



## **TRANSPORTATION COORDINATING COMMITTEE**

**Minutes – May 27, 2022**

**Call to Order:** A meeting of the Transportation Coordinating Committee was called to order by Chairperson Joe Scharenbroch on May 27, 2022 at 9:01 a.m.

### **ROLL CALL:**

Present: Joe Scharenbroch, Jennifer McIlhone, Dave Lowe, Cori Marsh, Sara Garbe, David Salmon, Supervisor Bomkamp, TJ Nee, Kersten Hughes and Roseann Tremain

Excused: Dawn Hudson, David Hyde, Ryan Schomber, James Thompson and Patty Hansberry

Unexcused: None

Alternates: Sara Garbe and Wayne Pratt

**Approve Agenda:** A motion to approve the May 27, 2022 agenda was made by David Lowe, seconded by Jennifer McIlhone. Motion carried.

**INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS:** Introduction of alternate Wayne Pratt.

**INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS:** Public Health Strategist for HEAR (Health Equity Alliance of Rock County), Sam Axon introduced herself. She stated her focus at the health department is access to care. Access to Care is one of the top priority areas for the 2022-2025 Community Health Improvement Plan and transportation is part of this. They want to incorporate it many of their initiatives.

**Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements:** None

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion to approve the March 25, 2022 minutes was made by Supervisor Bomkamp, seconded by David Lowe. Motion carried.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**2019-2023 Rock County TCC Human Services Transportation Plan (HSTP):** Jennifer McIlhone sent out the plan and smaller groups were assigned prior to May meeting. Chair Joe Scharenbroch asked if it was still acceptable to break into smaller groups after today's meeting since there were so many people missing. Jennifer also unable to remain after regular meeting. It was decided that break out groups would be deferred until after July's regular TCC meeting. Supervisor Bomkamp wants to make sure that names/contact information for survey is still correct and Joe indicated that each group will be responsible

for reviewing their assigned section of the plan and making corrections.

**TCC Member Update:** TCC committee is still looking for a community member. Jennifer has had some conversations with people she thought would be good for the position, but never had any confirmation/acceptance from them. Cori indicated that information was put on Facebook and in the aging newsletter regarding the need for a member as well.

**MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION SURVEY UPDATE/DISCUSSION** Jennifer McIlhone stated that all the surveys have gone out. The mailings happened a number of times. David Treacher is the lead at the survey company. The last information from David is that 385 surveys have been completed. This is “slightly more” than they were hoping to receive. There is still a possibility of more to be returned from the last mailing. In mid to late June, is when the research company will circle back with the next steps. This is when we will get an idea of what was gathered in the responses. Jennifer requested that if any TCC members are aware of a business/agency that is willing to provide gift cards, they are still needed for the survey. Jennifer mentioned that we should probably discuss/think about how we are going to move forward with the survey results once we have it.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**MEMBER REPORTS:**

**Scharenbroch** – Joe stated that there is not much new. Because of COVID, several of the workshops got “hit pretty hard” and shut down.

**Lowe** – Dave on the advisory council for Greater Wisconsin Area Agency on Resources. The director Bob Kellerman’s last day is next Tuesday. New administrator’s first day is June 7. There will be some changes in the aging network.

**Garbe** – Motel vouchers are time limited and overwhelmed at the moment. It has quite a waiting list. The funding will be ending June 30<sup>th</sup>. It will impact those that are sheltered/unsheltered for low-income individuals. We also have our WERA funds that are still available for emergency rental assistance, and it is time limited as well. The WERA program has been around about 2 years now and can help for up to 18 months. There are some individuals who have used the whole 18 months and are now struggling to pay their rent. They also have our mortgage help and it’s anything that is past due or current this month. They have been working with the Beloit CARES team and homeless individuals. They are offering showers at the TA in Janesville. They are trying to figure out how to get individuals from Beloit to the TA.

**Salmon** – Has BIL funding and JTS is applying for two electric buses through the low/no emissions grant program. Another thing that came out of that is fleet wide transition plan to transition entire fleet to electric in the next 15 to 20 years or so. It will be good that it is on the books, so that additional funding will be available moving forward. The JTS is also undergoing it’s 3-year transit development plan. They have consultants getting onboard survey information before the school year ends from student population and they will be doing some kickoff meetings shortly thereafter they are going to be discussing all things related to the transit system and the issues they are trying to work on. It’s useful in coordinating with the Rock County plan simply because it discusses some issues with access to care and scheduling stuff and we will have the opportunity to look at our system. At a bare minimum ask the question how this fits in our overall system model? They are hoping to hear back from the DOT soon. They also have a bike path planned for the west side.

**Marsh** – Farmer Market vouchers will start to be dispersed June 14<sup>th</sup> in Evansville and then will be completed by June 23<sup>rd</sup> in Clinton. We are Getting them out in a very short amount of time this year. The Aging Unit at the ADRC and Rock County Resource Center is teaming up to provide a senior smart a way to better living on Friday, June 10<sup>th</sup> in Clinton. They have speakers coming in to talk about legal issues, health issues, nutrition and healthy brain as well as benefits/resources. That will go from 10-2 pm. They will also be offering Dementia Live at the end of the day. They will provide lunch to anyone who attends the program. It will be held at Emmanuel Church in Clinton. Cori also provided information on ridership with the Rock County Transit program. In 2018 they had 27,712 rides. In 2019 they had 28,093 rides. In 2020 they had 14,716 rides. In 2021 they had 23,100 rides. For the first quarter of 2022 they have had 4,732 rides. She stated that is a little less than the first quarter of 2021, but they are down 2 ½ buses. They are still looking for buses and waiting for parts for some of the buses. They are requesting 4 buses for next year. Cori stated that there is 5310 money that could be used for 2 buses and Dave Lowe is going to talk with a couple people he knows who might be able to help.

**McIlhone**– With mobility management the program Wednesday Walks has started with high turnout and cycling without age will start in June. She has the pilots and trishaws all set up (there had been some repairs). Several reservations are already made with a standing reservation from Kandu one day a month. Jennifer recently attended the mobility management conference last month. Two things that caught her eye is that they have seen increased trips booked on their portal. The other thing is that someone from Veyo spoke at the conference, and they are really working hard to address every problem that was brought up.

**Bomkamp** – There are a couple things. Rock Haven is looking at getting a van to take some of the residents shopping/tours. They are checking in the feasibility of that. If it is approved, it will go into the 2023 budget. Second, the fire department is seeing a trend in nursing homes using ambulances to get clients to doctor appointments. They are not able to get the private ambulance service to that now because they are short staffed. They will continue to monitor the trend on that.

**Nee** – They are trying to stay on top of all the new funding that is coming out of the new bipartisan infrastructure law. We actually got an increase in our FY2022 allocation that comes to the Beloit MPO, and we programmed that for a hybrid bus for Beloit Transit. It will be the first one and they will be working on an EB transition plan, so they are eligible for FTA grants in the next few years when all this money is available to hopefully transition to all electric. Also waiting to hear from WisDot about TAP application for a side path along Afton Road from Newark to Big Hill Park. Hoping to hear in the next month or two.

**Pratt** – Micro-transit study. If not on a fixed route to get them over to a fixed route so they can continue on to work/school or wherever they need to go. It is about filling in the spots that might not be close enough for them to get to on a fixed route. It is working out for other cities/communities and is a current trend. It helps ridership increase because you can only have so many routes. SLATS funding goes to the city council board on June 7<sup>th</sup> and if they get approval, they will move forward with the order with the hybrid bus for next year.

**ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS:** No new items

**Next meeting date and time:** Friday, July 22,2022 at 9:00 a.m.

**Adjournment:** Motion by Scharenbroch, Second by Lowe. The meeting adjourned at 9:41 a.m.

NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY COMMITTEE.