

Northwest Regional Transportation Coordination Council (NWRTPCC)

November 17, 2022 10am – 12pm Warren, MN

Present: Lynnell Popowski, NWRDC; Marcia Haglund, Rural transportation Collaborative; Karen Onen, East Central RTCC; Darla Waldner, NWRDC; Stephanie Aasness, Dancing Sky AAA; Seth Nelson, Pennington County; Chuck Flage, Red Lake County; Teri Kuba, Grand Forks MPO; Connie Treska, Dancing Sky AAA; Michelle Lichtig, MCOTA; Tammy Haugen, Falls Development Center; Dyana Dunnigan, Fosston Bus; Heather Everson, Options. Sharon Bring, Marshall County. Darrel Johnson, Kittson County.

Review / Approval of September meeting minutes – Chuck Flage moved and Heather Everson seconded, motion carried

MCOTA / MNDOT updates – Tom Gottfried and Michelle Litchig

The Mobility Managers meet monthly to share good ideas across regions and build relationships between RTCC staff. Michelle presented at a meeting of the nation's RDCs about how RTCC programs support the mission of development commissions. Region 5 was awarded an AARP grant to "support our troops." There are new grant opportunities in the Aging world, look for Age Friendly Communities. Live Well at Home grant supports transportation but has a 50% match.

Agency Updates

Tri-Valley Transit continues to work on a sliding fee scale for the Rural Transportation Collaborative. Right now this service is only accessible to MA or insured riders – it is financially inaccessible to private pay riders. Fosston Bus service has raised its rates from \$.50/ride (one way) to \$1/ride. Dancing Sky Area Agency on Aging – technical assistance for those who want to apply for the Age Friendly Communities grant. Thief River Falls DAC – runs 3 vans and a bus. Expressed concern about sharing vehicles with other agencies. Options – Heather is the chair of the COAD group (Community Organizations Active in Disaster) and asked to recruit members to join her group.

2022 Annual Report

2022 Annual Report – Local Human Service Transportation Coordination Plan completed. New members recruited to join the NWRTPCC. Work teams formed to address NEMT in Kittson County; Communications/Marketing; Executive; Volunteer Driver. Outreach at the Marshall County fair and at the Adult Mental Health Initiative health fair. Preparing document for MCOTA outlining the outcomes achieved during this grant cycle.

Kittson County Pilot – submitted grant to the National Center for Mobility Management (NCMM) to pilot a volunteer driver program in Kittson County. This project would recruit new drivers by offering \$1/mile reimbursement, door to door. The drivers will be screened and trained by Tri-Valley Transit. A local volunteer will manage the calls, schedule the rides and arrange the drivers. We anticipate 20 rides per month.

Adjourn