

**WINNEBAGO COUNTY
SPECIALIZED TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes

DATE: Tuesday, November 8, 2016

TIME: 1:30 p.m.

PLACE: East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (ECWRPC)

PRESENT:

Nickolas Musson, ECWRPC; Holly Keenan, Lutheran Social Services; Deb Ebben, Valley Transit; Dave Vickman, Go Transit; Erin Roberts, Public Health Department; Glen Davies and Darren Beyer, Oshkosh City Cab & Cabulance; Donna Lohry and Mike Norton, Winnebago County Human Services Board; Mark Weisensel and Dorothy De Grace, Winnebago County Department of Human Services

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS:

Nickolas Musson welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 9, 2016 MEETING:

Glen Davies moved for approval of the minutes of the August 9, 2016 meeting; seconded by Mike Norton and carried.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

4. PUBLIC HEARING ON THE STATE ELDERLY & DISABLED TRANSPORTATION FUNDING FOR 2017:

Mark Weisensel explained that the Human Services Department will be submitting an application to the state Department of Transportation (DOT) for Section 85.21 funding for specialized transportation assistance in the amount of \$382,372 for the year 2017. This is an increase of \$4,913 from our 2016 county allocation. The matching county dollars in the amount of \$76,474 (a 20% requirement) is included in the approved 2017 county budget. The funding for 2017 will be allocated to the following two programs which provide rides to the elderly and/or disabled citizens of Winnebago County; 1) ADA and para-transit service provided by Go Transit and 2) ADA and para-transit service provided by Valley Transit. Discussion followed and all questions were answered. The 2017 application to the DOT was unanimously approved by the Specialized Transportation Council members present. Mark Weisensel closed the public hearing at approximately 1:45 p.m.

5. WINNEBAGO COUNTY RURAL TRANSPORTATION FACILITATIONS UPDATE:

Nick Musson said ECWRPC and UW Extension hosted two meetings in June where they discussed issues regarding rural transportation. They narrowed the focus and organized three workgroups: 1) to deal with networking and marketing; 2) to connect with the health care system; and c) to connect with several local employers. Their next meeting is scheduled for November 22 to discuss accomplishments and next steps forward.

6. TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM UPDATES:

Mark Weisensel asked for any suggestions for updates to the transportation brochure for 2017. Changes should be given to him by January 15, 2017 so he can get copies printed. Mark reported that the County Board approved the Human Services 2017 budget, which included an increase to cover the townships' share of the cost for rural transportation.

Holly Keenan said they are waiting for a reply to their 53.10 funding request for 2017. They recently purchased a new software package for scheduling, and Holly is in the process of entering the data to set it up. This will help them be more efficient in their work, including recordkeeping and reporting. They have been receiving more calls from Advocap for transportation services.

Mike Norton reported that he recently attended a transportation meeting where they discussed rider accessibility, etc. They are working on a "photo mapping" project so they can review instances where riders are having an accessibility issue.

Dave Vickman said there will be no fare increases for 2017. They recently moved into their newly remodeled office.

Deb Ebben said Valley Transit's 2017 budget has been submitted to the City Council for approval. It includes an increase for repairs to pavement at the Transit Center. Their fixed route is at a 4% decrease compared to last year. There has been a slight decrease in ADA ridership for Valley Transit II this year—11,000 rides vs. 13,000 at the same time last year. This could be due to Family Care providing more rides.

Nick Musson reported that ECWRPC will be working on both the Oshkosh and Valley Transit Transportation Development Plans next year. Nick has been working with UWO students to distribute transit surveys to students, faculty and staff. They've already received 450 surveys back.

7. NEXT MEETING DATE – FEBRUARY 14, 2017:

The date of the next meeting was noted.

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8. ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business, Mike Norton moved for adjournment; seconded by Glen Davies and carried at approximately 2:05 p.m. The next meeting of the Winnebago County Specialized Transportation Council will be held on February 14, 2017 at the Hooper Community Center at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Dorothy De Grace, Human Services Department