

**Human Services Transportation Plan Steering Committee Meeting**  
**Wednesday, April 25, 2012 – 12:00 PM**  
TCRPC Offices, 211 Fulton, Suite 207, Peoria, IL  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Welcome & Introductions**

Jill Goforth called the meeting to order a 12:03 p.m.

**Roll Call:**       Present                       Not Present

**Rural Area Subcommittee**

- Debbie Daykin**, Marshall-Stark Transportation
- Dean Grimm**, Tazewell County Board
- Terry Hillegonds**, Tazewell County Board
- Tom Howes**, Stark County Board
- Rex Lewis**, Fulton County Rural Transit (shared seat)
- Barb Long**, Fulton County Rural Transit (shared seat)
- Mary Patton**, AARP, Peoria County
- James Thompson**, Woodford County
- Kraig McCluskie**, Galesburg Transit
- Margaret Bent**, VNA Community Services
- John Hamann**, Rural Peoria County Link  
(Open, Fulton County)  
(Open, Marshall County)  
(Open, Marshall County)  
(Open, Woodford County)

**Urbanized Area Subcommittee**

- Sandi Eberle**, PARC
- Ty Livingston**, City of East Peoria
- Renée Razo**, Central Illinois Agency on Aging
- Connie Schiele**, paratransit user
- John Williams**, Greater Peoria Mass Transit District (shared seat)
- John Stokowski**, Greater Peoria Mass Transit District (shared seat)
- Joe Alexander**, Greater Peoria Mass Transit District (shared seat)
- Shirley Wells**, Advocates for Access (Jodi Alwan came in her place)  
(Open seat to replace Mabel Van Dusen)

**Others present**

- Maggie Martino, TCRPC
- Jill Goforth, TCRPC
- Greg Cassidy, TCRC
- Dedra Mannon, Galesburg Handivan
- Susan Lindsay, KCCDD

### **Approval of the March 21, 2012 Minutes**

Mary Patton made a motion to approve the minutes, with a second from Connie Schiele. The motion was unanimously approved with a voice vote.

### **Provider and Agency Updates**

Because the committee just met last month, we did not go around the table to ask for updates. However, the floor was opened for anyone who had anything to share. John Stokowski stated that Peoria County's ridership is really taking off since its new provider came on board April 1, 2012.

### **Approval and Discussion of CVP Applications**

Jill Goforth led the discussion on the CVP applications. Region 5 received seven applications. Each was summarized and then voted on for endorsement.

#### *City of Galesburg*

The City of Galesburg requested two medium duty vehicles to replace two vehicles that have reached the mileage criteria for replacement. Dedra Mannon of Galesburg Handivan noted that the mileage on these two vehicles may seem low; however, the stopping and starting required for city driving is very hard on vehicles. The committee unanimously voted to endorse the City of Galesburg's request.

#### *Fulton County Rural Transit*

Fulton County Rural Transit requested one super medium duty vehicle to expand their service capabilities and one medium duty vehicle to replace a vehicle that exceeds the mileage criteria. Barb Long and Rex Lewis stated that an additional vehicle is necessary in order to accommodate the large population of individuals in wheelchairs in Fulton County. The committee unanimously voted to endorse Fulton County Rural Transit's application.

#### *KCCDD*

KCCDD, Inc. requested two medium duty vehicles to expand their service capabilities. Susan Lindsay explained that their transportation capabilities are currently under strain. Additional vehicles are necessary for getting KCCDD clients to day programs/training on time. The committee unanimously voted to endorse KCCDD's application.

#### *PARC*

PARC requested three minivans to replace three vehicles that have met the mileage criteria for replacement. Sandi Eberle explained that these vehicles are in very bad shape, and are needed in order to provide transportation service to clients at times when public transportation is not available. The committee unanimously voted to endorse PARC's application.

#### *Peoria County*

Peoria County requested four medium duty vehicles to replace four vehicles that have met the mileage criteria for replacement. John Hamann explained that CountyLink's ridership has increased greatly in the past few months. In addition to needing these four replacement vehicles, he will need additional vehicles in order to provide service for CAT employees and ICC students (this project was outlined in Peoria County's JARC application). The committee unanimously voted to endorse Peoria County's application.

#### *Tazewell County Resource Center*

Tazewell County Resource Center requested one light duty vehicle to replace a vehicle that had met the mileage criteria for replacement. Greg Cassidy explained that this vehicle is used to transport clients to

medical appointments and various recreational activities throughout the week. The committee unanimously voted to endorse TCRC's application.

### *Woodford County*

Woodford County requested two medium duty vehicles to replace two vehicles that have reached the mileage criteria for replacement. Jim Thompson was not present at the meeting to give additional comments on his application; however, the committee had no concerns with it. The application was unanimously approved.

### **Other**

Jill Goforth gave a brief report from the RTAC Spring Conference which took place in early April. She stated that agencies are able to apply for DOAP funds in advance, and should take advantage of this because the state generally pays DOAP on a first come, first serve basis. Additionally, there had been a delay in getting DOAP funding to agencies, but everyone should have received their money by now.

Ms. Goforth also reported that Nicole George of IDOT is administering a Transit Planning Study. Ms. George is in the process of forming several focus groups with the goal of enhancing the HSTP process. Ms. Goforth invited those interested in participating to get in touch with her after the meeting.

Ms. Goforth asked the committee if anyone had any other comments about the RTAC conference. The following concerns and suggestions were brought up:

- Debbie Daykin stated that it would be helpful if the conference were condensed into two days in order to cut down on travel expenses.
- Dedra Mannon stated that as a new paratransit provider, she would have liked to have more time to discuss ADA rules and regulations. The 45 minute presentation didn't allow time for sufficient information to be shared or for enough discussion to take place.
- Several individuals made the suggestion to have multiple sessions going on at once. This would allow folks to choose topics that are applicable to their agency. Additionally, this would allow for smaller groups and more discussion-based sessions. It would be helpful for the less experienced to learn from the more experienced.
- Rex Lewis stated that the session on budgeting was really good.
- Multiple agencies stated that the timing of the conference could have been better. It came at the same time that 5311 applications were due, and for our region, CVP applications were also due.

Ms. Goforth stated that she would relay these comments to RTAC.

Ms. Goforth stated that the HSTP plan update is due in mid-June; therefore a meeting needs to take place in early June to endorse the plan. The committee decided on a meeting date of Wednesday, June, 6 at noon at TCRPC.

Ms. Goforth opened the floor for other comments and concerns. John Williams brought up the fact that there is a lack of service in Creve Coeur. Transportation is wanted and needed in this area; however, Creve Coeur is not part of the Mass Transit District. Creve Coeur has a very limited budget, and it is unlikely that their local government could even provide a match to New Freedom funds for paratransit service. Many individuals representing agencies stated that the lack of transit in this area has made it difficult- if not impossible- for some of their clients to access their services. The committee decided that this should be a goal in our HSTP plan. The first steps in addressing this issue will be to invite

stakeholders from Creve Coeur, as well as Marquette Heights, Washington and Morton to our next HSTP meeting in order to start a discussion with them to see what their level of interest/awareness is of this issue. Additionally, Ms. Goforth will be contacting stakeholders in the Quad Cities, Rockford, Champaign, Springfield and Bloomington-Normal to see how these urbanized areas have addressed similar issues.

### **Adjourn**

Jill Goforth made a motion to adjourn at 12:53 p.m.

—Submitted by Jill Goforth