

**Region 1 Northwest Regional Transportation  
Coordination Council (NWRTPCC)**

July 22, 2021 11am – 1pm Roseau County Board Room  
County Court House

11am Call to Order – Lynnell Popowski

Roll Call and introductions: Present in Roseau are Lynnell, Jennifer Olson from Emergency Management, Leon Olson from Kittson County, Sharon Bring from Marshall County, Jack Swanson from Roseau County, Marcia Haglund from Tri-Valley, and Dyana Dunnigan from Fosston City Bus. On the phone/zoom are Troy Schroder, Stephanie Aness, Danica Robeson and Helen all from Northwest Regional Development Commission; Michelle Litchig, Tori Hunkus, and Tom Gottfried from MNDOT/MCOTA; Lezlie G from Paul Bunyan, Terri Kouba from the Forks MPO, Jenna Johnson from the Warroad Senior Center, Terry Smith from Mid-Minnesota RTCC, Ashley Eckdahl from East Central RTCC.

11:15 Public Comment / Additions to the Agenda? No additions made.

11:20 Review / Approval of June meeting minutes. Motion by Terri Kouba, second by Dyana Dunnigan, motion passed.

11:30 Election of New officers: Leon Olson as chair and Sharon Bring as Vice Chair for the period of July 1, 2021 until June 30, 2024. Motion by Marcia Haglund, second by Terri Kouba, motion passed.

11:40 MCOTA / MNDOT updates – Tom Gottfried and Michelle Litchig

11:45 Paul Bunyan Transit and Roseau County – Lezlie Grubich – still pleased with the cloud based dispatch system that does not require electricity to operate. Working on local coordination plans, grant for new bus and an audit.

11:55 NWRTPCC Program Update / Committee Reports (Logic Model)

1. INTRO to NWRTPCC document: Please save, print, share and otherwise distribute the NWRTPCC intro document (one page both sides). I will be using this language and reaching out the the county newspapers/radio and traditional media. If you have ideas for FREE exposure let me know. Invite me to the table where you sit. (Task 1)

2. Executive Work Group (Lynnell, Marcia, Kristi Domita, Dyana) together with NWRDC staff met several times to update the MCOTA page for NWRDC and to create the content for the Home and About page for NWRDC. (Task 1) Goal is launch by Labor Day
3. Volunteer Driver Work Group (Lynnell, Marcia, Helen) met this week and changes will be applied on Friday (Task 4). Our most significant achievement is the legislative work.

We are delighted that both the definition of volunteer driver as different from a for-hire driver and the volunteer driver tax subtraction passed at the end of the legislative session and were signed by the Governor! Thank you to all of the Coalition members for your hard work to get us to this point. This is a huge success for us to celebrate.

At this time we need to get thank you emails to legislators. We have updated the MAT online tool as an easy way to thank the Governor, Lt. Governor, Senator, and Representatives for the volunteer driver legislation. We request you all to please take a moment to thank your elected officials by visiting <https://mntownships.org/advocate/>.

Final language for our volunteer definition and income tax subtraction bills can be found here:

Definition: [Laws of Minnesota 2021, 1st special session, chapter 4, article 6, section 14](#)

Income tax subtraction: [Laws of Minnesota, 2021, 1st special session, chapter 14, article 1, section 8](#)

4. Adult Mental Health Initiative (AMHI) Board Mtg at Sanford Health TRF developing relationships with social service providers in region. **September 1 “Be the Voice 2021 E-Race the STIGMA 5K Walk/Run to benefit the MN HOPE Coalition. Working to coordinate transportation for this event and recruiting volunteers. Sponsored by NW8LAC (Adult Mental Health Local Advisory Council) and the NW Mental Health Initiative. (Task 3)**
5. Local Human Service Transit Coordination Plan (Task 6) Troy
6. Emergency Management – Jennifer Olson several meetings (Task 7)
7. Two meetings related to sharing vehicles (Jo Bittner and Marcia) (Task 2)

8. FIRST CALL TO COORDINATE A RIDE – (Task 1)

12:05 Focus on Logic Model Task: Emergency Management

1. What are your concerns? Where is your organization vulnerable in the event of an emergency? What keeps you up at night?
2. What is your surplus capacity to respond in case of emergency?
3. What do you need in place to maximize your ability to respond?

12:30 Agency Updates

12:45 Next Meeting September 23 Red Lake County Courthouse