

# ***RTCC Board Meeting – Phase 3 Agenda***

***November 23rd, 2020 at 1 pm – Zoom***

1:04pm meeting called to order.

Those in attendance: Marcy P, Katie Ennen, Alissa Smith, Cherie Rusch, Cody Rogan, Michelle Lichtig, John P, Lindsey Sand, Daryn Toso, Liz Kuoppala, Sue Siemers, Tom Partington, Stephanie Aasness, Liberty Sleiter, Laurie Bonds, Cynthia Sprung, Wayne Hurley, Rhonda Porter, Abby Strom, Beth Nelson. Heather M, Deb Sjostrom, Tom Gottfried.

**1) Introductions/Role Call-Alissa**

**2) Review and Approve October Meeting Minutes – Alissa**

- Liz Motion to approve, Cody 2<sup>nd</sup>- no opposed- motion carried.

**3) Review and Approve November Agenda –Alissa**

- Liz motion to approve, Lindsey 2<sup>nd</sup>- no oppose- motion carried.

**4) Transportation Provider Update –**

- **MATBUS** - Alissa reported info from Shawn who was unable to attend. He reported at the transportation provider meeting. No significant changes since last month. Running fare free through year end. No mention of what the plan for 2021 is. No impacts to services at this time. Alissa believes operation in 50-60% service range.
- **City of Morris- Beth not present.** Alissa reported running at 50-60% service. At last months provider meeting they were still operating the shuttles for the U of M. Do charge fares.
- **Rainbow Rider- Tom P.** – No a lot of change from last month. Mid 60% service. Schools in service area have went to distance learning, so some ridership will be reduced from that as well as due to DAC rides. Continue to sanitize and do the best they can to remain in operation. They have canceled their fixed route rides due to lack of drivers. Volunteer Drivers ridership is going well. Only had to deny 2 rides in October. Provided 152 rides in Oct 2020. That has a little bit of increase.

- **Transp Alternatives- Daryn Toso-** Around 60% ridership. Maintaining rides as needed ie) cancer treatments. Protective transport has been up. Alexandria DAC has shut down currently. Have also dealt with losing drivers due to covid/exposures.

#### 5) MNDOT Update –Sue / Michelle-

- Sue reported closed 2<sup>nd</sup> solicitation for phase 2. Moving into grant contracts for other regions. Hopes for southern regions to come on board for a phase 2 as well. Hopeful to have info in mid-February for RTCCs.
- Michelle reported meetings are going to be increased from quarterly to bi-monthly. Opportunities to share information and have discussions between RTCCs. MCOTA made up of state agencies, which has shifted how they have meetings. They now have work teams on MCOTA. VD, Communications, Performance measures and indicators work team. Blend of MCOTA and staff from RTCC and TCAPS. Encouraged to attend an MCOTA meeting or reach out to RTCCs if able.

#### 6) MCOTA Update –Tom / Heather

- **Heather-** Update on operations team. Performance measures for TCAPS and RTCCs. Overall goal of the RTCCs and TCAPS. Discussed differences in them and what they are able to measure. Looking to get some feedback from state agencies and RTCC and TCPAS to assist with setting up/implementing the framework.
- **Tom-** Hope is to have performance measures and indicators to be a part of grant application process. Meaningful at state and local level. Are looking for input from the RTCCs and TCAPS on these measures. Aware there will always be extenuating circumstances. Recognize the differences in regions and access to transportation. And that there will be a difference in performance measures due to this.
- **Volunteer Drivers Virtual Forum Series-** Tom
  - Discussed first session was only 1 hour as to not conflict with a volunteer conference going on. December 9<sup>th</sup> is next one. Will be on Volunteer Driver Stories. Stories from

drivers and users. Discussed legislation change hopes regarding Volunteer Driver definition and reimbursement.

- Volunteer Driver Series Info/Registration:

<http://www.coordinatemntransit.org/events/volunteerdriverforum/2020-21/>

- Discussion on legislation changes are currently on state level. Recognize that it will not have as huge an impact until it happens at the federal level. Has attention of state congressional team, but needs to get federal congressional attention.

- **Covid 19 Positive Clientele Transportation- Tom**

- MNDOT was asked by MDH to develop transportation that was not attached to any program, having tested or possible to test positive for COVID 19 and able to transport them for medical appointments. No cost to them. State of MN using CARES ACT funds. In place till Dec 30, 2020. Hoping there will be an extension. Has been used a lot. 260 passenger trips to date so far. Projected to do many more trips in next 2 weeks. Projecting close to 1000 trips by year end, if not more.
  - Discussion on possibility of this service to be extended. Tom states it will be dependent on congress for the extension, however it is currently a ‘lame duck congress’ meaning there will most likely be no decisions made. It is possible new legislation will be presented but the earliest that would be would be end of March.
- SEMCAC is contact to get rides through this COVID ride program.
  - Currently 23 drivers cover all 80 counties. Goal is to have 40 drivers.

## 7) Other Topics / Discussion –

- **LWAH Grant-Heather**

- Ready Rider Volunteer Driver Program is returning. A coordinator has been hired. Will provide another resource for our region.
- Discussed Podcase in which Tom was a guest of. Hope to do one for our region as well.

- **TMCC-Alissa**

- **Region 4 Flow Chart-** Review and discussion of flow chart created for Region 4 to show possibilities of how TMCC(Transportation Management Coordination Center) would work if implementing a 1 call/1 click setup, billing/pay source etc
- **Pros/Cons List-** Reviewed pros and cons of 1 call/1 click option.
- **Request to add items to agenda in December**
  - Review of goals of Region 4 RTCC and where we are at
  - GIS mapping effort from MNDOT

**Next Meeting on December 21st at 1 pm Via Zoom**

Meeting adjourned 2:22pm.

Meeting Minutes submitted by Katie Ennen 11/23/20 2:23pm