



Nassau County Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board Quarterly Meeting

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Northeast Florida
Regional Council
Brian D. Teeple, Executive Director

Nassau County Commission
Hon. Marianne Marshall, Chair

State of Florida Transportation
Disadvantaged Commission
Peter Gianino, Chairman

MINUTES

The quarterly meeting of the Nassau County Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board was held on Thursday, May 20, 2004, at 2 p.m. at the Betty P. Cook Center of the Nassau County Campus of FCCJ, 760 William Burgess Blvd., Yulee, Florida. Chairman Marshall called the meeting to order at 2:15 p.m. with the following members present:

Comm. Marianne Marshall
Ed Dews
DeWeece Ogden

Others: Steve Arseneau of Nassau County COA; and Others

Staff present: Stephen Jones and Jeanie Palmer of the NEFRC

Because no quorum was present, the meeting was conducted as a workshop.

Announcements

LCB Member Resignations – Mr. Jones announced the resignation of Mr. Marc Wichman of the Department of Children and Families (DCF). Being on the Board since 1990, Mr. Wichman is the longest running Board member in the entire region. In recognition of his departure, Mr. Jones prepared a Certificate of Appreciation and asked for the Chair's signature.

Since Mr. Wichman was vice chair of the Board, it will need to reappoint a new vice chair. Due to lack of a quorum, appointment of a new vice chair was referred until the next meeting.

Additions, Deletions, Changes to the Agenda

There were no additions deletions, or changes to the agenda.

*Approval of Minutes

Because there was no quorum present, approval of the meeting minutes of February 26, 2004, was deferred to the next meeting.

Northeast Florida Regional Council Update

Update on Medicaid Funding Crisis and Recent CTD Actions

- Medicaid Non-Emergency Transportation RFP – Mr. Jones said the TD Commission has still not signed the Medicaid RFP. The original contract was due to start July 1, but that date was pushed back to August 1, and possibly September 1. In the packet is a list of funding allocations that was recently sent out by the Commission recommending an 11.88% reduction across the board statewide in Medicaid non-emergency funding. At the Medicaid Sub-committee yesterday, there was much discussion regarding how to split the \$66 million in the Medicaid contract.

One item discussed at the meeting was a proposal put together by the Suwannee River Economic Council that was an analysis done based on the \$66 million and the number of Medicaid recipients in each county in Florida as reported by Medicaid. They took the total Medicaid dollars (\$66 million) and divided by the total recipients in the counties and came up with an equal cost per Medicaid recipient of \$32.08. Mr. Jones stressed this proposal is for information only to this Board; no action is required. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding why this proposal was flawed.

- Medicaid Non-Emergency Transportation Program Monitoring – Mr. Jones brought attention to the draft evaluation workbook in the packet, which is the proposed monitoring component of the contract if the Commission signs on it. He reported that the planning agencies around the State have been given first-right-of-refusal to do the Medicaid monitoring, and the Commission is offering \$2,000 per county. The agencies are going to try to incorporate the monitoring of this Medicaid program into the monitoring that already occurs in the TD program, and hopefully the evaluations as well. Mr. Jones said he was going to recommend to the Regional Council to accept the Medicaid monitoring contract for its six counties.
- 2004 TD Conference - Mr. Jones said the 12th Annual Transportation Training and Technology Conference will be July 26-28 in Orlando. He asked members to let him know if they were interested in going because he might be able to help with the registration fees. Commissioner Marshall said she really would like to go, and she also wants Mr. Arseneau to go.

Federal/State Legislative Issues

- TEA-21 Authorization Update – Mr. Jones stated that TEA-21 is still stalled in Congress. The extension is going to expire in June, but he heard that they might do another extension, which should last until after the election.

Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC) System Update

Quarterly Non-Sponsored Trip Report – Mr. Arseneau said the report is about the same, with the trips being a little higher this quarter. The report included some YMCA trips and some Elder Hostel trips that they did this time. Medicaid trips were down, and a lot more TD trips are being done. Mr. Jones asked Mr. Arseneau to track the number of stretcher trips authorized. Mr. Arseneau said the two road calls were for two flat tires.

Service Development Project Update – Mr. Arseneau said they were scheduled to meet with the consultants for some time in June to discuss expense breakdowns for the service development project.

Mr. Arseneau stated there is a possibility of obtaining funds from a Choice Ride program, with JTA. Mr. Jones explained the program. He said that he and Mr. Arseneau will meet on June 26 with Darryl Smith, service planning manager for JTA/Choice Ride, to talk about the program. Mr. Jones invited Commissioner Marshall to attend the meeting. He added that this program can help dilute revenue away from a single entity such as Medicaid.

Mr. Jones said this Board is charged with hearing grievances as part of the service plan. Discussion ensued regarding the grievance procedures.

Old Business

Update on Rider Brochure – Mr. Arseneau said they are still using their old Rider Brochure because of all the changes that are going to be taking place.

New Business

Regional Driver Salary Comparison – Mr. Jones included in the packet a grid showing driver rates for the six counties.

Member and Department Reports

Update on FDOT 5310/5311 Grant Application Reviews – FDOT was not present at the meeting.

Public Comment

There were no Public Comments.

Next Meeting Date

The next scheduled meeting was set for **Thursday, August 19, 2004, at 2 p.m.**, at the Betty P. Cook Center of the Nassau County FCCJ Campus, 760 William Burgess Blvd., Yulee, Florida.

Adjournment

There being no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.