

ROCK COUNTY COORDINATING TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

January 22, 2021

Call to order: A meeting of the Rock County Coordinating Transportation Committee was called to order by Chairperson Hansberry on January 22, 2021 at 9:06 a.m. via ZOOM

Roll Call:

Present: Mike Bachmeyer, Alexander Brown, Patty Hansberry, Dave Hyde, Dave Lowe, Jennifer McIlhone, T.J. Nee, Joe Scharenbroch, Ryan Schomber, Paula Schutt, James Thompson and Roseann Tremain

Excused: Kersten Hughes

Unexcused: Supervisor Ron Bomkamp

Alternates: None

Approval of Agenda: A motion was made by Jennifer McIlhone, seconded by Paula Schutt to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Introduction of Members: No need for introduction of members.

Introduction of Visitors: Karl Schulte from Green Cab and Shirley Williams, County Supervisor

Citizen Participation, Communications & Announcements: None

Approval of 11/20/2020 TCC minutes: Motion was made by Dave Lowe after request to correct date on previous notes from September 25, 2020 to November 20, 2020 and not show Committee member Nikki Wolf both present and excused. Paula Schutt seconded motion. Motion carried.

Old Business:

HSTP related concern. Dave Hyde presented that there is a part of the population that doesn't have access to COVID19 testing sites related to non-driver or no access to car/transportation. Related to that is concern over getting COVID19 vaccination. Dave aware that Dane County has developed system that allows para-transportation for those who need it. Karl Schulte indicated that Dane County directs people to Public Health and they have internal list of transportation providers (and shows what capabilities/equipment they have. Discussion of at home kits suggested as one solution. Dave Hyde suggested that a statement be put together and submitted to Rock County Health Department related to concerns and Jennifer McIlhone to assist with statement.

TCC 16th Member appointment and re-appointments have not been made by County Board to date. New County Board Chairman Botswick elected on January 14, 2021 and there has been no instruction on when they will move forward on committee appointments.

Survey Committee. Jennifer McIlhone provided update on survey committee. Survey committee looking at whether survey is for everyone (or just 60 & over, individuals with disabilities and the transportation disadvantaged). Estimate where need for medical transportation is unmet. What is currently being provided in Rock County and is it meeting needs (where and how). What is feasible? McIlhone also stated that at last Council on Aging Board member Sue McGinnis asked if survey would

look at providing assistance to use transportation (help getting in/out of vehicle and help at destination). TCC response to this was “no”.



Dave Lowe informed committee that bids between the \$10,000 - \$15,000 range, can go forward with committee approval and would get process started. It is unlikely cost would be greater than \$25,000 (which would require going through county internal contract system). Dave Hyde suggested special meeting to vote on passing amount. It was agreed that additional meeting for vote will be scheduled prior to next regular TCC meeting but needs to wait until after the sub committee meets with the research company so they have dollar amount to present to TCC committee.

New Business:

Karl Schulte from Green Cab of Wisconsin presented information about new, electric powered cab option coming to Janesville/Rock County by February 8, 2021. Green Cab is not new (already in Madison, WI). They will provide service 7 days a week and intend to have early hours. They will not provide 24 hour service during pandemic (but will watch need for this). All cabs are electric Tesla's & Chevy Volts (no gas powered vehicles in fleet). They have secured a garage on Freedom Lane in Janesville and have operating permit, but are still waiting for driver permits. Some details of the company are that they are a call center based out of Madison. A person can secure a ride via smartphone app, website on android phone/tablet and via phone call. During pandemic no riders allowed in front seat and two allowed in back if they are family. There will be discounted rates for elder/disabled populations. Cabs will be white with decals of green leaves on them. A rate sheet was sent to Chair Patty Hansberry and she will forward to all committee members to share with their businesses/departments. Dave Hyde suggested that Green Cab consider Saturday Night and Sunday Morning service as there is a lack of options during that timeframe. Dave also indicated that since cabs are electric/quiet, visually impaired passengers may not be able to hear them when they arrive and Karl stated that drivers to receive “passenger assist training”. Ryan Schomber asked about advertising for Green Cab and it was stated that marketing started this week and on Facebook and information would be in the Gazette soon. Karl will send out email when cab service actually begins.

Since 4th Friday of May 2021 falls on Memorial Day weekend, the idea of changing to different weekend proposed and committee unanimously voted to keep it as it was. Motion by Scharenbroch and second by Schutt. Meeting to remain Friday, May, 28, 2021.

Member Reports:

McIlhone – No report

Hansberry – Very busy (as busy as before COVID). Portal program up and running. Beloit has no waiting list, but other cities in Rock County do.

Lowe – No report

Bachmeyer – Health of drivers has stayed good throughout pandemic and measure taken have helped. Fine tuning voice enunciation system on buses and also upgrading for safety.

Hyde – School for Blind is closed until at least April 2021.

Brown – No report.

Nee – SLATS did commuter rail study in past year. Looked at counties of Rock, Winnebago & Dane. Looking to see if there is a demand. Possibly connect to Chicago or route from Rockford to Madison. On 2/22/2021 consultant will give presentation. SLATS continue to work on long range plans.

Scharenbroch – Joe's industry hit hard by pandemic. Daycares shut down because of pandemic and assisted living/group homes on lock down.

Schomber – No report except new building coming along and will be relocating sometime in 2021.

Schutt – COA is preparing for move to new building in 2021 and COA will merge with ADRC on January 1, 2022.

Thompson – 2 Beloit buses that had extended use were auctioned off and one of them picked up today. Buyer to renovate bus (equip with shower) and use for the homeless.

Tremain – Discussed ongoing Alexa project and ADRC still working remotely.

Williams – No report.

Items for Future Agendas: None

Future Meeting Dates: March 26, May 28, July 30, September 24 and November 19. Start time 9 a.m.

Adjournment: Motion by Schutt, Second by McIlhone. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Minutes not official until approved by the Rock County Transportation Coordinating Committee