

**MINUTES OF THE LEE COUNTY LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD
MEETING FOR THE TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED**

Held on December 4, 2015 @ 10:00 am

City of Cape Coral Annex Building, Conference Room A200, 815 Nicholas Pkwy E, Cape Coral, FL

| A Representative of: | Voting Members | Agency | Alternates to Voting Members | Agency |
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| An elected official from the MPO Board to serve as the official Chairpersons. | Rick Williams (Present) | City of Cape Coral | No alternate | |
| A. A local representative of the Florida Department of Transportation (DOT) | Debi Stephens (Present) | FDOT | Richard Shine (Absent) | FDOT |
| B. A local representative of the Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF) | Donna Torres (Absent) | DCF | Nathan Santos (Absent) | DCF |
| C. A local representative of the Public Education Community which could include, but not be limited to, a representative of the District School Board, School Board Transportation Office, or Headstart Program in areas where the School District is responsible | Roger Lloyd (Present) | Lee County School Board | Vacant | |
| D. In areas where they exist, a local representative of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services or the Division of Blind Services, representing the Department of Education | Mary Watford (Absent) | DOE | Flora Gonzalez (Present) | DOE |
| E. A person recommended by the local Veterans Service Office, representing Veterans of the county | Jerry Conway (Absent) | | Frank Greulich (Absent) | |
| F. A person recognized by the Florida Association for Community Action representing the economically disadvantaged | Kim Hustad (Absent) | Lee County Human Services | Robin Jewett (Absent) | |
| G. A person representing the Elderly in the county | Linda Carter (Present) | | (Vacant) | |
| H. A person with a disability representing the disabled in the county | (Vacant) | | (Vacant) | |
| I-1. [One of Two] Citizen Advocates in the County | Michael Pierce (Present) | | (Vacant) | |
| I-2. [One of two] Citizen Advocates this one must be a person who uses the transportation service(s) of the system as their primary means of transportation. | David Lane (Absent) | | (Vacant) | |
| J. A local representative for children at risk | Lorena Rodriguez (Present) | Lee Memorial-Children's Hospital | Mark Tesoro (Absent) | Lee Memorial-Children's Hospital |

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| K. In areas where they exist, the Chairperson or designee of the local Mass Transit or Public Transit Systems Board, except in cases where they are also the Community Transportation Coordinator. | Steve Myers (Absent) | LeeTran | Peter Gajdjis/ Jill Brown (Present) | LeeTran |
| L. A local representative of the Florida Department of Elder Affairs | Vacant | | Vacant | |
| M. An experienced representative of the local private for profit transportation industry. In areas where such representative is not available, a local private non-profit representative will be appointed, except where said representative is also the CTC. | Michael Griffin (Present) | SWFL Transportation | Priscilla Hardaway (Absent) | Creative Resources |
| N. A local representative of the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration | Joe Martinez (Present) | AHCA | Patricia Brooks (Absent) | AHCA |
| O. A representative of the Regional Workforce Development Board established in Chapter 445, <i>Florida Statutes</i> . | Jim Wall (Absent) | Career Source SWFL | Deb Reardon (Present) | Career Source SWFL |
| P. A representative of the local medical community, which may include, but not be limited to, kidney dialysis centers, long term care facilities, hospitals, local health department or other home and community based services, etc. | Heidi Shoriak (Present) | Lee Memorial Health Systems | Vacant | Lee Memorial Health Systems |

Also in attendance: Alan Mandel- Good Wheels, Rosalie Berlin – Citizen, Lee Combs- LeeTran and Don Scott and Brian Raimondo – Lee MPO.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Williams at 10:01am. There was a quorum. The Pledge was recited and introductions were made.

Agenda Item #1 – Approval of the Minutes from the September 4, 2015 Meeting

Motion by Ms. Carter and seconded by Ms. Gonzalez to approve the minutes from the September 4, 2015 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #2 – Public Comments on Items on or not on the Agenda

None

Agenda Item #3 – Election of Vice-Chair

A motion to have Dave Lane continue as the Vice-Chair was made, but after discussion, due to medical conditions, he may not be able to attend future meetings and the motion was removed.

Mr. Martinez made a motion to nominate Mr. Pierce, second by Ms. Carter and approved unanimously.

Agenda Item #4 – Appointment of the Annual CTC Evaluation Committee

Mr. Raimondo mentioned we would do the annual review in January or February and just needed a couple of volunteers to meet at Good Wheels. Ms. Carter and Ms. Reardon volunteered. The day and time of the evaluation would be made outside of the meeting. Ms. Carter discussed some of the details of the evaluation.

Motion by Mr. Pierce and second by Ms. Gonzalez to approve the evaluation committee. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #5 – Amend TD Program Eligibility Criteria

Mr. Raimondo discussed the need to review and adjust the TD program eligibility criteria. He discussed how Collier County uses a different criteria than Lee County. He discussed that their eligibility is riders that cannot have access to the fixed route, cannot have other transportation and need to be under the TD definition. He mentioned the family size and the poverty guidelines that Collier uses. Ms. Gonzalez passed out the 2014 Federal Health and Human Services Poverty Guidelines. She mentioned we would need to update these poverty guidelines now and annually. There was further discussion on how the TD Commission would like the eligibility criteria updated. Mr. Gajdjis questioned what we were trying to change, and Mr. Raimondo said that it was to get the option of higher income per household, because currently Good Wheels can only take riders that have an income that is 200% of the health and human service poverty levels.

Chairman Williams asked LeeTran what are the requirements to use the para-transit vehicles? Mr. Gajdjis said the copay is three dollars and can't go more than twice than what the fixed route would be. Ms. Gonzalez asked if it was income, but Peter said no it is a civil rights and funded by ADA.

Mr. Mandel asked if he had 20 riders that needed dialysis and could only take 10 people, who should he take? He asked for the committee's help to decide who to turn down. Mr. Gajdjis mentioned that this was two different issues, eligibility and the trip hierarchy. I mentioned the trip hierarchy is approved annually, as part of the TDSP, and could be changed by the group when necessary.

Mr. Scott Don mentioned at the last meeting Good Wheels recently had an excess of money, but currently they don't have enough funds to take everyone. Therefore, the discussion in September is entirely different than the one today and why we had this on the agenda.

Chairman Williams asked if LeeTran and Good Wheels could coordinate to assist one another, but Mr. Gajdjis said they have done that in the past, but it isn't easy to do since they are two different funding sources.

Discussion on the local all-day Delegation meetings and to have more people to attend these to promote TD funding.

Chairman Williams suggested not taking action on this right now, and for the committee to review and send the ideas to Mr. Raimondo.

Mr. Martinez said the legislature is meeting in January, and he believes TD funding may increase, but the Chair said he expects it to get cut.

Agenda Item #5a – Endorsement of LeeTran’s USC 5311 Grant for Operating and Capital Assistance

Ms. Stephens said she needs to abstain from this vote since she is the one who reviews the grants for FDOT.

Mr. Gajdjis said Ms. Combs would discuss the 5311 rural grant application for operating assistance. She passed around an urban/rural map. They have three routes that go through rural areas in Lee County. She said the grant is for \$191,643 for operating only. Looking for the LCB to endorse the grant for operating assistance.

Motion by Mr. Pierce and second by Mr. Griffin to endorse. Approved. One abstention.

Agenda Item #6 Program Updates and Distribution Items

Mr. Raimondo discussed the calendar of events and that he would be updating the TDSP to bring back to at either the March or May meeting.

Agenda Item #7 Good Wheel’s Updates and Reports

No report on operator payments.

Mr. Mandel mentioned the Delegation meetings again. Mr. Pierce said any information regarding these meetings would be appreciated.

Mr. Mandel discussed the ridership numbers and said he would quite frankly need double the TD funds.

Mr. Mandel discussed the complaint numbers.

Mr. Mandel said he would be talking to Steve Myers with LeeTran soon about a request from Hendry County to take people from Hendry County to Palm Beach County to meet up with their transit system. They are working on connections from Lee County to Hendry County to make this a longer coordination.

Agenda Item #7 Members Comments

Ms. Carter gave end of year safety briefing.

Mr. Gajdjis said regarding coordination, Ms. Combs put together a spread sheet regarding JARC and New Freedom. He discussed the grants briefly and said they tallied almost \$2 million, Blue Bird, Cape Coral Mini Bus, Good Wheels, Dr Piper, LARC, Life House, Light House, LeeTran etc... all received funding from these grants for transportation services. These programs are no longer getting funds, but have been rolled into the 5310 grants, which Ms. Stephens with FDOT, is part of. Mr. Gajdjis said the County approved \$321,000 to assist with match funds for the 5310 grants.

Mr. Gajdjis said as of November 2015, the premium service started due to the allocation of approx. \$300,000 for trips outside the ¾ mile corridor. Due to the small amount, they are rationing the trips and allow later trip times. The co-pay is \$6 for the premium service.

Mr. Griffin said the van he received in 2009 is still on the road for ADA trips and is available 24 hours a day. It will have close to 200,000 miles now. Ms. Combs said they received another van last year.

Chairman Williams appreciated all the information and said he would just like to see the money used efficiently.

Mr. Griffin said the private industry can help sometimes and can do it for less money.

Mr. Gajdjis said when he provides the Medicaid trips as a subcontractor, he would like Mr. Martinez to provide the Medicaid numbers. Mr. Martinez said he would need to contact each provider for the numbers.

Motion by Ms. Carter and second by Martinez to adjourn at 11:28am. Motion carried.