

**CITRUS COUNTY
TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED
LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD
August 20, 2020 Minutes**

The Citrus County Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board (LCB) held a public meeting on August 20, 2020 via ZOOM Webinar. The meeting was advertised in the Citrus Chronicle and the agenda was available on the MPO Website.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jimmie T. Smith, Citrus County Commissioner
David Douglas, Citrus County, Public Transit User
Beverly Isabelle, Daystar Life Center
Elizabeth Watson, Persons with Disabilities Agency
Tamyika Young, Florida Agency for Health Care Administration
Sandra Woodard, Local Representative Children at Risk
Ginger West, Florida Association for Community Action
William Burda, Citrus County Citizen Advocate
Stephen Brown, Citrus County Resident, Disabled
Tracy Noyes, Florida Department of Transportation
Christine Mestrovich, Career Source, Regional Workforce Development Board
Jeffrey Aboumrad, Florida Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
Katie Lucas, Local Representative Medical Community

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Terence Garrity, Private For-Profit Transportation
Marilyn Farmer, Public Education Community

OTHERS PRESENT:

Steve Diez, MPO Executive Director
Carlene Riecsc, Transportation Planner III
Terri Saenz, Administrative Assistant III
Cayce Dagenhart, Transportation Planner II
Lon Frye, Citrus County Transit Director
Theresa Flick, Director, Key Training Center

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Smith called the regular meeting of the LCB to order at 10:31am.

B. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion: Sandra Woodard moved to approve the agenda, a second was made by Katie Lucas and the motion carried unanimously.

C. REVIEW/APPROVAL – May 21, 2020 Minutes

Motion: Dave Douglas moved to approve the May 21, 2020, LCB minutes which included the workshop and regular meeting as presented. A second was made by Katie Lucas and the motion carried unanimously.

D. CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged (CTD) Update

Mr. Diez mentioned that the full packet of the CTD business meeting of June 8, 2020 can be found by clicking on the link in the agenda packet. The Innovation and Service Grant for Citrus County Transit was awarded in the amount of approximately \$51,548 to expand veterans service to The Villages, Tampa and King's Row. It is estimated to provide about 600 trips annually.

2. Advantage Ride Pilot Program Support Letter to the CTD

The Planning Agency sent a letter in support of the program and a copy can be found in your packet.

3. Complaint Letter – Dianne Rucker

Mr. Diez stated the CTD requested that the MPO staff invite Ms. Rucker to this meeting. Letters were sent as well as an agenda packet.

Mr. Frye addressed her letter with their Assistant County Administrator. He noted that Ms. Rucker was never trespassed. They had not heard from her for about 4 months and they considered her concerns being addressed.

Mr. Diez stated the matter should be closed and that status be conveyed to Kyle Mills with the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged.

4. Annual Operating Report (AOR)

Mr. Diez expressed that this report is due September 15th of every year and that it involves data from the CTC's, their contractors, etc. on trips, mileage, revenue, etc., however the CTD website has had problems so the deadline has been extended. We will have an update at the November LCB meeting.

E. CITRUS COUNTY TRANSIT – Lon Frye

1. Quarterly Report

Mr. Frye revealed that their quarterly report is unprecedented due to the pandemic and the challenges they faced. They shut down all deviated routes and put all assets into paratransit services

as well as extended the hours from 6am to 6pm. They also suspended fares due to the pandemic and state of emergency.

2. Current and Future Changes

Mr. Frye continued that operationally paratransit fares are suspended with same day trips. With paratransit trips they can control number of people on the bus which allows for social distancing. They are assisting with Meals on Wheels (food delivery) and taking precautions to clean interior of buses.

They have noticed a new influx of passengers using transit for employment over the past 6 weeks.

If they have the ability of expanding their day to make more trips happen, they intend to do so. This will be a management decision with no increase to staffing or hours. They are exclusively doing home pickup currently and have been able to manage their overtime.

All drivers are required to wear masks and they are highly encouraging the passengers to wear them while on the bus.

They have discontinued service to the Homosassa route due to equity issues serving different areas, leaving them to service all areas equally.

Veterans trips through the TD grant are done to Tampa on Tuesday, Gainesville on Wednesday, and The Villages on Thursday. These are all with home pickup and very liberal, e.g., trip to Tampa on Friday if they have resources.

F. KEY CENTER UPDATE -- Theresa Flick

Theresa Flick from the Key Center informed the group that they have had no positive COVID Cases among their residents, however 4 of their staff did test positive. The residents and clients are strongly encouraged to wear face masks.

They are complying with physical distancing and have gradually seen an increase in attendance in people coming to the day program, which has increased their transportation services.

Chairman Smith commended Ms. Flick on their ability to have zero cases.

G. CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were no citizen comments

H. COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS

Sandra Woodard with the Early Learning Coalition of the Nature Coast mentioned that their Child Safety Program (Car Seat Program) was shut down due to COVID and now the Child Passenger Coordinator, Sue Littnan has retired, so there will be no more program. She does not foresee it being reinstated. There are other entities within the county that do help with that program and that have trained installers, e.g., local sheriff's office, and limited ability with the health department and

Healthy Start program that serves children and families. The statewide entity that oversees that program is the Florida Safe Kids Coalition.

Chairman Jimmie Smith announced this will be his last meeting.

I. MPO COMMENTS

Mr. Diez stated the next MPO meeting will be on September 10th in Brooksville and the next LCB meeting will be on November 19, 2020.

J. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING

ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING: The next regular meeting of the LCB is scheduled for Thursday, November 19, 2020, at 10:30 a.m. tentatively at Citrus County Transit Center, 1600 Lecanto Highway, Lecanto, FL

The meeting agenda and back-up materials are available online at:

www.hernandocounty.us/hernandocitrusmpo

There being no further business to discuss, Chairman Smith adjourned the LCB meeting at 11:00am.