

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

**10:00 a.m., March 1, 2019
City of Cape Coral Public Works – Green Room
815 Nicholas Pkwy E, Cape Coral FL 33990
239-330-2240**



Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chair Jessica Cosden.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Members introduced themselves. There was a quorum.

Those 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 Chairperson.	Jessica Cosden (Present)	City of Cape Coral	No alternate	
A. A local representative of the Florida Department of Transportation (DOT)	Kelley Fernandez (Present)	FDOT	(Vacant)	FDOT
B. A local representative of the Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF)	Nicole Negron (Present)	DCF	Bryan DeLaHunt (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	Elaine Romero (Present)	
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	(Vacant)	DOE	(Vacant)	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	Flora Gonzalez (Absent)		(Vacant)	

H. A person with a disability representing the disabled in the county	Christina Ilczyszyn (Absent)		(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.	(Vacant)		(Vacant)	
J. A local representative for children at risk	Brenda Hernandez (Present)	Golisano Children's Hospital	Lorena Rodriguez (Absent)	Lee Health
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.	Carlos Rivera (Absent)	LeeTran	Carlos Menjivar (Present)	LeeTran
L. A local representative of the Florida Department of Elder Affairs	Shelby Yelvington (Absent)	Area Agency on Aging	Becky MacKenzie (Absent)	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	Laura Miller (Absent)	Creative Resources
N. A local representative of the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration	Maribel Perez (Absent)	AHCA	Glenda Gonzalez (Absent)	AHCA
O. A representative of the Regional Workforce Development Board established in Chapter 445, <i>Florida Statutes</i> .	Deb Reardon (Present)	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 Health Systems	Kim Anderson (Present)	Lee Health Systems

Also in attendance: John Irvine with the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged; Alan Mandel with Good Wheels; Brian Raimondo, Don Scott, and Calandra Barraco with the Lee County MPO.

New Business

Agenda Item #1 - *Approval of the Minutes from the November 2, 2018 Meeting

Ms. Nicole Negron made the motion to approve the Meeting Minutes from November 2, 2018. Ms. Kelley Fernandez seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

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

There were no public comments on items on or not on the agenda.

Other Business

Agenda Item #3 - *Endorsement of the FTA Grant Applications for Operating and Capital Assistance

Chair Cosden asked if this item could be endorsed without Mr. Mandel present. Mr. Raimondo replied yes. Mr. Raimondo then presented this agenda item for the endorsement of the FTA Grant Applications for Good Wheels Operating and Capital Assistance. Mr. Raimondo also noted the question is whether it supports the coordinated system in Lee County. He added that since Good Wheels is the CTC – it should. Chair Cosden asked if there was a motion to endorse. Ms. Fernandez noted for the record she was abstaining from the vote.

Mr. Michael Griffin made the motion to endorse the FTA Grant Applications for Operating and Capital Assistance. Ms. Deb Reardon seconded the motion. There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Raimondo noted there was an item, 3c, for the endorsement of other agency grants, but there were no other grant requests submitted.

Agenda Item #4 - *Review and Approval of the Good Wheels' FY 19/20 Rate Model

Chair Cosden introduced this agenda item for the review and approval of Good Wheels Rate Model. Mr. Raimondo explained a rate model was not available from Good Wheels as of yet. He noted that Mr. Mandel had just arrived with Mr. John Irvine. Chair Cosden asked Mr. Mandel if he had a rate model ready to be reviewed. Mr. Mandel said he had just spoken with Mr. Irvine about first sending the rate model to Tallahassee for review and then presenting it to the LCB for approval at the next meeting. Mr. Mandel noted there would be a rate increase as diesel had increased drastically.

Agenda Item #5 - Program Updates and Distribution Items

Mr. Raimondo reviewed the calendar of events including information on the TDSP update. He said he had visited with LeeTran staff to discuss the minor update to the TDSP. Mr. Raimondo said the TDSP update will come back to the LCB in May. Mr. Raimondo also noted there would be LCB meetings on the first Friday of September and the first Friday of November. Chair Cosden asked if there were any questions on the calendar. There were none.

Agenda Item #6 - Good Wheels' Updates and Reports

Mr. Alan Mandel with Good Wheels gave a brief update on Good Wheels including Med Waiver rate increases, Medicaid Broker rate increases, and implementation of new route scheduling software. Ms. Deb Reardon asked the name of the software. Mr. Mandel said it was TripSpark. Mr. Michael Pierce arrived at 10:12 a.m. There was a brief discussion on routes and real-time scheduling. Mr. Mandel also mentioned there were mechanical issues with some of the current vehicles so they are switching van suppliers. Chair Cosden asked if there were any questions on the ridership and complaints tables that were included in the packet. Mr. Raimondo asked Mr. Mandel if he would like to change the format to make it easier for new staff. Chair Cosden asked if a historical comparison could be given. Mr. Mandel said a comparison from this year to the last year could be done. Mr. Raimondo also mentioned that some of the graphical representations are off. Mr. Mandel said he is hoping to receive the same amount of funding as last year and referenced current legislation being brought forward to increase funding. Chair Cosden asked if there were any additional comments. There were none.

Agenda Item #7 - Member Comments

Mr. Raimondo asked for assistance filling up any vacant roster openings. Chair Cosden did not have any comments. She said comments would be taken from each member. Ms. Brenda Hernandez requested assistance with the car seat fitting program as well as donations of car seats. She expects an increase in need. Mr. Michael Griffin said he would like to discuss continuing the program. Ms. Kelley Fernandez discussed grant applications, training opportunities, and triennial reviews. She also mentioned Mr. Steven Felter was no longer with the agency,

and FDOT had recently hired Ms. Dale Hanson as the Transit Projects Coordinator for Sarasota, Manatee, and Collier Counties. She added that Ms. Hanson will be the new FDOT alternate to the LCB. Mr. Michael Pierce commented on issues with accessibility in some of the paratransit vehicles that LeeTran uses. Mr. Mandel said the vehicles that Good Wheels purchases are from a website with an FDOT approved list. There was a brief discussion on the procurement process for paratransit vehicles. Ms. Fernandez noted her office doesn't specify the vehicles, the state does. Mr. John Irvine said at the state level there is a department in Tallahassee that works with vendors to identify vehicles. He said to email him a list of the specific vehicles that are not accessible. Mr. Peirce said he did write a list a year ago and presented it to LeeTran. He asked Mr. Irvine if people with disabilities evaluate the vehicles chosen. Mr. Irvine replied yes. Mr. Irvine clarified that this occurred with LeeTran's Passport vehicles and not with Good Wheels vehicles. Mr. Peirce said yes, and he will send an email if he encounters the vehicles again. Mr. Peirce also commented on the Uber drivers locally that have refused to accommodate riders with service dogs even though there is a Federal law that prohibits this. Mr. Pierce noted that the Uber drivers are also required to sign an agreement to accommodate service dogs, but there are still many that won't. He said that Uber does give a rider credit if this happens as well as suspending the Uber driver. He said that Uber drivers need to be educated as to the Federal law. Ms. Kim Anderson asked for clarification on alternates voting. Mr. Raimondo said that as long the primary member is absent, the alternate has full voting rights. Chair Cosden welcomed Mr. Irvine. Mr. Irvine introduced himself to the LCB and thanked them for their service. He mentioned that Glades and Hendry have been working on a new quarterly report format that Lee County may want to copy. He also commented on an upcoming legislative day on March 20, 2019. He added the budget won't be known until session is over. He said there was a special mobility enhancement grant that was available to CTCs and to apply if there was interest. He also mentioned a new pilot project run through Uzurv for on-demand rides for the transportation disadvantaged in a three county area. He said the project will run February through June, 2019. There was a brief discussion on who could use the service. Ms. Negron asked for more information. Mr. Irvine said he would provide it after the meeting. Mr. Raimondo mentioned an email he received from Lee County staff. He said he would forward it to Mr. Irvine. Mr. Peirce said he would also like information on the pilot project. Mr. Irvine also noted that this cycle the CTCs will be reviewed. He said they will present the results at the September meeting as the review may not be finalized by the May meeting. He also mentioned the conference being held in Orlando from September 15-18, 2019. Chair Cosden thanked Mr. Irvine for attending the meeting. Mr. Scott mentioned current legislation related to regional travel for the transportation disadvantaged. There was a brief discussion on regional travel. Mr. Scott also mentioned the recent Partnering for Transportation meeting, noting that a total of \$325,000 in funding was awarded to Good Wheels, Lighthouse, and Ella Piper.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m. Chair Cosden thanked everyone for attending.

Chair Cosden announced the next meeting would be held on May 3, 2019.

*Action Items

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