

**MARTIN METROOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD FOR THE TRANSPORTATION
DISADVANTAGED**

Martin County Board of County Commission Chambers
2401 SE Monterey Road, Stuart, FL 34996

www.martinmpo.com

(772) 221-1498

Monday, March 4, 2024, at 10:00 A.M.

MINUTES

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** – The Local Coordinating Board for the Transportation Disadvantaged (LCB-TD) meeting of March 4, 2024, was called to order at 10:00 A.M. by Mayor Susan Gibbs Thomas, Chair.
- 2. ROLL CALL** – Ricardo Vazquez, MPO Senior Planner, called roll.

Members in Attendance:

Susan Gibbs-Thomas, Chair, Indiantown Council Member
Robert McPartlan, Vice Chair, Department of Children & Families Services
Daniel McHenry, Florida Department of Veteran's Affairs
Zachary Hoge, Florida Division of Vocational Rehab
Gayle McArdle, Representative for Persons with Disabilities
Michelle Miller, Representative for the Economically Disadvantaged (FACA)
Modeline Acreus, Florida Department of Transportation Representative
Joe Azevedo, Martin County Career Center
Ashman Beecher, Martin County Transit
Mary Jo Pirone, Citizen's Advocate/Rider Rep
Dr. Elizabeth Jekanowski, Rep. for Public Education Community District School Board
Milory Senat, Agency for Persons with Disabilities

Excused Members:

Dalia Dillon, Department of Elder Affairs
Phyl Weaver, Representative for Persons over 60
Monique Robins, Representative for Children At-Risk

Members Not in Attendance:

Brenda Matheny, Local Medical Community

Staff in Attendance:

Ricardo Vazquez, Senior Planner
Lucine Martens, Planner

Others in Attendance:

Karen Deigl, Senior Resource Association
Chris Stephenson, Senior Resource Association
Maria Dorismond, FDOT

Dana Elharintaragen, Stand Up for Independence (SUFI)
Melody Hearn

A quorum was present for the meeting.

3. APPROVE AGENDA

A motion was made by Michelle Miller to approve the Agenda as presented, seconded by Robert McPartlan. The motion passed unanimously.

4. APPROVE MINUTES

- Regular Meeting Minutes – December 4, 2023

A motion was made by Robert McPartlan to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of December 4, 2023, seconded by Mary Jo Perone. The motion passed unanimously.

5. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC – Melody Hearn wanted to publicly thank the Transportation Disadvantaged program. Ms. Hearn wanted to note that she has been visiting the Legislature in Tallahassee to ask for more support for the TD program and for the Treasure Coast Developmental Disabilities Advantage Ride program.

6. AGENDA ITEMS

A. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

Michelle Miller made a motion to elect Robert McPartlan as the Vice Chair of the LCB-TD. The motion was seconded by Milory Senat. The motion passed unanimously.

B. QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT

Lucine Martens, MPO Planner, introduced Chris Stephenson with SRA who presented the Quarterly Performance Report. Mr. Stephenson commented that all grant funding was projected to be used by the end of the fiscal year and that, due to the increased funding, they have more than doubled the amount of ridership. Mr. Stephenson also called attention to the regular, year-over-year increases in ridership for the Indiantown shuttle.

Karen Deigl, CEO of the Senior Resource Association, wanted to make the Board aware of the upcoming funding issues due to the reduction of funding for the Innovative Service Development (ISD) grant along with the addition of a new three-year term limit for the ISD. Ms. Deigl continued, mentioning their current application with the Impact 1000 group which may be able to provide some funding to offset the reduction of the ISD grant.

Gayle McArdle wanted to know how much of a reduction in funding could be expected. Mr. Stephenson advised that they would not know till the official appropriation is completed, most likely by May 2024.

Zachary Hoge inquired as to what could be done, as a community, if we were to lose the ISD grant. Ms. Deigl stated that she and Mr. Stephenson are always looking at how they can acquire additional funding options, from continuing to innovate through their upcoming mobile app to hopefully retain the ISD grant, to visiting and talking directly with the Legislature.

Rob McPartlan added that if there is anything that can be done, to please let the Board know so they can offer their assistance.

Chair Susan Gibbs Thomas sought additional details on the Impact 100 group. Ms. Deigl advised that the Impact 100 group reviews and selects proposals here in the Treasure Coast to donate \$100,000 towards proposed projects. Ms. Deigl continued, stating that historically, they have usually been able to select more than one proposal, but that there are roughly twenty for them to select from.

A motion was made by Joe Azevedo to approve the Quarterly Performance Report, seconded by Mary Jo Pirone. The motion passed unanimously.

C. FY23 COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION COORDINATOR (CTC) EVALUATION UPDATE

Lucine Martens advised the Board that the CTC Evaluations have begun. Ms. Martens thanked the individuals that have already volunteered and asked if anyone else would like to volunteer by doing either phone calls or ride-a-longs.

Chair Susan Gibbs Thomas offered that she would like to do ride-a-longs, as did Joe Azavedo.

D. LCB-TD BYLAWS

Lucine Martens presented the LCB-TD Bylaws, noting that there had not been any changes since their last adoption.

A motion was made by Robert McPartlan to approve the LCB-TD Bylaws, seconded by Joe Azevedo. The motion passed unanimously.

E. LCB-TD COMPLAINT AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

Lucine Martens presented the LCB-TD Complaint and Grievance Procedures documentation. Ms. Martens noted that this document has also not had any changes since its prior adoption.

A motion was made by Robert McPartlan to approve the LCB-TD Complaint and Grievance Procedures, seconded by Michelle Miller. The motion passed unanimously.

7. COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Ms. McArdle wanted to thank the individuals at the Senior Resource Association, along with the overall TD program, for their hard work and dedication to this program upon which she heavily relies.

Zachary Hoge wanted to request that the Board be notified if there are any public forums or meetings for funding opportunities so that they could assist in whatever capacity possible.

8. NOTES


- Update - Senior Resource Association (SRA) presented to the Martin County BOCC on February 20, 2024. Karen Deigl and Chris Stephenson of the SRA detailed the increased TD ridership and the new municipal overmatch from the Village of Indiantown and the City of Stuart. Karen also described the Impact1000 Grant program and how this would potentially positively impact the TD transportation system in Martin County.

9. NEXT MEETING

- June 3, 2024 (Commission Chamber. Administrative Bldg.)

10. ADJOURN 10:39 A.M.

Prepared by:



Anthony O'Neill-Butler, Administrative Assistant

06-11-2024

Date

Approved by:



Susan Gibbs Thomas, Chair

06-11-2024

Date