

**West Central Indiana Economic Development District
Transportation Advisory Committee
&
Coordinated Public Transit Human Service Transportation Committee
Meeting Minutes Summary
October 18, 2007 – 1:00 PM
WCIEDD Conference Room, 1718 Wabash Ave., Terre Haute, IN 47808**

1. **Call to Order:** Pat Macke called the quarterly meeting of the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) and the Coordinated Public Transit Human Service Transportation Committee (CPTHSTC) to order at 1:00 PM.

2. **Members Present:**
 - John Wood, Trans Care
 - Jeff Uhey, CARS
 - Shannon Cunningham, Mental Health Association of Vigo Co.
 - Debbie Hensley, Terre Haute Transit Utility
 - Sheldon Boyer, Area 7 Agency on Aging & Disabled
 - Pat Macke, WCIEDD
 - Chuck Schroeder, Putnam County Comprehensive Services

3. **Approval of Previous Minutes:** The minutes of the last meeting held on July 19, 2007 were reviewed. It was note the minutes reflect Shannon's agency as Hamilton Center and she is really with the Mental Health Association of Vigo County. Sheldon made a motion to approve the minutes with the noted correction about Shannon's agency and Jeff seconded the motion. The members present approved the corrected minutes.

4. **Old Business:**

Pat shared with the committee members present that the new Coordinated Public Transit Human Services Transportation Plan (CPTHSTP) was adopted by the Transportation Policy Committee and that the plan has been forwarded to INDOT. At this point we don't know if INDOT will need any additional information or if we will receive a letter back from INDOT indicating their approval of the plan. Since several committee members have not had an opportunity to completely review the final plan yet, everyone was encouraged to review the plan over the next few months and to let Pat know if they have any comments or concerns. Pat also discussed the need for the committee to begin thinking about identification of grant applications for 2008 that are covered by the plan.

The committee reviewed the new brochure developed by Hamilton Center that outlines public and private transit services available in Terre Haute and Vigo County. Feedback from the committee on the appearance of the brochure was very positive. The committee made the following suggested changes to the brochure:

- Terre Haute Transit Utility (THTU) use their new address on the brochure since the brochures won't be distributed until after THTU moves to their new facility in 2008.

- Wording regarding fixed routes needs to be changed.

- The exact number (6) of accessible Yellow Cab vehicles needs to be eliminated since this number fluctuates.

Pat will coordinate these suggested changes with Duke Bennett at Hamilton Center. John from Trans Care said he would send Pat some additional pictures for use in the brochure. The committee's goal is to begin distributing the new brochures in January 2008.

5. **New Business:**

The THTU will host Passenger Assistance Training (PAT) at the bus garage on October 24th and 25th. This one day training session will begin at 9:00 AM each day. Anyone interested in sending drivers to this training should contact THTU so they can make sure enough training materials are on-hand. RTAP would like to have at least 15 participants in each class.

CARS offers a first aid training call every other Tuesday. Organizations interested in participating in this training should contact Jeff Uhey at 765-569-2076 x236.

All providers present reported they were keeping busy for this time of year. A few providers reported they were turning some riders down because they didn't have room or services weren't available.

Jeff reported that CARS in Rockville is having a hard time keeping appointments because of the Covered Bridge Festival, which is to be expected. He also reported they have taken possession of their four (4) new vehicles and that three (3) of the vehicles are already having some major mechanical problems. The transmission has already had to be replaced in one vehicle and it is only 2 weeks old.

Chuck Schroeder from Putnam County said they were looking for some small mini-vans to purchase for some families in need of transportation. Jeff said he knew where there might be some for sale so he's going to work with Chuck.

Debbie Hensley briefed the committee on the new extended hour service being offered by THTU. The service began in October and so far it has been well received by the public. Only one (1) person has been stranded so far without a ride and that was on the first night.

Human Service Agencies reported they are having some problems finding transportation for some of their clients. The transportation providers present offered some suggestions on how to handle the problem and a plan of action was discussed.

Shannon asked if there were any agencies or providers who could help cover the cost of purchasing monthly passes or 14 ride tickets because their supply of 20 passes is depleted within a day of their purchase. Pat suggested Shannon contact Duke Bennett at Hamilton Center to see if they could help purchase some monthly passes. Since most of the Mental Health Association's clients are referred from Hamilton Center programs they might be able to help cover the cost.

John reported Trans Care has been having some problems with the Medicaid Program. There was a lawsuit involving the program and are looking at how to handle clients who only can pay with Medicaid. He will provide the committee an update on this issue at the January 2008 committee meeting.

Pat discussed development of the committee meeting schedule for 2008. Committee members present agreed that Thursdays work well, but they thought changing the meeting time from 1:00 PM to 10:30 AM would afford more people the opportunity to participate. The following dates were set for committee meetings next year.

January 17, 2008 – 10:30 AM
July 17, 2008 – 10:30 AM

April 17, 2008 – 10:30 AM
October 16, 2008 – 10:30 AM

Pat reminded everyone that a special meeting(s) could be called if a member believes there's a valid need. She also pointed out that it may be necessary to call a special meeting in 2008 to review 5310 grant applications if several organizations apply for this program.

6. **Adjournment.** There being no further business, John made a motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Debbie. The meeting adjourned at 2:10 PM. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the committees will be on **January 17, 2008 at 10:30 AM.** The meeting will be held at **WCIEDD, 1718 Wabash Ave., Terre Haute, IN 47808.**