



Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board (TD LCB)

Draft Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 11, 2015

Polk County Administration Building,
Commission Boardroom
330 West Church Street
Bartow, FL 33830

Members Present:

Shaneal Allen
Mike Bingham
Rebecca Leng
Eddie Hall, ***Vice-Chair***
Kevin Gilds
Jan Parham
Christy Wright
Thomas Presley
Tom Phillips
Vice Mayor Charles Lake, ***Chair***
Mike Mason
Katie Kummer
Shela Stewart-Lucas

Representing:

Children at Risk
Citizen Advocate
Citizen Advocate #2
Disabled Citizen Representative
Florida Department of Elderly Affairs
Florida Department of Transportation
Local Medical Community
Local Private operators
Mass Transit
Polk Transportation Planning Organization
Veterans Services
Vocational Rehab
Workforce Board

Others Present:

Ronnie Blackshear
Ryan Kordek
Cherie Simmons
Diane Slaybaugh
Rodney Wetzel
Dave Walters
Gwendolyn Johnson
LaSheila Nelson

Representing:

Polk TPO Staff
Polk TPO Staff
Polk TPO Staff
Polk TPO Staff
Polk Transit Services Staff
Polk Transit Services Staff
Polk Transit Services Staff
Winter Haven Housing Authority

Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairman Charles Lake called the Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. A quorum was present with 13 members in attendance.

Approval of Minutes

- *February 9, 2015 Regular Meeting*

Motion: Tom Presley motioned, seconded by Edward Hall to approve the minutes as printed. Motion carried without dissent.

1. Introductions and Recognitions

Tom Deardorff, TPO Executive Director, presented Jan Parham, FDOT Representative, with a Certificate of Appreciation from the Polk TPO for her assistance to the TPO over the past 40 years. Diane Slaybaugh, TPO Senior Planner, presented Ms. Parham with a Monogrammed Decorative Vase from the TD LCB for her years of dedication and service to the TD LCB Board. This will be Ms. Parham's last meeting as she is retiring.

2. Public Comment

None heard.

3. Presentation by the Winter Haven Housing Authority Family Self-Sufficiency Team

Ms. LaSheila Nelson, Winter Haven Housing Authority, gave a brief presentation on the Family Self-Sufficiency Program. The Winter Haven Housing Authority was established in 1978 to provide subsidized housing for low income families. The Family Self-Sufficiency Program focuses on other areas of the family's needs.

The Community CARES Program is a new program under the Self-Sufficiency Program. CARES stands for Community, Awareness, Resources, Education and Service. The three goals of this program are to (1) revive the value of community and housing; (2) reduce negative actions and crime; and (3) strengthen individual's family and housing. One of the obstacles facing families is transportation. Through partnerships with several agencies and businesses, the CARE program is trying to resolve this situation.

4. Review and Approval of Rate Calculation Model/CTC Reimbursement Rates

Mr. Rodney Wetzel, Polk Transit Services staff, presented the Rate Calculation Model/CTC Reimbursement Rates for 2015. The calculations this year are down almost by half because of the Medicaid changes. The current rates were read into the record.

Motion: Mr. Thomas Presley motioned, seconded by Mr. Mike Mason, to approve the Rate Calculation Model/CTC Reimbursement Rates as presented. Motion carried without dissent. Tom Phillips Abstained

5. Review of TD Trip/Equipment Grant for 2015/2016

Mr. Rodney Wetzel, Polk Transit Services staff, presented the TD Trip/Equipment grant for FY 2015/2016. The total grant amount is \$1,321,387.00 for the period of July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.

Motion: Ms. Shela Stewart-Lucas motioned, seconded by Mr. Eddie Hall, to approve the 2015/16 TD Trip/Equipment grant as presented. Motion carried without dissent.

6. Annual Update of Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan (TDSP)

Diane Slaybaugh, TPO staff provided an overview of the changes to the TDSP. The TDSP is required to be updated annually and approved by the TD LCB before it can be submitted to the TD Commission. Ms. Slaybaugh explained the process to the board. All items in the document pertaining to Medicaid had to be removed. The eligibility criteria for bus passes are being restructured by the

CTC. A board member asked for some clarification on some of the changes. Gwen Johnson, Polk Transit Services gave a more detailed explanation.

Motion: Tom Presley motioned, seconded by Katie Kummer to approve the TDSP as presented. Motion carried without dissent. Roll call vote was unanimous.

7. Potential Impact of Fixed-Route Service Reductions on the Coordinated System

Tom Phillips, Lakeland Area Mass Transit District staff explained the potential impacts of service reductions on the Coordinated System. The System was established in 1982 with 8 bus routes and bus fare of \$.75. He compared this system to today's system. Mr. Phillips showed the board how the decisions of which service would be cut. The goal was a 20% reduction. The reduction will save approximately 2 million dollars to allow for a Capital Improvement Plan. There were also 23 staff reductions. All have be placed in other employment except two. Private partnerships are needed to continue to support the system. LAMTD is anticipating becoming the CTC for Polk County as all transit services are merged into the Lakeland agency including Winter Haven Area Transit.

8. Presentation by the Lakeland Area Mass Transit District (LAMTD)/dba Citrus Connection

This item was included with item 7.

9. CTC Report

Mr. Rodney Wetzal, Polk Transit Services staff, presented the Performances Measures of the CTC report. On time compliance is at 94 percent for the past six months. Safety, complaints, hold times and breakdown numbers were reviewed. No accidents. The new system is really working well. The mile between breakdowns has doubled. Three new buses were received. The will be a Partners meeting on May 19, 2015.

10. Other Communications and Reports

A letter from the Polk County Board of County Commissioners was distributed to Board Members in which they notified the TD Commission that Polk County BOCC would cease being the CTC effective September 30, 2015.

11. Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 2:36 p.m. After the meeting some Board Members took a ride on the CTC's transit bus to the One Call Center for a tour.

The next regular quarterly meeting is scheduled for September 14, 2015.

Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, states that if a person decides to appeal any decision made by a board, agency or commission with respect to any matter considered at a meeting or hearing, he will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.