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DIRECTOR

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SHYCOLE SIMPSON-CARTER
CHAIRMAN

***Goldsboro-Wayne Transportation Authority
Transportation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
September 17, 2020***

The Transportation Advisory Board of Goldsboro-Wayne Transportation Authority met at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, September 17, 2020, at the City of Goldsboro Anteroom, 214 N. Center Street, Goldsboro, North Carolina.

Members in attendance: Keith Spivey, Vice-Chair

Members in attendance - Teleconference: Amy Hartley, Secretary, Shycole Simpson-Carter, Brooke Mickelson, and Amy Smith.

Members absent: Paula Edwards, Chair, Bob Dively, Barbara Aycock, Edward Cromartie, Chip Crumpler, Cynthia Juliano, Valerie Wallace, Steve Wiggins, Tiffany Creech, Joanna Morrisette, Diana Campbell, Micajah Anderson, and Aaron Stryker

Others in attendance: Don Willis and LaShonda Oliver

Director's Report

Financial

The rural program is showing a loss of \$10,255 in July. Due to the pandemic, trip volume remains down significantly compared to prior year, and budgeted revenues have not been realized. The urban program is showing a loss of \$0.51 in July. The urban funds will remain about balanced throughout most of the year due to the grant reimbursement process.

Due to the state budget supplanting CARES funds for ROAP and other state public transportation funds, the FY20-21 ROAP application has not yet been released by the NCDOT. These operating funds are used to buy trips for the elderly, disabled, and rural public riders. The CARES funds may only be used for public transportation eligible trips. The legislature did not take action in September to restore some of these funds.

The NCDOT released the FY21-22 Community Transportation Program (CTP) application call for projects on August 20th. This grant will fund GWTA's rural Administrative expenses. In addition, the call for projects includes Capital projects and also additional Rural State Operating (RSO) funds which we have used for the Mount Olive Service and additional rural trip demands. NCDOT and GWTA are projecting one (1) vehicle at useful life to be replaced in this grant cycle.

TAB Meeting Minutes
September 17, 2020
Page 2

Outreach and Activities

GWTA participated with EOC in preparation for Hurricane Isaias on August 3rd and was available for shelter assistance if called. Willis participated by teleconference in the NC Public Transportation Association quarterly meeting on August 7th. Willis participated in County and municipal teleconference on CARES funds on August 10th. Willis participated on the NCDOT COVID teleconference on August 12th and September 9th. Willis participated in a podcast interview, “This is Wayne” promoting GWTA on August 13th. Willis participated in the Wayne CALM teleconference on August 19th. Willis participated in a teleconference meeting with NCDOT Willis for IMD regarding Medicaid Transportation on August 20th. Willis participated in Mayor’s Council on Disabilities conference call on August 20th. Willis participated in NCDOT grant call for projects teleconference on August 20th. Willis hosted peer Director from Carteret County to discuss corridor services and NEMT on September 10th. GWTA has also coordinated with WCC for the safe startup of classes made due to the pandemic.

Medicaid Transportation Broker Proposal

GWTA has begun negotiations directly with OneCall and Logisticare (private brokers) to be the provider of Medicaid transportation services in Wayne County once managed care becomes effective on July 1, 2021. The goal is to have rates and terms agreed by January 2021 in order to assure a smooth transition.

Marketing and Public Relations Update

As part of our new “We Are Your Safe Way” campaign, GWTA has begun distributing to customers the small bottles of hand sanitizer and bandanas along with a reminder card identifying how GWTA is working to keep everyone safe as well as how to keep yourself safe. GWTA is now working with QCA to develop our marketing plan for the year.

Agency EDTAP Funds (ROAP) for FY21

The Board of Directors agreed to continue the process for allocating any available EDTAP funds to eligible agencies for use to purchase trips from GWTA. While the state did not allocate funds for FY21, they did allow funds unspent due to the pandemic to carry forward for fy21. GWTA has \$47,851.50 available in EDTAP funds to be allocated this fiscal year. Willis asked the TAB to complete the ETAP application.

Other Business

Willis mentioned the Census Bureau deadline and encouraged the Board to help get a good census count from the community. Willis informed the TAB that the Board of Directors approved the Veteran’s Ride Free for the week of November 9-14, 2020. In addition, the Veteran’s half fare will continue.

Meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Submitted by: LaShonda Oliver