

**TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED COORDINATING BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 19, 2015, 10:48am – 11:40am
Citrus County Transit Center Conference Room
1300 S Lecanto Hwy, Lecanto, FL 34461**

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:48am by Vice Chairman Robert Telese.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

B. OATH OF OFFICE

The Oath of Office was administered by Rebecca Bledsoe to Katina Kovouklis, FDOT and Nancy Blythe, Citrus County Schools.

C. 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
Brenda Chrisman	CareerSource Citrus Levey Marion
Nancy Blythe	Citrus County Schools

Alternate(s) Present

Katina Kovouklis	FDOT
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Board Member(s) Absent:

Commissioner Joe Meek	Chairman
Donna Moran	Local Medical Community Representative
Melinda Jordan	Vocational Rehabilitation Services, Department of Education
Ginger West	Citrus County Resource Center
Elba Lopez	FDOT
Kelly Kell	Local Representative for Children at Risk

D. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mr. Telese asked if anyone wished to address the Board. No one came forward.

E. **REGULAR BUSINESS**

E1 Approval of the Minutes of September 24, TD Annual Public Meeting

***Motion by Dominic Christofaro, seconded by Stephen Brown, to approve the minutes of the September 24, 2015 Annual Public Meeting.
Motion carries unanimously.***

E2 Approval of the Minutes of September 24, 2015 TD Regular Meeting and Annual Organizational Meeting

***Motion by Dominic Christofaro, seconded by Stephen Brown, to approve the minutes of the September 24, 2015 Annual Public Meeting.
Motion carries unanimously.***

E3 TD Board Membership Updates / BOCC approvals

Becky Ear stated this item is for informational purposes only.

E4 Quarterly Statistics / Quarterly Progress Report

Mr. Lon Frye referred to the statistics handout section Passengers Trips By Funding Source, stating that 1568 trips out of a total of 2195 are somewhat funded by Transportation Disadvantaged, which 75% of our trips. We are here to represent Transportation Disadvantaged, and that is a significant number. Mr. Frye continued reading over the statistics.

E5 Dialysis Transport

Mr. Frye said we do a lot dialysis trips, but the vast majority is handled through Managed Care.

E6 TD Eligibility Income Level

Mr. Frye referred to the Poverty Guidelines stating several other entities refer to this. Right now we're at about 120%. We are encouraged as a staff to share the concept of 120% of the Poverty Guidelines. Mr. Frye suggested addressing this annually at the November meeting.

***Motion by Dominic Christofaro, seconded by Stephen Brown, to postpone this item until the November TD Meeting, and continue reviewing it annually.
Motion carries unanimously.***

E7 Social Security Office Transport

Mr. Frye said we had a lot of people interested in this at the last TD Meeting and they were asked to share this with our County Commission. I have not heard back yet.

Mr. Terry Garriety, Terri's Taxi, addressed the Board stating at the last meeting he said he would purchase a bus at an auction and provide free transport once a week to the Social Security Office. Mr. Garriety said he went to the auction and put in a bid on a bus and didn't get it. We have two mini vans; as of January 1, 2016 we will be starting Social Security transport to Ocala. We just require a 24 hour notice. We want to do it on Mondays. We are still working on this and it should be confirmed by December. Mr. Christofaro said he believes this is the County's responsibility, not Terri's Taxi. There will be a lot of people riding if it's for free and it can hurt his business. Mr. Garriety said he understands, but has been very successful in business in this County and wants to do this out of his heart. It's said we need to take this up with the County and how far has that gone. Mr. Garriety asked if we had a representative of the County at this meeting, everyone said no, he asked if we had anyone at the last meeting and people again said no. Mr. Garriety said I rest. Discussion ensued.

***Motion by Brenda Chrisman, seconded by Dominic Christofaro, to craft a letter to the Chairman of the BOCC with our recommendations.
Motion carries unanimously.***

E8 2016 TD Meeting Schedule

***Motion by Stephen Brown, seconded by Chrisman, to approve the 2016 TD Meeting Schedule.
Motion carries unanimously.***

E9 Approve the SSPP Including Appendices

***Motion by Brenda Chrisman, seconded by Nancy Blythe, to approve the SSPP including appendices.
Motion carries unanimously.***

E10 Assisted Living Facility Service

Mr. Frye said primarily our mission is to keep people in their homes. We service a lot of rural areas, a lot of residential areas. We've shied away from a lot of the commercial nursing homes and assisted living facilities. This is a conscious effort to bring before our Board to reaffirm our principle that if we have para transit resources available, that we are going to use them first for individuals to keep them in their residential homes as opposed to subsidizing assisted living homes with a cheaper way of transportation. We have this come into our office every day and when there's a decision to be made, I want to make sure our Board is a huge part of that choice.

Motion by Dominic Christofaro, seconded by Brenda Chrisman, that the status quo continues to exist where the Assisted Living Facility Service is denied.

Motion carries unanimously.

E11 Annual Operating Report

Mr. Frye said our Annual Operating Report was reported on time to Transportation Disadvantaged. Mr. Frye read over the report showing that the momentum toward the Deviated Fixed Route has increased. I want to point out that we are doing everything we can to maximize the hours and the days of operation. It's nice to see when you compare year to year that we are achieving our goal.

Ms. Pat Ryder from the public stated the passenger no shows are tremendous and asked if there's a way to charge them or not take them anymore. Mr. Frye said usually we do charge them and have candid conversations with them but we do not deny medical trips regardless of the no shows.

F. OTHER BUSINESS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Ms. Pat Ryder said she is involved with the Health Department Board and the update as of yesterday is that there is no longer going to be any primary care at the Health Departments starting in January.

Mr. Frye introduced Kimberly Menster, Veterans Services Officer. Ms. Menster thanked the Board for everything they are doing with the Veterans and said she will take some information back to her office to share. Mr. Frye added that the Veterans bus schedule is on the Transit webpage and invited everyone to visit the site to see what's there.

Mr. Frye said we would like to elect a second Vice Chairperson.

***Motion by Dominic Christofaro, seconded by Brenda Chrisman, to nominate Stephen Brown as second Vice Chairman.
Motion carries unanimously.***

G. UPCOMING MEETINGS

1. Regular Meeting: March 17, 2016, at 10:30a.m., Citrus Transit Center Conference Room, 1300 S Lecanto Hwy, Lecanto, FL. 34461
2. Regular Meeting: May 19, 2016, at 10:30a.m., Citrus Transit Center Conference Room, 1300 S Lecanto Hwy, Lecanto, FL 34461
3. Annual Public Meeting: *August 18, 2016, at 10a.m- 10:30a.m.* and Regular Meeting with the Annual Organizational Meeting for the Purpose of Electing a Vice Chairperson: August 18, 2016, at 10:30a.m. – 12:00p.m., Citrus Transit Center Conference Room, 1300 S Lecanto Hwy, Lecanto, FL. 34461
4. Regular Meeting: November 17, 2016, at 10:30a.m., Citrus Transit Center

Conference Room, 1300 S Lecanto Hwy, Lecanto, FL. 34461

H. **ADJOURNMENT**

***Motion by Dominic Christofaro, seconded by Robert Telese, 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.