

**TRANSPORTATION COORDINATION COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES OF DECEMBER 10, 2019**

Call Meeting to Order

The Taylor County Transportation Coordination Committee regular meeting was called to order by Chairperson Dan Makovsky at 10:02 AM, at the Multipurpose Building, 845 E Broadway Ave, Medford, Wisconsin.

Members Present: Dan Makovsky, Diane Albrecht, Mike Bub

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Karl Schulte, Brown Cab Company; Charles Bertrand, Medford Taxi; Jeff Hein, Taylor County Veterans Service; Amber Fallos and Kari Leech, Black River Industries; Nathanael Brown and Michelle Brehm, Taylor County Commission on Aging;

Approve Minutes of the December 18, 2018 Meeting

MOTION to approve December 18, 2018 meeting minutes by Albrecht, second by Bub.
MOTION CARRIED.

Approve Agenda

MOTION to approve the agenda with 10 items for the December 10, 2019 meeting by Albrecht, second by Bub. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Public Input Introductions were made by those in attendance.

Reports:

Taylor County Commission on Aging

Director Brown gave a summary of s.85.21 Commission on Aging transportation service provided and expenses for the first three quarters of 2019. 2019 projections after three quarters show a significant increase in bus activity and volunteer driver activity down slightly from 2018.

Veterans Service Office

Jeff Hein reported the DAV van continues to transport local veterans to VA approved medical appointments in Tomah, Owen, Wausau, Wisconsin Rapids, and Madison. Currently there are five volunteer drivers who transport clients 4 to 5 days per week. Hein estimates between 250 and 300 medical runs are made per year. The van runs at no cost to passengers and minimal cost to the county.

Medford Taxi

Karl Schulte stated Charles Bertrand took the position of Medford Taxi Supervisor beginning October 1st. Medford Taxi currently has five drivers. 2019 taxi trips are projected to reach 14,000, comparable to 2018.

Black River Industries (BRI)

Director Amber Fallos stated BRI currently has 11 buses in operation and 2 in production that will be added to the fleet early in 2020. The BRI fleet also includes 5 minivans and 4 sedans used to transport clients with disabilities. There are 6 regular routes that cover all areas of Taylor county daily. Bus ridership numbers have increased and people appear to be happy with the service.

Public Hearing for s.85.21 Specialized Transportation Grant Application for 2020

The Taylor County Transportation Coordination Committee public hearing began at 10:30 am.

Agendas announcing the Transportation Hearing were posted at the Taylor County Commission on Aging Office, Taylor County Human Services, and Taylor County Courthouse. Notification of the Hearing was also provided to WIGM/WKEB radio station and published in the Medford Star News on 11/28/19.

Ten people were in attendance including:

- Dan Makovsky, Taylor County Board of Supervisors and Taylor County Transportation Coordination Committee Chair;
- Diane Albrecht, Taylor County Board of Supervisors and Taylor County Transportation Coordination Committee
- Mike Bub, Taylor County Board of Supervisors and Taylor County Transportation Coordination Committee
- Amber Fallos and Kari Leech, representatives of Black River Industries
- Karl Schulte and Charles Bertrand, representatives of Brown Cab Company / Medford Taxi
- Jeff Hein, Taylor County Veterans Service
- Nathanael Brown, Taylor County Commission on Aging Director
- Michelle Brehm, Taylor County Commission on Aging Accounting Specialist

No one from the public was in attendance.

Director Nathanael Brown reviewed the s.85.21 specialized transportation grant application for 2020. The grant application request is for \$79,889. A match of \$15,978 in local funds is budgeted and used as the local share required match. The total transportation budget amount is \$119,867.00. The grant is due 12/31/19.

Fallos inquired about raising the volunteer driver reimbursement rate currently set at \$.50 per mile. The committee discussed this and will look at it in the future if needed.

Hearing ended at 10:55 am

Review / Approve 2020 Contract for Minibus Service

Brown explained the minibus service bid process and requirements. Bid proposal submission packets were sent to passenger transportation companies in Taylor County with Black River Industries the only company to submit a bid. The proposed 2020 contract with Black River

Industries for bus transportation options were presented. The bid covers a five-year period (2020-2024) with the contract renewed annually if both parties agree.

MOTION by Bub, second by Albrecht to accept the Black River Industries 2020 - 2024 bid proposal to provide minibus service at the cost of \$2.24 /mile and award them the contract for 2020. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Review / Approve 85.21 Grant Application for 2019

MOTION by Bub to approve the 2020 s.85.21 Specialized Transportation Grant Application in the amount of \$79,889 as presented at the public hearing, second by Albrecht. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Set Next Meeting Date

The next meeting of the Taylor County Transportation Coordination Committee will be determined at a later date.

Adjourn Meeting

MOTION to adjourn meeting by Albrecht, second by Bub. **MOTION CARRIED.** Meeting adjourned at 11:05 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Brehm, Commission on Aging