

**WINNEBAGO COUNTY  
SPECIALIZED TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL MEETING**

**Minutes**

**DATE:** Tuesday, August 13, 2019

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

**PLACE:** Hooper Community Center

**PRESENT:** Nickolas Musson, ECWRPC; Susan Garcia Franz, Winnebago County Health Dept; Mike Norton, Winnebago County Board Member; Karen Schneider, Oshkosh Herald; Bryn Ceman and Pam Bartelt, Winnebago County Department of Human Services

**1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS:**

Nickolas Musson welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. Nick introduced Bryn Ceman, the new Human Services Supervisor for the ADRC Elderly Benefit Specialists. Bryn is in the position previously held by Mark Weisensel. Bryn shared information about herself with the group.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MAY 14, 2019 MEETING:**

Susan Garcia Franz moved for approval of the minutes of the May 14, 2019 meeting; seconded by Mike Norton and carried.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Karen Schneider of the Oshkosh Herald voiced her interest regarding the poverty of women and children in the area with the three main barriers being childcare, housing and transportation. Karen is looking to see the collaboration of resources in the area of transportation.

**4. CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR NOMINATIONS:**

Mike Norton made a motion to nominate Nick Musson as Chair and Bryn Ceman as Vice-Chair which was approved unanimously.

**5. EASTERSEALS GRANT UPDATE:**

Winnebago County Catch-A-Ride was developed out of the Easterseals grant. A 2016 study focused on rural transportation and identified some transportation options. They looked at recommendations and were able to follow through on some of these items. A group of individuals then created a group 'Rural Transportation Conversation' to make another effort to address those concerns that had not been addressed. Some of these areas included employment, health care and getting a handle on all

of the transportation assets available. The Easterseals Grant was applied for which consisted of \$100,000 to create an action plan with the balance being used for implementation. The focus areas were health care, employment, filling the gaps in rural areas and increasing education and marketing. Making the Ride Happen created a new website, updated brochures with a new logo and made them more easily accessible. Another project was focused on filling the gap and setting up a network of drivers to be able to transport disadvantaged individuals. A new program called *Feonix Mobility Rising* was created. The pilot project provided software that was able to manage all the transportation assets, to book trips, to take care of payments and so on in order to provide trips. An intern was hired that was very instrumental in getting the program running. Now have technology to book rides and process payments. A rider could utilize this system which would have a booking fee and \$ .58 per mile. Partnership with Go ADC helped subsidized booking fee and some mileage for those that qualify. Origin and destination had to be in Winnebago County and for employment purposes. Another partner is with *Partnership Health* for working with people to get them to their appointments in order to reduce 'no shows'. Right now we are in the process of applying for Wisconsin Employment Transportation Assistance Program (WETAP) Grant which would pay for a mobility manager, the software and some subsidies to continue our Go ADC Program which would allow expansion and better connection to other businesses.

**6. MRH WINNEBAGO COUNTY VAN UPDATE:**

Making the Ride Happen now has a wheelchair accessible vehicle and is providing cross county border trip for Winnebago County residents.

**7. TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM UPDATES:**

Susan Garcia Franz is on the transportation sub-committee within the Health Dept and they are working on how they address this in the future within their dept. Looking for more dedicated staff time. Goal is to have the equity lens to have access opportunities for all.

Bryn Ceman noted that there is funding available but determining how it can be used and identifying the qualifications of who is eligible for it is complex.

**8. NEXT MEETING DATE:**

The next meeting of the Winnebago County Specialized Transportation Council will be held on November 12, 2019 at ECWRPC at 1:30 p.m. and be the Public Hearing.

**9. ADJOURNMENT:**

With no further business, Mike Norton moved for adjournment; seconded by Susan Garcia Franz and carried at approximately 2:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Pam Bartelt, Human Services Department

Upcoming Meetings: November 12, 2019 (East Central); February 11, 2020 (Oshkosh Human Services); May 12, 2020 (East Central); August 11, 2020 (Oshkosh Human Services); November 12, 2020 (East Central)