30 p.m.

PLACE: ZOOM

PRESENT: Mike Norton, Winnebago County Board, ADRC and Human Services Board; Holly Keenan, Lutheran Social Services; Adam BellCorelli, ECWRP; Steve Tomasik, Go Transit; Sarah Schneider, Valley Transit; Laura VanHooreweghe, Valley Transit; Tricia Rathermel, City of Oshkosh Economic Development; Winnebago Catch-A-Ride; Bryn Ceman and Pam Bartelt, Winnebago County Department of Human Services

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Bryn Ceman welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. Introductions were given by all.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 11, 2020 MEETING

Steve Tomasik moved for approval of the minutes of the August 11, 2020 meeting; seconded by Holly Keenan and carried.

4. PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 85.21 GRANT – STATE ELDERLY & DISABLED TRANSPORTATION FUNDING FOR 2021

Bryn shared the 2021 Grant Application workbook and reviewed the projects. Summary for Project 1 – Go Transit (Oshkosh). The type of service provided is through sedans and vans using paid drivers. Provider is Go Transit - City of Oshkosh, of which the provider of the services is Oshkosh City Cab and Running Inc. The provider of the service uses approximately 10 vehicles. Vehicles are either sedan or wheelchair accessible. Wheelchair accessible vans accommodate two or more wheelchairs each. The services are described as curb to curb. Additional escort services to help passengers get to locations within buildings will be available at additional cost to the passenger. Section 85.21 grant funds from annual allocation amount is \$410,930 with county match funds of \$20,563.

Summary for Project 2 – Valley Transit. The type of service provided is through vans using paid drivers. Sponsor/purchaser is Valley Transit - City of Appleton, of which the provider of these

services is Running, Inc. The provider of the service uses approximately 32 vehicles. Twenty-two are wheelchair accessible, with 13 accommodating two or more wheelchairs each. Updates to hours and fares will be added to the application. Section 85.21 grant funds from annual allocation amount is \$30,086 with county match funds of \$58,479.

5. ROUTE 10 – ECWRPC

Ridership for Route 10 is down and was down prior to COVID. One change is that there are now more options available for rides and vehicle repair options. When this route was originally developed it was thought it would be used for riders being released from jail, however the timing of the route did not work out with the release times. In looking at the current purpose, Oshkosh would be connected with northern Winnebago County and hopefully beyond. Walt Raith from ECWRPC shared information on a commuter services survey that was done showing the need for travel on highway 41. East Central is going to be working with a consulting firm doing a pilot project. They are also looking at doing a survey through UW Oshkosh with health clinics, public facilities and vendors to find the needs of the community. These stops would be set up to have easy connections to fixed routes. Steve Tomasik verified that ridership is down a substantial percentage and noted that it is not feasible to continue as is. Adam BellCorelli commented that the economic effects of the pandemic has caused families to give up their second car which will increase the need as we recover.

6. VALLEY TRANSIT UPDATE

Laura shared that Valley Transit ridership is still down and there have not been many changes. Sarah Schneider noted that they are identifying areas of the community in regards to access to resources and help break down barriers. They are starting to increase efforts to do travel training with a focus on vocational groups to keep everyone as informed as possible. They have a new logo and updating contacts and support resources to promote ridership.

7. GO TRANSIT UPDATE

Steve Tomasik shared that ridership is down. Their non-ambulatory ADA wheelchair contract expires this year. They are continuing to take a lot of steps to increase sanitization, masks, passenger and driver barriers.

8. WINNEBAGO CATCH A RIDE UPDATE

Holly Keenan informed the group that they have done 2547 ride to date this year. There is a driver shortage due to quarantining. They have done recruiting efforts and have captured 4 new drivers.

9. MRH WINNEBAGO COUNTY VAN UPDATE

Holly mentioned that they have continued to provide rides as clients continue with medical rides. The demand for the van rides has increased with 114 rides to date compared to 45 rides last year. These rides are for a wide variety with medical, social, education or training.

10. ADVOCAP UPDATE

Bryn shared that through her monthly reports from Advocap, they also have a driver shortage due to pandemic concerns for safety or quarantining. The drivers that are able to work have been utilized to do grocery pickup where no money is exchanged.

11. NEXT MEETING DATE: February 9, 2021

12. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Mike Norton moved for adjournment; seconded by Steve Tomasik and carried at approximately 2:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Pam Bartelt, Human Services Department

Upcoming Meetings: May 11, 2021; August 10, 2021; November 9, 2021