

**WINNEBAGO COUNTY
SPECIALIZED TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes

DATE: Tuesday, February 8, 2011

TIME: 1:30 p.m.

PLACE: Hooper Community Center

PRESENT:

Jason Kakatsch, East Central WI Regional Planning Commission; Sal LaPuma, Valley Transit; Chris Strong, Oshkosh Transit; Holly Keenan, Making the Ride Happen; Lori Duclon, Public Health Department; Harvey Rengstorf, County Board; Lynnae Sievert, Cerebral Palsy of Mideast Wisconsin; Kathryn Nichols, Lutheran Homes of Oshkosh; Bob Poeschl, ARC-Winnebago County Disability Association; Beckie Pinnow, American Red Cross; Mark Weisensel & 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 NOVEMBER 9, 2010 MEETING:

Mark Weisensel moved for approval of the minutes of the November 9, 2010 meeting; seconded by Bob Poeschl and carried.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no comments.

4. CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR ELECTIONS:

Jason Kakatsch opened nominations for the two positions for two-year terms. Mark Weisensel nominated Jason Kakatsch as chairperson; seconded by Kathryn Nichols. Harvey Rengstorf moved to close the nominations; seconded by Mark Weisensel and carried (10-0). Kathryn Nichols nominated Mark Weisensel as vice-chair; seconded by Harvey Rengstorf. Harvey Rengstorf moved to close the nominations; seconded by Kathryn Nichols and carried (10-0). Mark Weisensel thanked Jason for the great job chairing the meetings for the past two years.

5. DISTRIBUTION OF THE 2011 GOING PLACES BROCHURE:

Mark Weisensel suggested that everyone present should take along copies of the brochure for distribution. The balance will be distributed around the county at libraries, meal sites, senior centers, and other agencies and facilities. Jason thanked Mark Weisensel and Beckie Pinnow for preparing the brochure and getting it printed.

6. SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING UPDATE:

Holly Keenan said that at the last meeting of the Transportation Task Force Committee, they decided on some goals to work on for the coming year. One goal is to develop a volunteer driver program in Oshkosh, starting with rural Winnebago County. They also will be working on developing a travel training program with Oshkosh Transit. The ability to travel between the Fox Cities and Oshkosh was discussed. They will be continuing to work on getting that process running smoothly. They discussed sharing vehicles and building the capacity on what we know is out there. They will look at the list of 53.10 vehicles. Holly said she and Beckie Pinnow will be looking at grant projects for funding. Their next meeting will be February 25 at 1:30 p.m.

Jason Kakatsch said it is anticipated that there will be a loss of federal dollars for transportation over the next few years and there will be a lot of changes for this part of the state, so we will need to look at some innovative things. Jason said that due to the national response opposing the agglomeration proposal by the census bureau that the Oshkosh and Fox Cities urbanized areas would lose federal operating assistance upon reaching 200,000 people, the census bureau has backed off on its proposal at this time. Jason said there is a proposal at the state level to move all transit funding from the transportation fund to the general fund. This means they would have to compete with all other areas of the budget for funding. He will bring more information to the next meeting.

7. MEDICAL ASSISTANCE TRANSPORTATION MANAGER UPDATE:

Jason Kakatsch referred to a power point presentation regarding the Medical Assistance Transportation Management Program that was given at a meeting of the NE Wisconsin Regional Access to Transportation group. Jason said it was decided that LogistiCare would be the firm that will act as the transportation manager for Medical Assistance transportation in Wisconsin. Madison and the Milwaukee metro area are exempt from participating in the program, and nursing homes are also excluded. There will be five regional call centers throughout the state. LogistiCare will pool resources together, such as vehicles, fuel, and maintenance items. The goal of the program is to incorporate other areas of transportation into the program besides Medical Assistance transportation. There is concern about how this will impact local volunteer driver programs. Jason said some counties are trying to repeal this plan. He will give the updates as he gets them.

8. DRAFT ACCOMPLISHMENTS LETTER TO THE HUMAN SERVICES BOARD/COUNTY BOARD:

Jason Kakatsch referred to his draft letter of accomplishments for the Specialized Transportation Council for 2010. He asked for additions or corrections. The letter will be shared with the Human Services Board and the County Board.

9. TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM UPDATES:

Chris Strong said they are continuing to work on the Transit Development Plan (TDP) for April completion.

Beckie Pinnow said they have been working with Making the Ride Happen to find some collaborative transportation grant opportunities.

Kathryn Nichols said their transportation program had a 26% increase over last year. They have been fully operating at their new campus, which is west of Hwy. 41.

Bob Poeschl said he has been named Interim Director of the ARC, as Lea Kitz has accepted a position as Program Manager of the Family Care and IRIS Ombudsman Program.

Sal LaPuma said Valley Transit has been analyzing the recommendations they got from an operational analysis by a consultant for any changes in their operation or the TDP. They received their two hybrid buses which will be put into operation in their existing routes that have a smaller ridership so people can get used to them. They will be making a recommendation to the Transit Commission for a vendor to move forward on the Intelligent? Transportation System project, which is a computerized system for riders to text information to the system to find out, for example, when the next bus will be arriving.

Lori Duclon said the Public Health Department will be moving to 112 Otter Street on February 23. Their Fax number is changing to (920) 232-3370.

Mark Weisensel said the 2011 contracts have been sent to the Valley Transit and Oshkosh Transit.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m. The next meeting of the Winnebago County Specialized Transportation Council will be held on May 10, 2011 at the East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission at 1:30 p.m.

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