

MINUTES
NORTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL ACCESS TO TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
Tuesday, January 11, 2022
Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission Hosted Virtual Meeting

MEETING ATTENDEES: Christel Giesen (ADRC of Brown County)
Kathy Groeschel (ADRC of Calumet County)
Linda Spitzer (ADRC of Sheboygan County)
Nicole Davis-Dawald (ADRC of Winnebago County)
Jeff Agee-Aguayo & Chris Garcia (Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission)
Lisa Conard (Brown County Planning Commission)
Bobbi Craig-Hegna (Center for Independent Living)
Pam Busch (Door County)
Nikki Voight (Door-Tran)
Adam BellCorelli (East Central WI Regional Planning Commission)
Valerie Hoff (Enterprise Holdings)
Essie Fels & Andrea Vlach (Green Bay Metro)
Melissa Annoye (Kewaunee County)
Peggy Zielinski (NEWCAP)
Sandy Popp (Options for Independent Living)
Steve Tomasik & Jim Collins (Oshkosh Go Transit)
Paul Woodward (Running Inc./Brown Cab)
Sarah Schneider (Valley Transit)

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Nick Musson (GWAAR)
Derek Muench (Shoreline Metro)

1. Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions

Jeff Agee-Aguayo called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

2. Agenda Review, Repair and Approval

Moved by Lisa Conard, seconded by Essie Fels, carried without amendments.

3. Review and Approval of October 12, 2021, NEWRATC Meeting Minutes

Moved by Lisa Conard, seconded by Essie Fels, carried without amendments.

4. Public Input – None

5. State and Federal Legislative Updates

Jeff Agee-Aguayo shared that there is a meeting with WisDOT on 1/13/22 regarding local program implications of the recently approved federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

Jim Collins shared that he attended a webinar last week, and that fixed route assistance is not clear yet.

Linda Spitzer shared that she heard that in the FTA Section 5310 program for 2022, WisDOT funded Mobility Management activities at 100%, while Operating activities were funded at 53%.

6. Update on Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT)

Christel Giesen received staff feedback, and their customers have experienced long hold times, calls dropped, and non-wheelchair vehicles arriving when a wheelchair vehicle was requested.

Nikki Voight and Bobbi Craig-Hegna shared that they attended a WAMM virtual meeting with Veyo representatives. The Veyo staff shared with them that they are working to make improvements as quickly as they can and to update the old information that MTM had transferred to them.

7. Committee Member/Program Updates

Nicole Davis-Dawald shared that she is marketing for the new Cabulance service provider.

Jim Collins with Go Transit is working on procurement for four buses in 2022 and a renovation of the transit center. Steve Tomasik shared that all buses now have the Quantum system installed, which allows for non-ambulatory riders to secure their own wheelchairs. Steve Tomasik also shared that 86,979 free rides were given to students in the first year of this service.

Andrea Vlach shared that Green Bay Metro kicked off the LIFT Program (Low Income Fare Trips) this month. Riders self-certify for this program. The micro-transit program continues to increase in ridership each month.

Sarah Schneider from Valley Transit shared that she continues to work on rebranding, and the new logo has been added to all vehicles and bus stops. Valley Transit also started a new partnership with Lawrence University to provide free rides to students who show their student ID. Sarah also shared that Running Inc. is the contractor for the Dial-a-Ride program. There has also been an increase in Afghan refugees; therefore, more travel training has been needed.

Adam BellCorelli shared that East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission is fully staffed at this time. Adam is working on the Regional Comprehensive Plan. RFPs are also out for equity and technical assistance projects.

Valerie Hoff reported that she has 14 vanpools in northeast Wisconsin. A recent partnership with Tyson Foods brought on six more vanpools.

Bobbi Craig-Hegna shared that she is working on their contract with Veyo and getting drivers set up. Prioritizing rides due to a shortage of drivers has been an issue for her organization.

Paul Woodward reported that drivers are needed for Running Inc./Brown Cab.

Lisa Conard shared that the Section 85.21 plan for 2022 was completed and submitted. A portion of funds will be dedicated to the new LIFT Program, with hopes to purchase 200 passes per month.

Nikki Voight shared that 2021 ridership was up from 2020, but was still below 2019 levels. Door-Tran continues to recruit volunteer drivers as well.

Chris Garcia shared that he continues to participate on Sheboygan County's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Transportation Taskforce; Derek Muench is the chairperson of that taskforce.

Jeff Agee-Aguayo shared that he is working on the following:

- Minor amendments to the *2022 – 2025 Sheboygan Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)*, including adding awarded FTA Section 5310 projects to the document.
- Work on the Sheboygan MPO Obligated Project Listing for 2021.
- Finalizing the Sheboygan MPO annual performance indicator report for 2021.
- Finalizing a report on COVID-19 impacts to Shoreline Metro.
- Preparing a report on ridership for the fourth quarter of 2021 for Shoreline Metro's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

Jeff Agee-Aguayo added that the main task for the Bay-Lake RPC's Sheboygan MPO program in 2022 involves updating the long-range transportation plan for the Sheboygan metropolitan planning area, which is due in the spring of 2023.

8. Other – None.

9. Next Meeting Date/Location – Next meeting will be April 12, 2022, at 9:00 a.m., at Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission and/or virtual.

10. Adjournment

Lisa Conard motioned to adjourn at 9:52 a.m., seconded by Nikki Voight, adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Pam Busch, Secretary