

**WINNEBAGO COUNTY
SPECIALIZED TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes

DATE: Tuesday, May 14, 2013

TIME: 1:30 p.m.

PLACE: East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (ECWRPC)

PRESENT:

Jason Kakatsch and Nick Musson, East Central WI Regional Planning Commission; Carol Kasimor, City of Neenah; Chris Strong, Oshkosh Transit; Holly Keenan, Making the Ride Happen; Beckie Pinnow, American Red Cross; 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 FEBRUARY 12, 2013 MEETING:

Chris Strong moved for approval of the minutes of the February 12, 2013 meeting; seconded by Beckie Pinnow and carried.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no comments.

4. FUTURE VISION AND MISSION OF THE COUNCIL:

Jason said he is leaving the ECWRPC for another position, and a new chairperson of this council will be chosen at the next meeting. Jason said the Council typically focused around the transportation needs of the elderly and disabled. We are in the process of developing a county transportation plan, which is an opportune time to expand the focus to the transportation needs of low-income populations for access to housing, education and employment. The Aging & Disability Resource Center has contracted with ECWRPC to facilitate the planning process. They will organize a transportation summit and invite stakeholders and decision-makers to outline the recommendations of the plan.

5. MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORTATION MONTH IN WINNEBAGO COUNTY:

Jason said he worked with Mike Norton in drafting a resolution whereby the month of May would be multi-modal transportation month in Winnebago County to draw awareness to all forms of transportation—specifically transit and bicycle/pedestrian transportation. This month there have been a number of events pertaining to bicycle/pedestrian movement. They are also in the process of formulating a pedestrian plan for the Fox Cities and Oshkosh urbanized areas. One of the events held during May was a Transportation Plunge hosted by the Oshkosh Community Foundation to raise awareness of the transportation needs to help people become self-sufficient.

6. UPDATES:

- Specialized/Public Transportation Coordination Plan Update:

Jason said the group that is working on this will take a look at existing services and resources to ensure that they are coordinated so we have the most efficient access to specialized transportation as possible throughout the county. The Department of Transportation has asked Regional Planning Commissions to take the lead role in this process. A plan had been developed in 2006 and amended in 2008. Any specialized transportation service that utilizes federal dollars needs to be identified in the plan.

- Winnebago County Specialized Transportation Study:

Jason said Nick Musson will take over most of the efforts in this project. They will be sending out letters to approximately 600 stakeholders that have ties to clientele or those in need of transportation services to gauge their interest in participating in a series of interviews. They will contract with a marketing group that has knowledge of the area to ask for thoughts and views on services that are available, which will be the framework for the Transportation Coordination Plan.

- Medical Assistance Transportation:

Holly Keenan said that effective August 1 there will be a new provider of Medical Assistance transportation. Logisticare will continue providing service until that time.

7. TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM UPDATES:

Beckie Pinnow said the American Red Cross is transitioning out of transportation services for four community programs that they've provided for quite some time. The end date for those transportation services is July 31.

Holly Keenan said she was contacted by someone asking why there is no longer a bus stop in the middle of the parking lot at Wal Mart. Chris Strong said the decision to move it closer to the store was staff driven. It was a safety concern having it in the middle of the lot, and snow wasn't being removed in a timely manner from the area around the bus stop.

Chris Strong has been coordinating with the state on a study regarding safety at roundabouts. Chris said the city of Oshkosh installed flashing beacons at the crosswalks near roundabouts. They will particularly be looking at the Jackson & Murdock crossing. Chris said they launched their new route system last month. They have seen the drop in weekday ridership that's typical with a new system; but they have already seen an increase in Saturday ridership.

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Jason Kakatsch said part of the bicycle/pedestrian plan that they are working on is to do some safety audits this summer at some of the problem areas in the Fox Cities and Oshkosh. Nick Musson will keep us informed of the outcome, as he will be helping with the audit process. Jason said they will look at travel accessibility such as curb cuts and crosswalks for bicyclists and pedestrians, which has ties to transit.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m. The next meeting of the Winnebago County Specialized Transportation Council will be held on August 13, 2013 at the Hooper Community Center at 1:30 p.m.

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