

**HERNANDO COUNTY  
TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED  
LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD REGULAR MEETING  
Wednesday, February 10, 2021 – 10:00 A.M.**

**MINUTES**

The Hernando County Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board (TDLCB) held a regular meeting on Wednesday, February 10, 2021, at the Hernando County Building Division Training Facility, 1661 Blaise Drive, Brooksville, Florida. The meeting was advertised in the Tampa Bay Times and the agenda was available on the MPO Website.

**MEMBERS PRESENT IN PERSON**

John Allocco, TDLCB Chairman  
Kevin Bargerstock, Florida Department of Education, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation  
Tony Graham, Hernando County Veterans Services  
Kathleen Winters, Local Representative Medical Community  
Denise Clark, Hernando County School Board – Transportation  
Benita Dixon, Private For-Profit Transportation  
Joe DeGeorge, Hernando County Transit Management Inc.  
Shanika Figueroa Rodriguez, Children at Risk

**MEMBERS PRESENT VIA ZOOM**

Ian Martin, ACHA (Alternate)  
Dave Newell, FDOT District 7  
Gretchen Samter, Public Transit User  
Elizabeth Watson, Persons with Disabilities Agency

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Steve Diez, MPO Executive Director  
Carlene Riecse, Transportation Planner III  
Cayce Dagenhart, Transportation Planner II  
Terri Saenz, Administrative Assistant III  
Miranda Maldonado, MidFlorida Community Services/Trans Hernando  
Chris DeAnnuntis, TBARTA  
Steve Holmes, UZURV  
Cara Brunk, DOEA  
Jeremy Thomas, Florida Department of Children & Family Services -- Access Florida

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Allocco called the regular meeting of the TDLCB to order at 10:02am.

- A quorum was confirmed.
- Chairman Allocco introduced the newest member, Shanika Figueroa Rodriguez, representing Children at Risk.
- Introductions were made.
- Carlene Riecscs read the Publication Meeting Notice into the Record.

## **B. ANNUAL BOARD ORGANIZATION**

1. Nomination and Election of 2021 Vice-Chairperson

**Motion: Ms. Winters nominated Joe DeGeorge as the 2021 Vice-Chairperson. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.**

2. Committee Membership Appointment/Reappointment – 2021 Calendar Year

**Motion: Ms. Dixon made a motion that the TDLCB appoint/reappoint the following Grievance Committee members. The motion was seconded by Ms. Winters and carried unanimously.**

- Robert Bradburn
- Kathleen Winters
- Denise Clark
- Ian Martin

## **C. APPROVAL/MODIFICATION OF AGENDA**

**Motion: Ms. Winters made a motion to approve agenda with no modifications. Mr. Graham seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.**

## **D. REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 18, 2020**

**Motion: Mr. Graham made a motion to approve November 18, 2020 minutes. Ms. Winters seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.**

## **E. CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

1. UZURV – Presentation

Presentation given by Steve Holmes. The CTD granted TBARTA in partnership with UZURV, an adaptive transportation network and mobility platform technology company to enhance Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) service cross county trips for transportation disadvantaged persons as well as evening and weekend trips.

The program started the first week of December 2020. They service five counties: Hernando, Pasco, Hillsborough, Pinellas, and Manatee. Most of the trips are on demand (wheelchair or ambulatory) and scheduled. They are door to door with no stops and by credentialed drivers. So far they have had 15 individuals from Hernando County and among them they have taken about 30 rides. It supplements Trans-Hernando trip services on evenings and weekends. The cost is \$6.00 each way and the website address is: [www.tdtampabay.com](http://www.tdtampabay.com) for eligibility. It is a 3 year grant that they have to reapply every year with hopes of success to implement permanently.

2. Mid Florida Community Services – Miranda Maldonado

A copy of the quarterly report for the period from October 1, 2020 -- December 31, 2020 was provided. It was noted that a correction was made to the July 1, 2020 -- September 30, 2020, quarterly report presented at the TDLCB November meeting (total number of trips for each program were inadvertently entered into the section reflecting no shows by program -- ISD, RD or DOE). They have had about 3-4 trips per week for the veteran's shuttle since starting last October 2020. They now have a federal mask mandate on all their vehicles.

3. Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged (CTD) – December 16, 2020, business meeting

As an informational item, Mr. Diez indicated the packet included a copy of the December 16, 2020, CTD business meeting agenda.

On an annual basis, the CTD prepares a report summarizing operation information for the State of Florida, and for each county. The summaries are being provided.

## **F. ACTION ITEMS**

Mr. Diez suggested the Board to approve update to the Annual Grievance Procedures and be forwarded to the Commission for Transportation Disadvantaged (CTD) by MPO Staff. Chairman Allocco asked for public comment and there was none (in person or via ZOOM).

**Motion: Mr. Clark moved to approve the update to the Annual Grievance Procedures. Ms. Winters seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.**

## **G. BOARD MEMBER UPDATES**

1. Benita Dixon spoke about their Private for Profit, Black Coach Transportation and provided pamphlets. They do airport trips, parties, doctor appointments. They have wheelchair vans and stretchers, contractors who are certified in ambulatory and non-emergency. They service Jacksonville, Lake City, Orlando, and Tampa. They drive third party for insurance companies. On their private coach side, they can go anywhere.

2. Joe DeGeorge with Hernando County Public Transportation System stated they just received two brand new busses which brings all their fleet up to date. They recently put mass notification in place for their ADA clients. It notifies clients up to 15 minutes prior to arrival at their residence. For fixed route service, there is also a new mobile app called "RouteShout" that allows riders to see where the bus is and when it will arrive through an online bus tracking service from their smartphones or on the Web. In the next 30 days, they will be implementing stickers at bus stops where you can text a number to find out where the bus is. Ridership is down about 30 percent. The federal mask mandate is in place.
3. Volunteers for the next meeting will be Shanika Figueroa Rodriguez and Denise Clark to advise what their outside roles represent as members of the TDLCB.

#### **H. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

None.

#### **I. STAFF/BOARD COMMENTS**

Discussion about the appreciation of in person quorums that allow those citizens who are at risk to attend via Zoom.

#### **ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING**

Chairman Allocco advised that the next TDLCB meeting is on May 19, 2021 at the Hernando County Building Training Facility, at 1661 Blaise Drive, Brooksville, FL 34601.

There being no further business, Chairman Allocco adjourned the meeting at 10:51 am.