

West Virginia Transportation Coordination Council Meeting

AARP Conference Room

July 16, 2014

Minutes

Members Present: Susan O'Connell, David Bruffy, Jason Cook, John R. Davidson, Jr., Gaylene Miller, Paul Smith

Others in Attendance: Christina Risk, Cindy Fish

Not present: Cynthia Beane, Jeb Corey, David Haden, Lee Horton, Jan Lilly-Stewart, Larry Paxton, Mike Pickens, Tammy Pritt-Jones, Robert Roswell

- I. **Call to Order:** Susan O'Connell, Chairperson, called the meeting to order.
- II. **Reading and Approval of the July, 2013 minutes:** The Meeting Minutes from the January 2014 meeting were approved by David Bruffy and seconded by Gaylene Miller.
- III. **Old Business:**
- IV. **New Business:**
 - A. January, 2015 Meeting
The majority of council members felt that a conference call in January would be practical. The call will take place on **Wednesday, January 21, 2015 at 10:00am.**
 - B. Information Sharing
 1. Susan O'Connell spoke about a questionnaire from the National Conference of State Legislation (NCSL). The questionnaire will be used to update NCSL's information about state-level human service transportation coordinating councils. Susan mentioned that NCSL's data showed that WVTC's legal authority had expired in 2005, and she checked the Executive Order, and no expiration date was given. She updated the information on the questionnaire.
Susan also shared information about the changes MAP-21 legislation was making to the Section 5310 program. Now the program offers operating assistance, and 11 non-profit agencies applied to the Division for funding. A list of the agencies is attached. Susan asked the council to share that information with the agencies that they serve. It could be potentially favorable to counties that have no transit services.
 2. David Bruffy said that the coordination effort in Monongalia County is ongoing. He explained how van pools work, and said that he currently had two van pools operating and expected to form more. He also said that WVU decided to cut two of Mountain Line Transit's campus routes, which means around 188,000 rides are lost. He feels that these are the two of the most used routes and is trying to work in new service.
 3. The council discussed the NEMT brokerage. A company named MTM was awarded the DHHR contract and service is expected to start on October 1, 2014. John Davidson, Jr. mentioned that they were currently hiring. Jason Cook said that the brokerage will not impact the mental health agencies as most of them have their own vehicles.
 4. Susan O'Connell told the council that the Division of Public Transit was updating the Regional Coordination plans and scheduling meetings in each planning and development region. She said that it was important that non-profit agencies attend these meetings since it was a requirement for Section 5310 funding. David Bruffy mentioned that going to the meetings was a great time to identify the needs of the agencies and the regions, since projects not in the plan will not go forward.
 5. Jason Cook told the council that his office was going over grant reviews for Community Engagement Services. These services would help people who were recently hospitalized at a mental health center transition back into the community. Transportation is an issue that these service providers will address. He plans to have more information on Community Engagement Services at the next council meeting.
 6. Gaylene Miller said that AARP had legislation passed that created a "Safe Streets Initiative" program; however an advisory council has yet to be created.
 7. The council discussed the I-RIDE 79 bus route from Charleston to Morgantown and the many ways that transit systems and non-profit agencies could provide transportation links. The website for I-RIDE 79, provided by Baron's Bus out of Cleveland, is <http://www.baronsbus.com/i-ride-79-service> .

The Chair asked if there was any further business. There being none, John Davidson, Jr. declared the meeting adjourned and David Bruffy seconded.