



Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board (TDLCB) Meeting

Marion County Public Library Meeting Room C

2720 E. Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala, FL 34470

Cisco WebEx

March 18, 2021

10:00 AM

MINUTES

Members Present:

Michelle Stone

Jeffrey Askew (*joined at 10:05am via WebEx*)

Tamyika Young (*via WebEx*)

Mark Mulligan (*via WebEx on behalf of Susan Hanley*)

Carlos Colon (*via WebEx*)

Tracey Alesiani (*via WebEx*)

Andrea Melvin

Anissa Pieriboni (*via WebEx*)

Members Not Present:

Charmaine Anderson

Tracey Sapp

Iris Pozo

Carissa Hutchinson

Steven Neal

Jeff Aboumrad

James Haynes

Others Present:

Rob Balmes, TPO
Shakayla Irby, TPO
Elizabeth Mitchell, TPO
Tom Wilder, Marion Transit
Karen Williams, Marion Transit
Herman Schulz, Marion Transit
Ken McKelvy, Marion Transit

Item 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairwoman Stone called the meeting to order at 10:00am. Secretary Shakayla Irby called the roll and a quorum was present.

Item 2. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairwoman Stone lead the board members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item 3. Proof of Publication

Secretary Shakayla Irby stated that the meeting had been published March 11, 2021 online on the TPO website and Facebook and Twitter pages, the City of Ocala, Belleview, and Dunnellon websites. The meeting was also published to the March 12, 2021 edition of the Star Banner.

Item 4A. Presentation: Ms. Tameka Young- Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) presentation on Medicaid

Ms. Young gave the presentation and said that Medicaid was a medical assistance program that provided health coverage to low-income families and individuals. That included children, parents, pregnant women, seniors and people with disabilities.

Ms. Young explained the key components

- Department of Children and Families- Determines Medicaid eligibility through the ACCESS program
- Social Security Administration- Determines eligibility through the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program
- Agency for Health Care Administration- Agency for Health Care Administration is the State agency that manages the Florida Medicaid Program
- Gainwell Technologies- The fiscal agent for Medicaid
 - Manages Florida Medicaid Management Information System (FMMIS)
 - Process Medicaid claims for fee-for-service providers and services

- Assist with billing questions & provider enrollment

Ms. Young explained the Richest Benefit Package

- SMMC plans offered many extra benefits (“expanded benefits”) to their enrollees at no cost to the state.
- Examples:
 - MMA planned to offer extra adult preventive services, substance abuse and mental health treatment, alternative pain management services.
 - LTC planned to offer support for caregivers and extra help transitioning from nursing homes to the community.
 - Dental planned to offer adult preventive and restorative dental services and extra assistance for enrollees with special needs.

Ms. Young also explained Medicaid Transportation Services

- Medicaid covered non-emergency transportation services for Medicaid eligible recipients.
- Medicaid covered medically necessary emergency ground or air ambulance transportation.
- Medicaid transportation was covered by all health plans serving Medicaid enrollees.
- Individuals enrolled in a health plan should contact their plan for transportation assistance.
- Individuals not enrolled in a health plan should contact our Medicaid Helpline at 1-877-254-1055 for transportation assistance.

To file a complaint

If there was a complaint about a transportation trip, the transportation provider should be contacted first.

If the transportation provider is not able to resolve the problem, a complaint can be filed:

Via the online complaint form at <http://ahca.myflorida.com/Medicaid/complaints/index.shtml> or

Contact a Medicaid representative by phone toll-free at 1-877-254-1055

Ms. Young concluded her presentation by supplying the board with the following resource information:

- Agency website <http://ahca.myflorida.com/Medicaid>
- Provider alerts

*Emails sent to your mailbox when Medicaid policy clarifications or other health care information is available

*Sign up online at <http://ahca.myflorida.com/Medicaid/alerts/alerts.shtml>

- Agency webinars

Item 5A. Public Workshop

Ms. Stone said that the upcoming June 17, 2021 TDLCB meeting would require a Public Workshop and asked if any of the board members had suggestions on what to discuss.

Board members inquired about upcoming changes in the SunTran bus routes and offered that the route changes be a discussion item for the Public Workshop.

Item 6A. Approval of Bylaws

Ms. Mitchell said that it was incumbent upon TPO staff to regularly review and/or amend the TDLCB bylaws to remain concurrent with State of Florida regulations and code as they related to the operations of the local Community Transportation Coordinator and the Florida CTD. TPO staff had reviewed the TDLCB bylaws and made adjustments to the language. Staff respectfully requested the TDLCB Board review and recommend any changes or approval to the said bylaws.

Ms. Mitchell provided a copy of bylaws with the tracked changes to the board.

All elements included in the TDLCB bylaws were pursuant to Chapter 427 Florida Statutes(FS); Rule 41-2, Florida Administrative Code (FAC); and subsequent laws setting forth requirements for the coordination of transportation services to the TD.

Mr. Colon made a motion to approve the Bylaws. Mr. Askew seconded, and the motion was passed unanimously.

Item 6B. Approval of CTC Review and Evaluation

Ms. Mitchell presented and said pursuant to Chapter 427 Florida Statutes 427.015(2), the performance of the Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC) had to be evaluated annually based on the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged's (CTD) approved evaluation criteria.

TPO staff conducted the evaluation during the month of January and February. The evaluation included an analysis of all relevant elements within the operations of Marion Transit Services. Examples included:

- Policies & Procedures

- Vehicle Operations & Maintenance
- Grievance Procedures
- Budget
- Contracts and Contract Management
- Driver Certification & Training
- Performance Standards
- Safety Standards
- Quality Assurance

Ms. Mitchell provided a brief and summarized slideshow presentation of the results of the evaluation.

The CTC Evaluation is was submitted to the Board for review and approval.

Ms. Melvin made a motion to approve the CTC Review and Evaluation. Mr. Colon seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 7. Consent Agenda

Mr. Colon made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Ms. Melvin seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 8. Comments by TDLCB Board Members

Mr. Askew complimented TPO staff on the detailed CTC Review Report.

Mr. Mulligan attended on behalf of Susan Hanley and complimented Marion Transit on great rider and driver reviews of Marion Transit.

Mr. Colon thanked Marion Transit for a job well done on reviews and said that Marion Transit it always compliant and does a great job.

Ms. Melvin complimented Marion Transit for great reviews.

The Centers for Independent Living in conjunction with the Department of Health were providing vaccines for individuals with disabilities. Individuals could come to the office or someone could come to the home. Kevin was the contact at 352-368-3788 ext. 1017.

Ms. Stone said that Marion County through the Community Services Department received 10.8 million dollars to help the community with assistance for rent only for individuals who had been affected by Covid-19 and has a need for help with rent and utilities. Funds would be available beginning April 1, 2021.

Item 9. Comments by TPO Staff

Ms. Mitchell said that TPO Annual Report had been completed for 2020 and provided the board with the State of the TPO Report.

Mr. Balmes told the board that he would be making contact with Steven Neal for timeline of route changes and would invite him to meet with the TDLCB board.

Item 10. Comments by Transportation Coordinator (CTC)

Mr. Wilder provided the board with a Marion Transit CTC Report that noted a 26% decrease in trips from 2019 vs. 2020, a Snapshot of Weekly Trips by Appointment Times, and also some highlights of Marion Transit. A file copy of the report was provided.

Mr. Wilder also mentioned “Transportation Awareness Day” it was being held virtually on March 29, 2021 from 1:30pm to 3:00pm via ZOOM.

Item 11. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Item 12. Adjournment

Chairwoman Stone adjourned the meeting at 11:10am.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Shakayla Irby, TPO Administrative Assistant