

**HERNANDO COUNTY
TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED
LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, May 19, 2021 – 10:20 A.M.**

MINUTES

The Hernando County Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board (TDLCB) held a regular meeting on Wednesday, May 19, 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. The meeting was also available via ZOOM webinar.

MEMBERS PRESENT IN PERSON

John Allocco, TDLCB Chairman
Kevin Bargerstock, Florida Department of Education, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
Holly Ferguson, Veterans Services
Kathleen Winters, Local Representative Medical Community
Denise Clark, Hernando County School Board – Transportation
Shanika Figueroa Rodriguez, Children-at-Risk
Tracy Noyes, FDOT
John Eberle, Regional Workforce Board
Gretchen Samter, Public Transit User

MEMBERS PRESENT VIA ZOOM

Cara Lee Brunk, Florida Department of Elderly Affairs
Joe DeGeorge, Hernando County Transit/TheBus

OTHERS PRESENT

Steve Diez, MPO Executive Director
Cayce Dagenhart, Transportation Planner II
Terri Saenz, Administrative Assistant III
Chris DeAnnuntis, TBARTA
Miranda Maldonado, MidFlorida Community Services
Janice Campbell, Hernando County School Board
Kerri Hartley, Hernando County School Board – Transportation (Alternate)
Kevin Mulligan, AHCA

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Allocco called the regular meeting of the TDLCB to order at 10:30 a.m.

1. Notice of Publication

Proof of publication of the Notice of Public Meeting was read into the record by Ms. Dagenhart.

2. Declaration of Quorum

A quorum was declared.

B. APPROVAL/MODIFICATION OF AGENDA – Board/Staff comment only

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

C. REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 10, 2021

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

D. CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged (CTD)

Mr. Diez stated the CTD changed the grant formulation for Hernando County.

2. CTC Update– Miranda Maldonado

Ms. Maldonado stated they have expanded their hours and destinations under the Innovation and Service Development Grant in Hernando County. This now allows them to operate 5 days a week to any part of the county. In the past, they were only allowed to go to certain destinations, like Istachatta or Ridge Manor on specific days but now they can go there on any day or time of day. The grant covers their veterans' services program as well which means our veterans are only charged \$1.00 each way for any trips and the Tampa Shuttle program to the Tampa VA. It allows them to do more employment and education trips. They are looking for another driver if anyone knows someone with a CDL.

3. Letter in Support of UZURV

Chris DeAnnuntis with TBARTA gave an update on the TD Tampa Bay program. There is a partnership between UZURV and TBARTA that provides transportation between county lines. The service started in December 2020. There were four trips out of Hernando in December and in April there were 85. The 5 county region includes: Hernando, Pasco, Pinellas, Hillsborough, and Manatee. To show the use among the five counties, there were seventy in December and 700 in April. This service is growing. He is asking for a letter in support as they are submitting another grant application for another year of service.

Mr. Diez suggested we prepare a letter similar to the one in our agenda packet.

Ms. Samter was very complimentary of the UZURV services. She discussed how convenient the service is for her to travel from the Pasco-Hernando college campus in Spring Hill to the one in New Port Richey, which used to take her 3 hours by bus.

Chairman Allocco asked for a motion.

Motion: Ms. Samter made a motion to approve. Ms. Noyes seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

4. Planning Agency Survey

Mr. Diez stated the annual planning agency survey is in the packet and if members would fill it out either with their name or anonymously and leave with us.

5. Planning Agency Grant FY 2021-2022

There were no questions regarding this item.

E. ACTION ITEMS

1. Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan - Annual Update

Mr. Diez stated that in the future we would like to have members leave their packets with the TDSP which are very large, and to cut down on paper, the MPO staff would add pages as they are updated and bring to all future annual meeting updates.

A discussion ensued on the grievance procedure. Chairman Allocco asked that we find out if the Chair is filling the position on the Grievance Committee and then we can vote on at the next meeting.

There were no members of the public in attendance or participating via ZOOM.

Motion: Ms. Clark made a motion to approve. Ms. Figueroa Rodriguez seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

A roll call vote for the Approval of the Transportation Service Plan Update was conducted and passed unanimously.

2. Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC) Annual Evaluation

Ms. Dagenhart asked the Board to review the annual 2021 evaluation and to provide comments to the CTD.

There were no members of the public in attendance or participating via ZOOM.

Motion: Mr. DeGeorge made a motion to approve. Ms. Figueroa Rodriguez seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

F. TDLCB MEMBER PRESENTATIONS – Shanika Figueroa Rodriguez and Denise Clark

Ms. Figueroa Rodriguez, Coordinator of Students and Families in Transition with Hernando School District provided handouts and explained the McKinney-Vento Act as well as services they provide for students.

Ms. Clark, Transportation Department with Hernando County School Board stated their department works closely with Ms. Figueroa Rodriguez with students and families in transition. They also work with the Emergency Operations Center to help out other drivers that are interested in helping out in the event of a hurricane, etc. They have shelters set-up, and all their drivers are National Incident Management System (NIMS) certified for FEMA. She introduced her alternate Kerri Hartley.

Ms. Hartley explained more about the emergency part of their coordination with driving the buses and transportation. She mentioned that they have a need for more bus drivers.

G. CITIZEN COMMENTS

No citizens were present or on ZOOM.

H. COMMENTS/UPDATES

Mr. DeGeorge with TheBus stated that Friday, May 21st they are doing a free bus ride service for anyone 60 or older for both their fixed route and their ADA transportation. In July, they are beginning their Flamingo Fares, a new payment system for transit use (fixed route system) allowing the rider to pay with a reloadable smart card or smartphone app.

Mr. Allocco asked for volunteers for the next meeting to give presentations on what their agency does. Mr. DeGeorge and Ms. Brunk volunteered.

ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING – The meeting was adjourned at 11:12 a.m.

The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday August 11, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. at Hernando County Building Training Facility, 1661 Blaise Drive, Brooksville, FL. The meeting agenda and back-up materials are available online at:

www.hernandocounty.us/hernandocitrusmpo.