

**Lee County Transportation Disadvantaged
Local Coordinating Board (LCB)**

**10:00am March 3, 2017
City of Cape Coral Public Works – Room 200
815 Nicholas Pkwy E, Cape Coral FL 33990
239-330-2240**



Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by LCB Chair Jessica Cosden. A quorum was present.

Those LCB members in attendance included:

A Representative of:	Voting Members	Agency	Alternates to Voting Members	Agency
An elected official from the MPO Board to serve as the official Chairpersons.	Jessica Cosden/Chair (Present)	City of Cape Coral	No alternate	City of Cape Coral
A. A local representative of the Florida Department of Transportation (DOT)	Debi Stephens (Present)	FDOT	Pam Barr (Absent)	FDOT
B. A local representative of the Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF)	Donna Torres (Absent)	DCF	Nicole Negron/Vice-Chair (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 (Absent)	Lee County School Board	Gladys Gonzalez (Absent)	
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	Vacant		Vacant	
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 (Absent)		(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 (Absent)		(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.	(Vacant)		(Vacant)	
J. A local representative for children at risk	Lorena Rodriguez (Present)	Lee Memorial-Children's Hospital	Sally Kreuzscher (Absent)	Lee Memorial-Children's Hospital
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 (Present) Jill Brown (Absent)	LeeTran
L. A local representative of the Florida Department of Elder Affairs	Shelby Yelvington (Absent)	Area Agency on Aging	Becky MacKenzie (Present)	Area Agency on Aging
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	Anna Callwood (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> .	Deb Reardon (Absent)	Career Source SWFL	Jim Wall (Absent)	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 (Absent)	Lee Memorial Health Systems	Vacant	Lee Memorial Health Systems

Also in attendance: Alan Mandel- Good Wheels, and Brian Raimondo and Calandra Barraco – Lee MPO.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The members of the committee and others present introduced themselves.

Agenda Item #1 - *Approval of the Minutes from the December 2, 2016 Meeting

The committee suggested two changes to the minutes from the December 2, 2016 meeting. The first change is updating the alternate for FDOT to reflect the correct alternate, Pam Barr. The second

change is updating the alternate for the Area Agency on Aging to reflect the correct alternate, Shelby Yelvington.

A motion to approve the corrected minutes was made by Flora Gonzalez and seconded by Michael Griffin. There were no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #2 - Public Comments on Items on the Agenda or Not on the Agenda

There was no public comment as there were no members of the public present. Public comment was closed.

Agenda Item #3 - *Endorsement of the FTA Grant Applications

Brian Raimondo presented this agenda item to recommend the endorsement of the grants listed below:

- Dr. Piper Center for Social Services, Inc
- Good Wheels Inc
- Lighthouse of SWFL

Peter Gajdjis stated that grant recipients in the past had attended the meeting and given brief explanations of the grants. Brian Raimondo said they will next time and they know they should attend.

Debi Stephens asked that they be put on an invitation list. Brian Raimondo was not sure they are on the email list but he will check. Jessica Cosden agreed that next time they should make sure the grant recipients are invited.

Brian Raimondo suggested that the recipients could give a one page executive summary so we have a description of the grant. Jessica Cosden said a presentation and executive summary would be nice. Debi Stephens added there is currently a one page exhibit B that provides a description.

Jessica Cosden asked for a motion.

Debi Stephens abstained from this vote.

Alan Mandel couldn't make the motion because his company, Good Wheels, was one of the grant recipients. He gave a brief description of the grant stating he requested a large sum of money and it is to cover increasing fuel and insurance costs.

A motion to approve Agenda Item 3 was made by Peter Gajdjis and seconded by Flora Gonzalez. There were no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #4 - *Good Wheels' 2017-18 Rate Model - REMOVED

This agenda item was removed as it was not ready to be presented at this time.

Agenda Item #5 - +TD Rider Eligibility

Brian Raimondo introduced this agenda item to review and comment on the respective documents attached to the agenda packet.

The eligibility section of the TDSP will need to be expanded further to better follow the TD Commission's guidelines. The attachments will assist the LCB and staff in doing so.

The issue is an information item to be brought back at the May meeting for approval. Brian Raimondo will compile the information and work with Alan Mandel to bring to the May meeting to finalize. He is asking for input at this time.

Alan Mandel explained when they were audited by the CTD the issue was it wasn't in writing and now it will be in writing and in TDSP/website. Brian Raimondo added that most of the state, except Sarasota, didn't have it in writing and they could use Sarasota as a model. Alan Mandel further explained that when they were investigated it wasn't who they were taking it was only that it needed to be in writing. Peter Gajdjis said the documentation didn't change but they want to know what was done and if it was checked. Brian Raimondo said they wanted the annual household numbers listed and all numbers aggregated. Alan Mandel clarified that people are turned down due to lack of funding.

Jessica Cosden asked if action was needed. There was no action needed.

Brian Raimondo said that Sarasota may not work exactly for Lee County, but they could change it to fit our situation.

Agenda Item #6 - +Good Wheels' Capacity for APD Trips

Brian Raimondo presented this agenda item to review emails attached to the agenda packet, and discuss with Good Wheels at the meeting to determine if any action is needed.

A recent email correspondence was held between LeeTran and Good Wheels regarding LeeTran capacity to take APD trips. It was recommended by John Irvine, TD Commission, that this issue be brought to the Lee LCB for discussion. The email chain was included in the agenda packet.

Alan Mandel said they have enough vehicles and drivers now, but the issue is funding. No one has been turned down, and they have informed them they will take them once they have funding.

Brian Raimondo explained that APD stands for Agency for Persons with Disabilities.

Alan Mandel said groups are sometimes easier to accommodate than individuals.

Brian Raimondo asked if John Irvine had contacted Alan Mandel. Alan Mandel said he sent an email and that was the end of the discussion. Peter Gajdjis stated they had met and emailed. He also said they had phone calls and kept a log.

Brian Raimondo asked for clarification on the issue and is it capacity or funding. Alan Mandel said it is funding. He also stated they haven't had an increase in at least 10 years. Peter Gajdjis confirmed that statement, and said a higher rate is need for CTC and he requested that from APD. Alan Mandel suggested the LCB send a letter of support for this increase to the APD. Peter Gajdjis explained that Alan Mandel comes up with a rate and the agency is still far below that rate. Flora Gonzalez suggested they may need to go up the chain of command for funding.

Brian Raimondo clarified that it is not a capacity issue, and he can report it was taken care of. If funding is an issue it will have to go back on the agenda separately.

Peter Gajdjis said he will keep working with Alan Mandel and adding names to the log. He doesn't want to be stuck in the middle between APD and CTC.

Brian Raimondo suggested they could draft a letter and put it on the agenda for approval, then, Jessica Cosden could sign and send off.

Agenda Item #7 - Program Updates and Distribution Items

Brian Raimondo presented this agenda item. He discussed the calendar of events for the next few months. He stated the calendar covers through the end of the fiscal year.

Calendar of Upcoming Events for the Lee County Local Coordinating Board	
February 2017	Evaluation Committee meets at Good Wheels to conduct evaluation.
March 2017	Regular Business meeting @ 10:00 AM Cape Coral. Submit 5310 grants for endorsement.
April 2017	Draft minor update of TDSP submitted to Lee County MPO Technical Advisory Committee, Citizen Advisory Committee and Lee County MPO Board for their endorsement.
May 2017	Public Workshop and Regular LCB meeting at 10:00 AM TBD. Planning Agency staff submits TDSP minor update draft and evaluation to LCB for review and approval.
June 2017	June meeting (if necessary). Planning Agency staff submits final approved TDSP to the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged.

Debi Stephens asked about the evaluation done in February and why it isn't on the agenda. Brian Raimondo said it will be included in the May meeting to help keep the meetings/agendas balanced. The evaluation report is now being finalized. He also stated the evaluation went well.

Alan Mandel said he will have the rate model at the May meeting as well. He said the new rates are 50 cents to one dollar higher due to increased fuel and insurance costs.

Brian Raimondo also explained that it wasn't on the agenda since the agenda must go out three weeks prior to the meeting, and at that time the evaluation was not completed.

Agenda Item #8 - Good Wheels Updates and Reports

Alan Mandel presented this agenda item to discuss Good Wheels updates and reports.

- Operator Payments
- Ridership and complaints for November through January

Alan Mandel explained that maintenance on vehicles was a major issue. According to Debi Stephens, the vehicles may be ordered this month. She said the cutaway contract went up for bid and hopefully it will be posted in the next week or two. She added the bids can then be placed by May 15th. Alan Mandel stated this contract has seven vehicles, and they just submitted another contract for seven more. Peter Gajdjis explained that a cutaway vehicle is the standard industry vehicle or bus. Jessica Cosden thanked him for clarifying. Debi Stephens added it is not a large LeeTran bus, it is a paratransit bus.

Alan Mandel continued that insurance is a big expense every month and there are also more trips. He stated he asked for five expansion vehicles to help with Medicaid trips. He added they have grown from 50 to 108 employees.

Debi Stephens commented that on the graphs the Medicaid number is higher so the column should reflect that and it doesn't.

Brian Raimondo commented there is money from the cities. Alan Mandel said the City of Cape Coral and the City of Fort Myers have contributed funds. He also said the county has created partnering for transportation funding and has \$321,000 in their budget for groups with coordinating agreements with Good Wheels to help match. Brian Raimondo asked if it is one time funding and Alan Mandel said it is for two years and hopefully it will be continued.

Peter Gajdjis commented on the Medicaid program trying to find providers in the area. He said the 5310 grants provide vehicles and now there is an operating element with a 50/50 match. Alan Mandel said they don't take all of the trips from Medicaid.

Brian Raimondo spoke on the graphs and he looked up the graphs from years past. He said the trip numbers are higher than in the past. Alan Mandel said the trips don't provide as much money. Debi Stephens asked if break-even is worth doing. Alan Mandel said yes since the call is to provide service to those in need, even at break-even.

Brian Raimondo asked if Uber was incorporated. Alan Mandel said that is a huge mistake. He requested for Good Wheels to have the same requirements as Uber and then Good Wheels would make a fortune. Good Wheels has a higher overhead since they must do background checks, physicals, and training. Uber doesn't have to do any of that for their drivers. Joe Martinez added sensitivity training is important since it was recently in the news. Michael Griffin commented on Logisticare requirements. Alan Mandel said there are even more courses online to certify Good Wheels drivers and Good Wheels drivers are required to complete continuing education as well. There are costs associated with this. The discussion continued briefly on Uber drivers versus Good Wheels drivers and the possibility of Good Wheels being pushed by the TD Commission to use Uber drivers. Alan Mandel said the essential point is Good Wheels has better drivers with training.

Agenda Item #9 - Member Comments

Chair Jessica Cosden asked the committee to think of people to fill the vacant seats on the committee. She would like to see all the seats filled for this committee.

A committee member asked for the next meeting date to be added to the agenda.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

*Action Items *May Require Action

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