

COMMISSION FOR THE TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED

Commission Business Meeting

Florida Commission for the



Transportation
Disadvantaged

Agenda July 28, 2014

Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld
6677 Sea Harbor Drive
Orlando, Florida 32821
2:00 pm

David Darm, Chairman
Mike Willingham, Vice-Chairman
Dane Grey, Commissioner
Marion Hart, Commissioner
Charlotte Temple, Commissioner
Bryan Vaughan, Commissioner
Vacant, Commissioner

Conference Call Number: 888-670-3525
Conference Code: 7993168355

Item #	Agenda Item	Speaker(s)
I	Call to Order	Chairman Darm
II	Pledge of Allegiance	Chairman Darm
III	Welcome from the Chair	Chairman Darm
IV	Introduction of Commissioners/Advisors/Public	Commissioners/Advisors/Others
V	Welcome	John Horan, Seminole County Commissioner & LCB Chair
VI	Welcome from LYNX	Tangee Mobley, Director of Transportation
VII	Commissioner/Advisor Reports	Commissioners/Advisors
VIII	Public Comments (Comments limited to the current agenda items)	Public
Action Items		
IX	Approval of Minutes • May 14, 2014	Chairman Darm

Informational Items

X	Community Transportation of America Association Presentation	Dale Marsico, Executive Director
XI	Medicaid Program Update	Steve Holmes
XII	Executive Director Report	Steve Holmes
XIII	Commissioner/Advisor Comments	Commissioners/Advisors
XIV	Public Comments	Public
XV	Adjournment	Chairman Darm

Next Meeting: December 11, 2014 – Destin

When operating under Florida's Government in the Sunshine Law, the Florida Supreme Court recognizes the importance of public participation in open meetings. The Commission provides that right of access at each public meeting and adheres to Chapter 286.011, Florida Statutes. A comment card for each speaker is required, and this limits public comment to five (5) minutes per speaker.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and Chapter 286.26, Florida Statutes, persons in need of special accommodation to participate in the meeting (including an agenda) shall contact our office, at least 48 hours before the meeting by email at vicki.scheffer@dot.state.fl.us or by the following listed below:

Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged
605 Suwannee Street, MS-49
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450
(850) 410-5703 or (800) 983-2435
(850) 410-5708 (TDD/TTY).

This meeting is subject to change upon the chairman's request.

State of Florida
Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged
Commission Business Meeting

MEETING DATE: July 28, 2014

AGENDA ITEM:

IX. Approval of Minutes

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Commission met on May 14, 2014 in Clearwater Beach.

ATTACHMENTS:

Minutes of the May 14, 2014 Commission Meeting

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECOMMENDATION/MOTION:

Recommend Commission approval of the May 14, 2014 minutes.



Steve Holmes
Executive Director
Date: July 28, 2014

ACTION TAKEN AT MEETING:

MEETING SUMMARY

Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged Commission Business Meeting

Holiday Inn & Suites
521 S. Gulfview Boulevard
Clearwater Beach, Florida 33767

May 14, 2014
9:00 AM

Commissioners Present	Commissioners Absent
Chairman David Darm	Vice-Chairman Willingham
Marion Hart	Dane Grey
Mike Horan	
Charlotte Temple	
Bryan Vaughan	

Advisors Present	Advisors Absent
Beth Kidder	Buddy Cloud
Diane Harris via phone	Kent Carroll
John Rudy for Dennis Latta	Ed Coven

Others Present

Steve Holmes, Karen Somerset, Tom Barnhart, Vicki Cook, Sheri Powers, Robert Craig, Elmer Melendez, Cecile Del Moral, Dan Zeruto, Ed Lehman, Priscilla Clawges, Scott Clark, Kevin Murdy, Angela Bradley, Bud Williams, Rod Wetzal, Edgar Martinez, Lisa Bacot, Chris Snow, Jackie Wright, Marcia Staszko, Sherry Carver, Jay Goodwill, Bryan Funk, Barb Page, Sarah Stroh, Karen Deigl, Dean Allen, Charlene Reedy, Sarah Perch, Howard Vanselow, Nancy Lohr, Nick Cambas, Brad Miller, Connie Conley, Jade Warren, Karen Smith, Bill Hearndon, Kyle Mills, Lisa Rivera, Michele Ogilvie, Ross Silvers, Julia Davis, Claudia Schollenberger, Dana Schultz, Debbie Nelson, Nancy Valenzano, Akiya Valentine, Sophia Rayon, Donna Hersom

Call to Order

Chairman Darm called the meeting to order.

Steve Holmes called the roll. A quorum was present. He noted that Commissioner Grey was going to call in to the meeting as soon as he could, and Vice-Chairman Willingham had an excused absence.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Darm led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Welcome from the Chair

Chairman Darm welcomed everyone and advised that a workshop on the Medicaid Managed Medical Assistance Program (MMA) would be held immediately after the business meeting. He asked those wishing to make a public comment on Medicaid non-emergency medical transportation to wait until the workshop.

Chairman Darm emphasized that as the Commission considers policy decisions to:

- Consider the best interests of the riders.
- Understand the implications of the taxpayers and be due diligence with CTD funds.
- Have an efficient coordinated transportation system.

Introduction of Commissioners/Advisors/Public

Commissioners and Advisors introduced themselves.

Welcome from Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority

Brad Miller, CEO of Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA), the CTC for Pinellas County, welcomed the Commission to Pinellas County and thanked them for providing resources for PSTA services. Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority:

- Operates approximately 200 buses.
- Contracts out paratransit services.
- Provides approximately 45,000 trips per day.
- Uses CTD funds for discount bus passes for low income citizens to transport them to jobs.

The County has a ballot initiative in November for a penny sales tax to improve the public transit system. The sales tax would replace the current funding source which is a property tax.

Mr. Miller introduced Ross Silvers, Mobility Manager for PSTA. Mr. Silvers is responsible for transportation disadvantaged and paratransit programs.

- Pinellas County is the most densely populated county in the state.
- TMS is responsible for the Medicaid non-emergency medical transportation for the County.
- A transportation disadvantaged monthly bus pass costs \$8.25 and a ten nonconsecutive-day pass costs \$5.00 which can be used within a 30 day period.
- Non transportation disadvantaged riders pay \$65.00 for a monthly bus pass and \$45.00 for the ten nonconsecutive-day pass.
- Group trips are provided by the two local ARC organizations and by Neighborly which is a large organization serving seniors. These are life sustaining trips provided at a reasonable price.

Chairman Darm asked Mr. Silvers to give an overview of a Mobility Manager's role. Mr. Silvers stated that mobility management is essentially looking at the person with a disability or other types of transportation limitations and figuring out the best way to get the person where they need to go in a means that works for them. It's a customer-centered approach to transportation.

Commissioner Hart asked Mr. Miller if there was a difference with the property tax versus the sales tax, how would it be applied.

Mr. Miller stated that Pinellas County had a high tourism base and by spreading the tax base over five million people compared to the one million property owners, the total revenue will increase from about \$35 million a year to about \$120 million a year. That revenue will be used for a 65 percent increase in overall bus service, and a future rail connection between the County Job Center and Clearwater, St. Petersburg, and ultimately to Tampa.

Commissioner/Advisor Reports

Beth Kidder, AHCA Advisor, reported that:

- Medicaid is undergoing probably the largest change that it has ever been through.
- Half the counties in the state have been transitioned and it has gone very well.
- The more populated counties will be coming up for transition in the next few months.
- A continuity of care period has been established and contracted with the managed care organizations. For sixty days after the transition in an area, the managed care plans must pay for services provided by the existing providers. For up to 30 days they must pay the rate that was previously being paid. This is to ensure that people continue getting services while they adjust to their new managed care plan and new system.
- Coordinate with the managed care organizations in your area regarding people who have rides scheduled and people with standing orders.
- The CTDFL should be updated within the week to be able to see if a recipient is in or out of managed care; should you trip them or not; or are they someone else's responsibility.
- The managed care organizations are now prepared to schedule trips in advance of the go live date.
- AHCA has an Issues Hub which is a centralized intake for all issues. It's monitored 24/7 and a Medicaid staff person will call the person who sent the issue and get it resolved. AHCA's management team looks at the issues everyday to determine if there is a root cause to the issue. Issues can be reported to the area Medicaid office or online.

At this time, Chairman Darm asked if Commissioner Grey was on the phone. There was no response.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Darm asked if there was a motion to approve the March 13, 2014 minutes.

ACTION TAKEN: Commissioner Hart moved and Commissioner Horan seconded to approve the March 13, 2014 minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

Community Transportation Coordinator Designations

Bay County – Howard Vanselow, West Florida Regional Planning Council, presented.

ACTION TAKEN: Commissioner Hart moved and Commissioner Temple seconded to accept Bay County Board of County Commissioners as the CTC for Bay County. The motion carried unanimously.

Escambia County – Howard Vanselow, West Florida Regional Planning Council, presented.

ACTION TAKEN: Commissioner Vaughan moved and Commissioner Hart seconded to accept Escambia County Board of County Commissioners as the CTC for Escambia County. The motion carried unanimously.

Santa Rosa County - Howard Vanselow, West Florida Regional Planning Council, presented.

ACTION TAKEN: Commissioner Vaughan moved and Commissioner Hart seconded to accept Pensacola Bay Transportation as the CTC for Santa Rosa County. The motion carried unanimously.

Flagler County – Ed Lehman, Northeast Florida Regional Planning Council, presented.

ACTION TAKEN: Commissioner Horan moved and Commissioner Temple seconded to accept Flagler County Board of County Commissioners as the CTC for Flagler County. The motion carried unanimously.

Levy County - No one responded to present. Action was deferred until later during the meeting.

Monroe County – Cristina Tuero, Health Council of South Florida, presented.

ACTION TAKEN: Commissioner Hart moved and Commissioner Horan seconded to accept Guidance Care Clinic, Inc., as the CTC for Monroe County. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments

Chairman Darm asked if there were any public comments on the agenda action items. There were none.

Correspondence from Florida CTC's and STP's regarding MMA Program

Steve Holmes stated that a letter was received from some of the CTC's and STP's expressing concerns with Medicaid rates, eligibility, and contact information. It also stated their concerns about the impact of managed care on the system and focuses on the rural areas. Mr. Holmes thanked the CTC's involved for getting together and letting the Commission know what their issues are.

- The rates are being provided by regions and not by county.
 - AHCA may be looking at providing rates at the county level in the future. By using rates at the region level, the smaller counties' estimates are higher than reality and the larger counties' estimates are lower than reality. The Commission and AHCA have been working on the rates.
 - For future rates, project managers are diligently looking at encounter data submitted at the end of the month to ensure the information is accurately portrayed.
- The issue of determining eligibility should be resolved with the CTDFL update.
- CTD staff has sent out emails to the providers that contain more contact information for the HMO's and brokers.
- The impact of managed care transportation brokers onto the overall coordinated system only serves to add costs, reduce coordination, and disrupt the funding base.
 - The logic is very sound in the letter, but the decision was made by the 2011 Legislature to have transportation brokers for the Managed Medical Assistance organizations.
- Transportation brokers operate at the urban level in Florida. Therefore, some of the algorithms being used for scheduling are probably based more on an urban area and may not easily translate to rural. Some of the rural CTC's are dependent on multi-loading and working with doctors to bring in a number of riders through different funding sources. The movement to the managed care has reduced the efficiency and increased the costs in the rural areas.

At this time Mr. Holmes gave an overview of how Non-Emergency Medicaid Transportation became a part of the coordinated transportation system, and how the Medicaid transition has affected the system and the CTC's.

Mr. Holmes stated that as the Commission moves forward, we need to decide if we're becoming more of a Medicaid contract office vs. a coordinated transportation system office. Staff's efforts are almost exclusively focused on Medicaid, Medicaid contracts, and emergency contracts. What the state is paying us to do from a coordination transportation standpoint is not being done as we would like it to occur.

Chairman Darm stated that the Commission has been the facilitator of coordinated transportation for over 30 years and we need to decide where to go in the future.

- There are Medicaid beneficiaries that we are potentially responsible for providing transportation services unless we figure out a better way to oversee those services.
- The Commission is to oversee coordinated transportation, not to just process the Medicaid contract.

- More information needs to be provided to help the Commission make a decision regarding the Medicaid population we're to continue providing transportation for.
- The CTD Annual Conference is designed to be a training workshop for best practices and strategies to move our system into the future.
- We have to continue to give direction to the coordinated system to improve the lives of the individuals we serve and not just the medical sense, but in employment, education, and adding quality of life.
- A reassessment on what to do with the Medicaid contract should be made in the near future.

Steve Holmes stated that the Commission has to focus not only on providing transportation services to the people, but has a responsibility to make sure the CTC's receive adequate funding to provide the service. If the Commission isn't the most efficient and effective organization to do this, then, as a Governor's agency, we need to say there's a better model. He stated that a number of CTC's had notified the Commission they weren't able to move forward and have given a 90-day notice, and more were expected soon. If the Commission and AHCA aren't able to work out the numbers soon, it's going to be a challenge to continue with the Medicaid contract.

Beth Kidder stated that the Commission and Medicaid were able to align their two missions the past ten years, but the Legislature has mandated changes to Medicaid.

At this time a discussion ensued regarding the imperfect encounter data being used to determine the Medicaid rates.

Chairman Darm stated that defining "coordination" needed to be discussed at the CTD Annual Conference. It's going to take all the agencies that are part of funding the coordinated system (APD, DCF, Voc Rehab, Elder Affairs, etc.) to decide how to continue with our success and adapt to the challenges of serving individuals in the 21st Century.

Mr. Holmes relayed that the Commission's Medicaid contract was up for renewal on September 1, 2014. After all the options have been discussed and if it's determined that the Commission is not the right organization to contract with, AHCA needs to be notified timely so they can get someone else.

Chairman Darm asked if there were any comments from any other Commissioners.

Commissioner Vaughan stated that the CTD was one of a few boards that actually had members who rely on the coordinated system. He has heard that people who rely on the system are concerned if they will be able to continue to get back and forth from work.

Commissioner Temple gave a brief overview of how transportation assets are disappearing into private entities and won't be available in an emergency.

At this time the CTC designation for Levy County was presented.

Levy County – Connie Conley, Director of Levy County Transit, presented on behalf of Lauren Yeatter, Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council.

ACTION TAKEN: Commissioner Temple moved and Commissioner Hart seconded to accept Levy County Board of County Commissioners (Levy County Transit) as the CTC for Levy County. The motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Commission's budget for FY 14/15 was approved by the 2014 Legislature. We had an increase in revenue in the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund this year of approximately \$2.5 million.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Julia Davis stated that many counties are making their decisions about whether to continue to provide Medicaid transportation. She requested that the Commission get data to the transportation providers as soon as possible so they won't have to lay off employees or get rid of resources to downsize.

Dean Allen with Bluebird Transportation said his public comment could wait until the workshop on the Medicaid Managed Medical Assistance Program.

Commissioner/Advisor Comments

Commissioner Vaughan would like the Commission to take a look at emergency transportation for evacuation purposes.

Adjournment

Chairman Darm asked if there was a motion to adjourn the meeting.

ACTION TAKEN: Commissioner Hart moved and Commissioner Temple seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

NEXT MEETING: July 28 in Orlando