

## **TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD**

The Indian River County (IRC) Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board (TDLCB) met at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 23, 2006 in the First Floor Conference Room "A", County Administration Building, 1840 25th Street, Vero Beach, Florida.

Present were Chairman Sandra Bowden, IRC Commissioner; Joel Herman, Alternate for Vice Chairman Ronald Tesnow, Florida Department of Veteran's Affairs Representative; Pearlie Clark, Florida Department of Children and Families (FDC&F) Representative; Cathy Viggiano, Florida Department of Labor and Employment Security (FDLES) Representative; Dr. Harry Hurst and Jim Granse, Citizen Advocate Representatives; Tom Buchanan, Elderly Representative; Kathleen "Cookie" Geyer, Public Education Community Representative (10:01 a.m.); William Lundy Parden, Handicapped Representative; Ginna O'Connor, Florida Department of Elder Affairs (FDEA) Representative and Barbara Patten, Florida Association of Community Action (FACA) Representative (10:02 a.m.).

Absent were Corine Williams, State of Florida Department of Transportation (DOT) Representative and Cindy Barnes, Florida Agency for Health Care Administration (FAHCA) Representative (both excused).

Let the record show, at this time there are no Representatives of the State Coordinating Council of Early Childhood Services (CCECS), the Private Transportation Industry, or the Mass/Public Transit Industry.

Also present were IRC staff: Phil Matson, Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Staff Director; Sutapa Chatterjee, MPO Transportation Planner; Beth Knight, MPO Staff Assistant III and Reta Smith, Assistant to the Executive Aide. Others present were Karen Wood, Council on Aging (COA)/Community Coach and April Hargett, IRC Volunteer Ambulance Squad.

### **Call to Order**

Chairman Bowden called the meeting to order.

### **Approval of Minutes of the November 17, 2005 Meeting**

Dr. Hurst pointed out on page six the adjournment time was listed as 10:53 p.m. instead of 10:53 a.m.

**ON MOTION BY Dr. Hurst, SECONDED BY Mr. Granse, the Board voted unanimously (9-0) to approve the minutes of November 17, 2005 as amended.**

**TDLCB Chairman's Report – Chairman Sandra Bowden**

Chairman Bowden noted there were two new members present today. She introduced Ginna O'Connor, Program Manager of the Treasure Coast Area Agency on Aging as the FDEA Representative replacing Bonnie Roberts; and Pearlie Clark, representing the FDC&F and replacing Ronald Delevan.

**Planning Status Report – Phil Matson, IRC MPO Staff Director**

Mr. Matson gave a PowerPoint presentation of his Planning Status report, a copy of which is on file in the Commission office. He related an initial work order had gone out for design of a Transit Center at the Gifford Health Center, which was being paid for by a grant from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). He indicated this would include a transit transfer and staging area, relocated entrance for future expansion and 16 new parking spaces. He pointed out the planned improvements on a map included in his presentation.

Mr. Matson advised the MPO got reviewed as a Planning Agency every three years by the Commission for Transportation (CTD) and this year had passed it with flying colors. He introduced Sutapa Chatterjee, the County's new MPO Transportation Planner.

**Election of Vice Chairman and Confirmation of Yearly Calendar of Meetings**

Chairman Bowden stated Mr. Tesnow was not present today, but he had told her he would be happy to continue on as TDLCB Vice Chairman if the members wished.

**ON MOTION BY Dr. Hurst, SECONDED BY Ms. Patten, the Board voted unanimously (11-0) to re-elect Ron Tesnow as Vice Chairman of the Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board for 2006.**

A calendar showing the meeting dates for 2006 was included in the backup.

**Designation of the Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC) Evaluation Subcommittee – Phil Matson, MPO Staff Director**

Mr. Matson referred to his memorandum dated February 6, 2006, a copy of which is on file in the Commission office. He related Corine Williams of FDOT was on last year's Subcommittee, and even though she was not present today he felt sure she would be interested in serving again. He added the rest of last year's members were Dr. Harry Hurst, Cookie Geyer and Cathy Viggiano, and opened up the floor for volunteers to the CTC Evaluation Subcommittee, with the tentative addition of Corine Williams.

Mrs. Geyer advised she would be retiring in January, 2007. Mr. Matson stated the Subcommittee met in August, 2006 and reported in November, 2006 so she would still be on the Board at that time. Dr. Hurst stated he would serve, but recommended recruiting one or two new people so when those who had done it for a number of years moved on there would be some continuity. Ms. Viggiano stated she would be willing to serve again on the Subcommittee.

**Review of Progress Report and Reimbursement Invoice #4 for the 2004 and 2005 Planning Grant – Phil Matson, MPO Staff Director**

Mr. Matson related each quarter staff put together a Progress Report and invoice for the Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) planning grant, a copy of which is on file in the Commission office.

**ON MOTION BY Dr. Hurst, SECONDED BY Mrs. Geyer, the Committee voted unanimously (11-0) to approve the Progress Report and Reimbursement Invoice #4 in the amount of \$1,216.47.**

**Community Transportation Coordinator Status Report – Karen Wood, Transportation Director, Council on Aging (COA)**

Mrs. Wood reviewed her report, a copy of which is on file in the Commission office. She stated the COA was in the process of hiring a new Executive Director and it was hoped one would be selected by mid-March, 2006. Mrs. Wood reported the fourth quarter of 2005 was very busy and ridership on the Community Coach was up by 5% from the same quarter of last year, with Indian River Transit up by 22%. She acknowledged this sounded like a big number, but pointed out the hurricanes last year affected that timeframe and a lot of people were not in the area, so the actual increase was about 8% to 10%.

Mrs. Wood related the COA had received three new 31 foot diesel buses

for Indian River Transit and they were thinking of using graphic wrap for possible advertising revenue. She mentioned she had given two vehicles titled to the COA to the Association for Retarded Citizens (ARC). Mrs. Wood explained she allowed ARC to run the buses as long as they wanted and when a vehicle was retired to auction, ARC returned the money it sold for to the COA. She summarized this worked out well because it helped update the ARC fleet without incurring costs for new vehicles. Mrs. Wood added she was planning on setting up a meeting with the Volunteer Ambulance people as far as coordinating better transportation services and possibly to supply some vehicles, because the Volunteer Ambulance was struggling at the moment.

Dr. Hurst asked if Mrs. Wood had given any consideration to providing vehicles for the Veterans. Mrs. Wood responded the Veterans had two brand new larger buses, plus a van they got through the American Red Cross. She explained the Veterans did only veterans' transportation, because the Veterans' Hospital paid for their tags, insurance, maintenance and fuel and told them what they could and could not do with the vehicle. Mrs. Wood stated this more or less negated them in the Community Transportation Coordination system, which had to be open to anybody needing a ride. She indicated the Veterans were still under contract with the COA, but did not know if the contract could continue or not and they were working on that issue right now.

A discussion followed.

Dr. Hurst suggested contacting the United Way when we were getting ready to do an auction of vehicles, since they came into contact with non-profit agencies from all over the County. Mr. Matson said he would ask Tom Frame, IRC Director of General Services, to get in touch with the United Way agency the next time an auction was scheduled.

### **Other New Business**

Chairman Bowden noted the next meeting would be on May 25, 2006.

Ms. Clark of the FDC&F said she would like to volunteer to serve on the CTC Evaluation Subcommittee. Chairman Bowden thanked her for offering to take part in the evaluation procedure.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:21 a.m.