

**TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED COORDINATING BOARD
ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 24, 2015, 9:58AM - 10:30AM
Citrus County Transit Center Conference Room
1300 S Lecanto Hwy, Lecanto, FL 34461**

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:00AM by Vice Chairman Dominic Christofaro.

B. OATH OF OFFICE

The Oath of Office was administered by Rebecca Bledsoe to George Froehlich, Military Veteran position.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D. ROLL CALL

Board Members Present:

Dominic Christofaro	Elder Citizens Representative, Vice Chairman
Robert Telese	Citizen Advocate System User 2 nd Vice Chairman
George Froehlich	Military Veteran
Stephen Brown	Disabled Citizen
Ginger West	Citrus County Resource Center
Brenda Chrisman	CareerSource Citrus Levey Marion
Kelly Kell	CC Department of Community Services, Court Alternatives Supervisor
Nancy Blythe	Citrus County Schools

Board Member(s) Absent:

Commissioner Joe Meek	Chairman
Shannon Heathcock	Dash Transport
Donna Moran	Local Medical Community Representative
Melinda Jordan	Vocational Rehabilitation Services, Department of Education

E. ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING – OPEN DISCUSSION

Mr. David Douglas, rider, Exalted Ruler, Inverness Elks Lodge #2522, expressed concerns about how many bags are allowed on the bus and how they can be managed. He would like to have a meeting, including himself, to discuss this issue where no one has a fear of getting hurt or bags toppling. It was suggested he get with Mr. Frye and discuss this further.

Ms. Patricia Ryder stated she rides both bus lines. She also has a concern about carrying 3 bags. She made a suggestion of the rolling suitcase like carriers.

Another concern she expressed is seniors that don't have a lot of money but need to go to, for example, dialysis three times a week, getting a break on the cost of riding.

Another concern is cross county hours with transfers, making for a long day. Mr. Frye suggested the deviated Fixed Route with the para transit because they complement each other stating he would work with her.

Danny Marianas, The Path of Citrus County, spoke about transportation to Ocala for services, mostly to the Social Security Office. He asked to consider a shuttle to Ocala.

Reverend Joan Clark, representing Shepard of the Hills Episcopal Church and the SOS Food Pantry, spoke about the basic needs people have for food let alone transportation. They can feed 150 families in a 3 hour stint on Thursday mornings. They have 300 families registered but they can only come every other Thursday to get their food. These people, who live in cars, tents and wherever they can find shelter, need to be able to have access to government services, but they can't access them if they are in Ocala. I'm pleading for at least once a week a regularly schedule bus / van run to Ocala for these people. Vice Chairman, Dominic Christofaro said we can only make recommendations to the BOCC who is the ultimate authority. Mr. Frye said this is very important getting input from the community which gives us guidance to take to the decisions makers.

Mr. Terrance Garrity, Terri's Taxi, offered to lease a bus from CCT for \$1.00 and he would get transportation to Ocala one day a week, free of charge for anyone who wants to take it. He also said he will pay for the gas and the insurance.

Mr. Garrity also said he would do whatever he could, until we get something in place, with a minivan, to get people to the food pantry one day a week. If you lease me a bus for \$1.00 I will do the same thing for these people as going to Ocala.

Ms. Paula Holtsclaw, Mid Florida Homeless Coalition, expressed the need to get to the Social Security Office in Ocala stating they are willing do anything they can to help get this issue before the BOCC.

Renea Teaster, Facilitator for the Community Alliance of Citrus County, expressed concern about getting those who need it to the Social Security Office in Ocala.

F. UPCOMING MEETING

1. Regular Meeting: November 19, 2015, 10:30am – approx. 12pm, Citrus County Transit Center Conference Room

G. ADJOURNMENT

***Motion by Brenda Chrisman, seconded by Kelly Kell, to adjourn the meeting.
Motion carries unanimously.***

NOTE: If any person decides to appeal any decision made by the Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board with respect to any matter considered at this public meeting or hearing, he or she will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made which record shall include the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Any person requiring reasonable accommodation at this meeting because of a disability or physical impairment should contact the County Administrator's Office, 110 N. Apopka Ave, Inverness, FL 34450 (352) 341-6560, at least two days before the meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired, use the TDD telephone (352) 341-6580.