



HERNANDO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD (TDLCB)

Thursday, February 8, 2024

MINUTES

The Hernando County Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board (TDLCB) held a regular quarterly meeting beginning at 2:00 p.m. at the Hernando County Building Training Facility, 1661 Blaise Drive, Brooksville, Florida. The meeting was advertised in the Hernando Sun newspaper and the agenda was available on the Hernando/Citrus MPO website.

MEMBERS PRESENT

John Allocco, Chair, Hernando County Board of County Commissioners
Shanika Figueroa Rodriguez, Vice Chair, Local Representative for Children at Risk
Robert Werts, Veterans Service Officer, Alternate
Tracy Noyes, Florida Department of Transportation
Kevin Bargerstock, Florida Division of Vocational Rehabilitation or Blind Services
Sam Kinard, Representative from the Public Educational Community, Alternate
Gretchen Samter, Person with a Disability
Gerry Whitted, Citizen Advocate – Transit User as Primary Means
Beverly Yates, RATPDev LLC, Transit Contractor of Public Transit System, Alternate
Cara Brunk, Florida Department of Elder Affairs
Ian Martin, Florida Department of Health Care Administration, Alternate
Jeannette Estes, State of Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities
Kathleen Winters, Local Medical Community Representative
John Eberle, Regional Workforce Development Board

MEMBERS ABSENT

Elizabeth Alacci, Florida Department of Children and Family Services
Kathleen Winters, Local Medical Community Representative

OTHERS PRESENT

Robert Esposito, MPO Executive Director
Mary Elwin, MPO Coordinator
Joy Turner, MPO Administrative Assistant III
Miranda Maldonado, Mid Florida Community Services, Community Transportation Coordinator

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

- Vice Chair Allocco called the meeting to order at 2:18 p.m., immediately following the Annual Public Workshop.
- The Pledge of Allegiance and the introductions of Board and staff followed the Invocation.
- A quorum was declared, and the affidavit of publication was read into the record.

ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR FOR 2024

Motion: A motion was made by Mr. Martin to elect Ms. Samter as TDLCB Vice Chair for 2024. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bargerstock and the motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL/MODIFICATION OF AGENDA

Motion: A motion was made by Mr. Martin to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Ms. Rodriguez and the motion passed unanimously.

REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES – NOVEMBER 8, 2023, TDLCB REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Samter to approve the November 8, 2023, Minutes of the TDLCB's regular public meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Martin and the motion passed unanimously.

QUARTERLY REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION COORDINATOR (CTC), Miranda Maldonado, Mid Florida Community Services

The quarterly report was included in the agenda packet and Ms. Maldonado stated the CTC is working with FDOT on submitting the 5310 and 5311 grants to continue service. Ms. Estes asked what the acronym ASAP and NS represented on the report and Ms. Maldonado confirmed ASAP identifies a same day service request and NS is for no show. The months of November and December reflected fewer trips due to the holidays.

ACTION ITEMS

1. ANNUAL REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE TDLCB BYLAWS

Motion: The Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities was omitted in section C.2.b.(15) of the Bylaws. A motion was made by Ms. Estes to amend the TDLCB Bylaws for the agency name. The motion was seconded by Mr. Newell and the motion passed unanimously.

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Rodriguez to approve the updates to the TDLCB Bylaws, as amended. The motion was seconded by Mr. Martin and the motion passed unanimously.

2. ANNUAL REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE TDLCB GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Samter to approve the TDLCB Grievance Procedures and authorize the Chair's signature thereon. The motion was seconded by Mr. Martin and the motion passed unanimously.

3. ELECTION OF GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

After Board discussion the following LCB Board members were nominated as the Grievance Committee for 2024:

1. Shanika Figueroa Rodriguez, member
2. Gretchen Samter, member
3. Kevin Bargerstock, member
4. Jeanette Estes, alternate member

Motion: A motion was made to approve the list of TDLCB Grievance Committee Members and the motion passed unanimously.

Motion: A motion was made to nominate Mr. Bargerstock as the TDLCB Grievance Committee Chair for 2024. The motion was seconded by Ms. Rodriguez. A motion was made by Ms. Samter to nominate Ms. Rodriguez as the Vice Chair. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bargerstock and both motions passed unanimously.

FEATURE PRESENTATION

1. Local Medical Community Representative, Kathleen Winters

Ms. Winters was not in attendance and will present at the May 9, 2024, meeting.

2. Department of Children & Families, Natarra Bradwell, Hope Florida Presentation

Natarra Bradwell gave a feature presentation on Hope Florida - A Pathway to Prosperity, an initiative spearheaded by First Lady Casey DeSantis, which utilizes Hope Navigators to guide Floridians on an individualized path to prosperity and economic self-sufficiency by focusing on community collaboration between the private sector, faith-based community, non-profits, and government entities to break down traditional community silos, maximizing support and uncovering opportunities. Chair Allocco asked if the State of Florida is the primary funding source for Hope Florida. Ms. Bradwell explained there is no funding for Hope Florida as actual services are not provided by Hope Florida but are outsourced to available resources and partners. Ms. Elwin inquired if an organization could join Hope Florida to provide resources

to a specific or local demographic and if there is a limit to how many times an individual is assisted through Hope Florida. Ms. Bradwell confirmed Hope Florida could accommodate directing resources to a specific locality and assistance is evaluated on an individual need to become self-sufficient. Evaluations are conducted every 90-days to ensure the needs of the individual are being met and the individual is actively engaged. Ms. Samter asked what the case load was for Hope Navigators. Ms. Bradwell explained Tier 1 Navigators that work with a crisis-impacted individuals have a case load capacity of 25. Tier 2 Navigators that deal with immediate to short- and long-term barriers have a case load capacity of 50. Ms. Samter inquired if statistical data was available for the number of individuals receiving public assistance in compared to the number of people who have a Hope Navigator. Ms. Bradwell did not have that specific data for the meeting but will send information to Ms. Turner to share with the Board. Chair Allocco thanked Ms. Bradwell for the presentation and for sharing the encouraging statistics on how the initiative is working.

Mr. Graham, Veterans Service Officer, was nominated to present at the May 9, 2024, meeting.

CITIZEN COMMENTS - There were no citizens present.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS – There were no additional board member comments.

ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING

Chair Allocco adjourned the meeting at 3:05 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Hernando County Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board (TDLCB) is scheduled for Thursday, May 9, 2024, beginning at 1:30 p.m., at the Hernando County Building Training Facility, 1661 Blaise Drive, Brooksville, Florida. The meeting agenda and back-up materials are available online at:

www.hernandocounty.us/hernandocitrusmpo.