

Minutes of August 11, 2020
Mid-State Regional Coordinating Council (RCC) Meeting
 Virtual Meeting Via Zoom

Attendees	
Terri Paige, CAPBMCI	Tom Schamberg, Town of Wilmot (Chair)
Dean Williams, CNHRPC	Cindy Yanski, Mobility Manager (CAPBMCI)
Sara O'Dougherty, GSIL	Dave Jeffers, LRPC
Tammy Carmichael, Partnership for Public Health	Molly Notkin, Gilford Community Church
Steven Swanson, Family Resource Center of NH	Dennis Pavlicek, Town of Newbury
Donna Fanny, Future in Sight	Stacie Dicker-Hendricks, Wesley Woods
Molly Notkin, Gilford Senior Resource Team	Terri Tedeschi, NH Voc Rehab
Jane Alden, Town of Tilton	

1. Welcome and Introductions

Chair T. Schamberg called the meeting to order at 2:03pm and read a statement pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04 #12 authorizing the RCC to meet electronically. C. Yanski conducted a roll call where everyone participating introduced themselves.

2. Review and approve the minutes of the May 12th RCC meeting

A motion was made to accept the minutes from the May 12th RCC meeting.

m/s/approved D. Pavlicek/T. Paige

3. Community Program Updates: Organization service changes due to COVID-19

Cindy explained that since the last meeting, BMCAP's Rural Transit Service has still been limited to essential trips only. They would like the RCC's input on whether to begin offering non-essential trips. T. Paige added that they are still using various precautions with the service in order to prevent the spread of COVID19, including limiting the numbers of passengers and offering masks and hand sanitizer in addition to the regular cleaning of vehicles. She noted that there have been many requests for non-essential trips, but they have stuck to their policy and which has resulted in some complaints from some customers. S. Dicker-Hendricks questioned how the drivers felt about allowing such trips. T. Paige responded that they are eager to get back to work and they are comfortable with the existing measures to keep everyone safe. S. Dicker-Hendricks said if the drivers are comfortable, she thinks it is important for the customers to be able to have access to non-essential transportation. T. Schamberg questioned whether masks were required. T. Paige stated that they are not required but encouraged and if someone boards the bus without a mask, the drivers will offer them a mask. She pointed out that a mask mandate that is not supported by state or local government would be difficult to enforce and she does not want to put her drivers in a position to have to engage riders who are adamant about their personal freedoms and refuse to wear face coverings. T. Carmichael responded that she felt it should be required on public transportation to wear a face covering. If they are not required, she felt it should be advertised as optional so riders can make an informed decision about the risk associated with public transportation.

4. Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery -NHDOT's FTA 5310 Sub-recipients

C. Yanski pointed out that this agenda item was carried over, although she has not heard from any RCC members about lack of personal protective equipment or other needs for their organizations.

5. RCC Officer Elections

C. Yanski informed the council that she had only received one nomination for Chair which was standing Chair, Tom Schamberg.

A motion was made to formally elect T. Schamberg for the chairman position of the Mid State RCC.

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m/s/approved

J. Alden/S. O'Dougherty

6. FY 5310 Funding Updates

a. SFY 2019 5310 RCC Capital Funding Update

T. Paige noted that the 2 cutaway buses from the 5310 capital grant are scheduled to be in by the end of August. She added that the states match of 50% is still being utilized. C. Yanski informed the council that The Friends Program had leftover funds after purchasing their laptops and software with heir 2019 grant. They were in the process of trying to get another laptop with the leftover funds, but Cindy was unsure if they had purchased anything yet.

b. SFY 2020 5310 RCC Capital Funding Update

i. T. Paige stated that because of the current financial constraints at the state level, the 50% match for all vehicles purchased after this current order is delivered is on hold. This included that buses already ordered using the FY2020 funds. She was advised by NHDOT to sit tight and see what happens, as NHDOT continues to request that the match be reinstated and may also come up with the match from other sources.

c. SFY 2020 5310 Program Funded Services

i. Volunteer Driver Program

C. Yanski updated that committee on the VDP program, sharing the ridership figures. She pointed out that even with the pandemic, the FY2020 ridership was still higher than FY2019. She also shared more data on riders, drivers, accessible rides and denials.

ii. Taxi Voucher Program

C. Yanski shared the TVP ridership data. Pointing out the significant drop at the end of the fiscal year with just 2 rides in June. She added that there were no rides in July and none so far in August. Which is most likely due to the SOARS program adjusting because of COVID-19.

iii. Rural Transit Service

C. Yanski noted that the RTS had more rides in FY2020 than the previous four years as part of the expansion rides and disabled individuals under 60. D. Jeffers asked whether the increased number of rides was based on the expansion into particular towns or due to the number of under 60 rides. C. Yanski responded that she could look into it. Cindy also shared the data for the shopping for seniors' program. The data showed that 50% of the rides in April, May and June were shopping for senior trips. T. Schamberg asked whether services were seeing a higher demand due to the pandemic and financial situation that many people are in. T. Paige noted that she anticipates ridership to continue to increase over the next few months and they have already been experiencing an increase in ridership. D. Jeffers asked how ridership was affecting operating expenses. T. Paige responded that as an effort to limit the number of people on the bus they have had to increase vehicle trips which has increased operating expenses.

d. SFY 2021 5310 Program Funded Services

C. Yanski stated that the SFY 2021 5310 Program application was signed by the governor.

T. Paige noted that at the last RCC meeting, the RCC had discussed and voted to allow BMCAP to move funding around within the FY2020 budget. There was an overage within the VDP budget for the mileage reimbursement to drivers of \$10,526.23. She added that one reason the mileage reimbursement expenses had increased was due to a decrease in drivers in March who stopped transporting customers because of

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COVID-19 concerns, and the drivers who were still volunteering were driving further to make up the difference.

A motion was made to move \$10,526.23 from the TVP budget to the VDP budget.

m/s/approved S. O'Dougherty/T. Schamberg

abstentions: T. Paige

7. Regional Mobility Manager Update

C. Yanski updated the Council on her activities since May. She continued by starting a discussion on using the 2019 Mid-State RCC Coordinated Transit & Human Services Plan goals and objectives. She asked the committee if there were areas, they would like her to focus on. T. Schamberg referred to one of the goals that mentioned educating and working with chambers of commerce. T. Paige stated that the Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce was involved for a while, especially while Winnepesaukee Transit System was in service. C. Yanski stated that Concord Area Transit (CAT) is involved with the Concord Area Chamber of Commerce. C. Yanski referred to Goal 5 which called for expanding the Taxi Voucher Program (TVP). She shared ideas on expansion which were well received. D. Jeffers questioned the possibility of expanding the TVP to the Belknap County Department of Corrections. C. Yanski noted that if they had a similar Successful Offender Adjustment and Reentry program that would be a good fit. T. Paige stated that since we've already got a model that is working it should be fairly easy to copy and expand, although funding constraints may need to be considered. D. Jeffers added that he would like to see a focus on Goal number 7 relating to identifying and informing transit dependent populations. T. Paige agreed and pointed out that the Metroquest survey tool which the RPC's have access to could be helpful for quantifying the numbers. M. Notkin commented on Goal Number 10 specifically how the RCC has helped municipalities like Tilton get a vehicle and how other organizations are looking to do the same. J. Alden took the moment to thank Granite State Independent Living for the bus and C. Yanski for facilitating the purchase. She added that it has been well received and someone from the community even painted the town's emblem on it. C. Yanski wrapped up the conversation pointing out some of the other tasks she will be involved with in the near future including updating the Title VI plan, Commute Smart NH Fall Challenge, updating and collaborating with 211 to improve their services, and changes to the CAT system.

8. Future Meeting Schedule

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday November 10th, 2020 at 2:00pm.

9. Any other business

As there was no other business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 3:32pm.

m/s/approved T. Schamberg/T. Paige