

**Caswell County Area Transportation System  
Transportation Advisory Board Meeting  
Meeting Minutes  
April 26, 2019**

**Present** were Edna Brown, Sandra Hudspeth, Michelle Waddell, Tonya Moye, Benda Day, Cindy Troxler, Commissioner Steve Oestreicher and Melissa Williamson.

The January 25, 2019 minutes were read and approved by Edna Brown and seconded by Sandra Hudspeth.

**Expenditure/Revenue Report: Self Explanatory**

**Medicaid Billing Update:** As I stated at our last meeting we are in NC Tracks and receiving reimbursements. We have received reimbursements from July 2018 – February 2019. DSS is working on uploading the March trips in NC Tracks and then we will be able to request reimbursement. There are still some kinks at times but at least we are up to date on reimbursement requests.

**RFP Medicaid-** From the information that we have received the RFP process is still a go and on schedule. In February 2019 NC awarded 6 billion in Medicaid contracts. AmeriHelath, Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina, United Healthcare and WellCare Health scored statewide contracts to serve North Carolina Medicaid beneficiaries under the state's new managed-care program launching in November. Carolina Complete Health, a provider-led partnership between the North Carolina Medical Society, won a contract to serve beneficiaries in two regions. In total, the five Medicaid managed-care contracts, which will last three years with the option to extend for an additional two years, are worth \$6 billion per year. Aetna, Optima Health and My Health by Health Providers, a partnership of 12 North Carolina health systems, bid for a contract but were snubbed. They expect some organizations to protest the awards, but for now the five winners will begin contracting with hospitals and doctors and working with the IT, operational and business processes so they are ready for the first phase of the new Medicaid program to launch on November 1, 2019. The program will initially be rolled out to 565,000 beneficiaries in regions 2 and 4, in the northwest part of the state, and then across the rest of the state in February 2020. The managed-care organizations will be required to screen every Medicaid beneficiary for insufficient access to food, lack of stable housing and transportation and exposure to interpersonal violence. Those managed-care companies will then connect the beneficiaries in need to community resources that can help them find food bank, shelter, and transportation. Summer 2019 PHP must have contracted with enough care providers for their network to meet DHHS standards. July 2019 PHOS must have all call centers operational and all relevant staff located in North Carolina. July-September 2019 Managed care will start in two phases. For regions of the state in Phase 1, this will be the window in which beneficiaries select a PHP. November 2019 the Medicaid managed care program will launch in

regions in Phase 1. October-December 2019 for regions of the state in Phase 2, this will be the window in which beneficiaries select a PHP. By February 2020 the Medicaid managed care program will launch in regions in Phase 2.

**Training-** We have completed Defensive Driving training and all drivers have completed CPR training. They are all certified for next two years. We are conducting ADA, Emergency Evacuation and Drug & Alcohol training this month.

**FY 18-19 Funds –** We have almost depleted the 5310 E&D and E&D funds. RGP funds are getting low too. Over the next couple of months we will have to monitor these funds very closely. Just a reminder FY 19-20 5310 E&D funds have been decreased and we will only receive \$7,627.00.

**PCC Route-** the PCC route ridership remains the same as when we started the route. The students have been out on spring break this week. The semester will end on May 9<sup>th</sup>.

**New Buses –** We have received three new buses. They are Palmetto buses. They are very roomy 20 FT LTV buses. Two are equipped with a wheelchair lift and one is a 13 passenger bus. The buses have a privacy glass that is behind the driver that gives the driver a little more privacy and protection. All of the drivers seem to like this new feature. We have had all of them lettered, radios and cameras installed. They are in service.

**Warranty Work on new Bus-** The new bus that has the 13 passenger seats had to be sent to a shop in Graham for some minor repairs. When the camera pre-wiring was being performed one of the technicians noticed that the bus company drilled a hole through the A/C hose. The bus was filled with freon. This has been taken care of and the bus is in service.

**Camera Issues-** We are having some issues with the transfer of the cameras from the old buses to the new buses. On bus 24 the camera wants to run at all times and this is draining the battery and allowing constant download attempts on the camera software installed on the computer. We have been working with the company that installed them for two weeks now and the issue is still no closer to being resolved. We have contacted another company that we have used in the past to see if they can assist us with this issue. All of the other issues have been worked out. This is the first time we have ever experienced this much trouble transferring the cameras. The bus does have a kill switch on the side of the driver's seat so we are able to cut it off when we are finished at the end of the day which prevents the bus from having to be jumped off.

**Updated SSP –** We are in the process of updating our System Safety Plan. Right after we had ours approved the template changed. The plan is very similar to the one that the Board approved in June 2017. The main change seems to be more focus on emergency preparedness. The plan covers emergency action, fire prevention, preventative maintenance, drug and alcohol, security and continuity of operations plan. I have had Donnie R. Tim, Compliance Manager for Public Transportation Division of the North Carolina Department of Transportation

to review the policy and he has approved the SSP. I will present the plan to the Board of Commissioners on May 6, 2019.

**County Budget & Budget Meeting-** Our county budgets were due on March 1<sup>st</sup>. I had our county budget meeting on March 7<sup>th</sup> with the County Manager and Finance Director. We are requesting three new buses. 90% of the cost of the new buses will be incurred by NCDOT/PTD upon approval of the FY 2020 Capital grant.

**Upcoming Proficiency Review-** We are scheduled for a proficiency review on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. I had to complete almost a 180 page questionnaire and submit documents and policies on March 26<sup>th</sup>. When they come in for the review they will go through all of our financial, training, maintenance, operational and administrative records. They will inspect our buses too. This is a very intense review.

**2019 TAB Meeting Schedule for 2019-** were handed out to each TAB member.

**Other Business-**

**Minutes respectfully submitted by Melissa Williamson** *MW*