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June 30, 2021

TO: Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
FROM: Lynn Godfrey, AICP, Senior Planner
SUBJECT: Meeting Announcement

The Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board will hold a business meeting **Wednesday, July 14, 2021 at 1:30 p.m.** in the meeting room of Suwannee River Economic Council located at 1439 SW CR 307A in Trenton, Florida.

The meeting will also be conducted via communications media technology in the following format:

DIAL IN NUMBER: **Toll free 1.888.585.9008**

CONFERENCE CODE: **864 183 272**

Please note that a physical quorum of five (5) Board members must be physically present to constitute a quorum.

Per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines, fully vaccinated people are not required to wear a mask or physically distance except where required by federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations including local business and workplace guidance. It is recommended that unvaccinated people wear a mask that covers the nose and mouth and stay six feet apart from others who do not live with you.

Attached is the meeting agenda and supporting materials. If you have any questions concerning the meeting, please do not hesitate to contact me at 1-800-226-0690 extension 110.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this public meeting is asked to advise our office at least **2 business days** before the meeting by contacting 352.955.2200 extension 110. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact our office using the Florida Relay Service, 1.800.955.8771 (TDD) or 1.800.955.8770 (Voice).

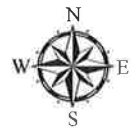
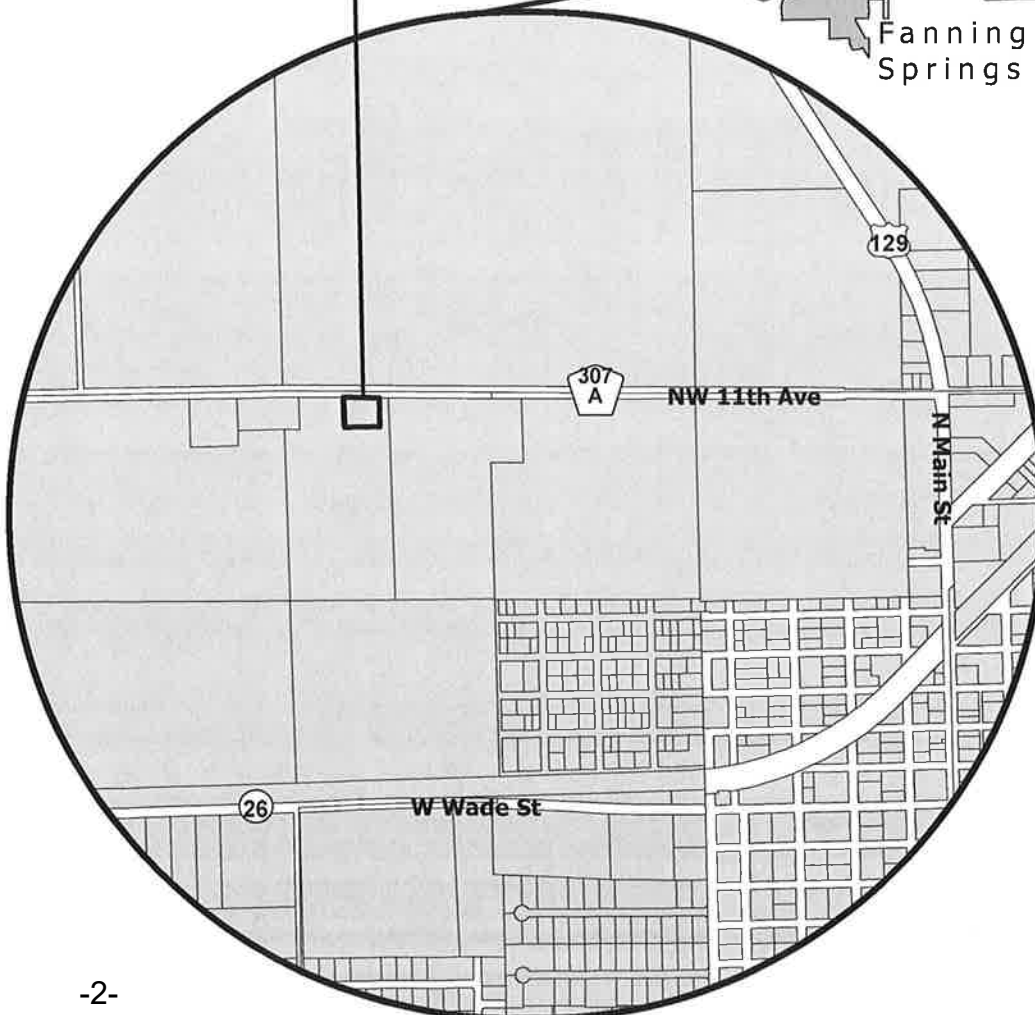
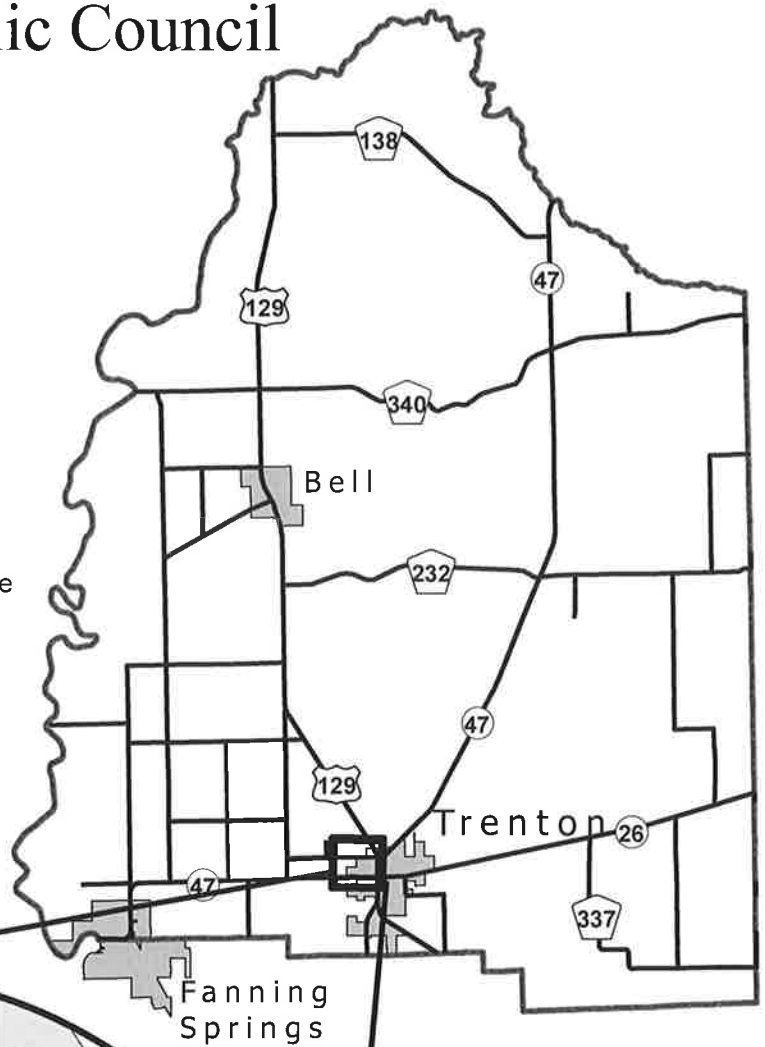
Attachments

T:\Lynn\TD2021\Gilchrist\Memos\july.docx

Suwannee River Economic Council Meeting Facility 1439 SW CR 307A Trenton, Florida 32693

Directions: From the intersection of U.S. Highway 129 (also known as Main St) and SW County Road 307A (also known as NW 11th Ave) in the City of Trenton, head West onto SW County Road 307A (also known as NW 11th Ave), travel approximately 0.7 miles, and the Suwannee River Economic Council Meeting Facility will be on the left, on the South side of SW County Road 307A (also known as NW 11th Ave).

Suwannee River
Economic Council
Meeting Facility



1 inch = 1,250 feet





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**GILCHRIST COUNTY
 TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED COORDINATING BOARD**

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT AND AGENDA

Meeting Room	Wednesday
Suwannee River Economic Council	July 14, 2021
1439 SW CR 307A	1:30 p.m.
Trenton, Florida	
Dial in Number: Toll free 1.888.585.9008	
Conference Code: 864 183 272	

I. BUSINESS MEETING – CALL TO ORDER

- A. Invocation
- B. Pledge of Allegiance
- C. Roll Call
- D. Approval of the Meeting Agenda **ACTION REQUIRED**
- E. Approval of the April 14, 2021 Minutes **Page 7 ACTION REQUIRED**

II. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. **Page 11 ACTION REQUIRED**
 Fiscal Year 2021/22 Service Rates
The Board needs to approve Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.'s Fiscal Year 2021/22 Service Rates
- B. Bylaws **Page 17 ACTION REQUIRED**
The Board needs to approve the Bylaws
- C. Grievance Procedures **Page 37 ACTION REQUIRED**
The Board needs to approve the Grievance Procedures
- D. Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. **Page 55 NO ACTION REQUIRED**
 Operations Reports

III. OTHER BUSINESS

Comments

IV. FUTURE MEETING DATES

- A. October 13, 2021 at 1:30 p.m.**
- B. January 12, 2022 at 1:30 p.m.**
- C. April 13, 2022 at 1:30 p.m.**
- D. July 13, 2022 at 1:30 p.m.**

* Please note that this is a tentative meeting schedule, all dates and times are subject to change.

If you have any questions concerning the meeting agenda, please do not hesitate to contact me at 1-800-226-0690, extension 110.

**GILCHRIST COUNTY
TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED COORDINATING BOARD**

MEMBER/REPRESENTING	ALTERNATE/REPRESENTING
Commissioner Marion Poitevint Local Elected Official/Chair	Not Applicable
Sandra Collins Florida Department of Transportation Grievance Committee Member	Lauren Adams Florida Department of Transportation
John Wisker Florida Department of Children and Families	Amy Burton Florida Department of Children and Families
Jeff Aboumrad Florida Department of Education	Florida Department of Education
Pastor Ralph Williams Florida Department of Elder Affairs	Vacant Florida Department of Elder Affairs
Deweese Ogden Florida Agency for Health Care Administration	Vacant Florida Agency for Health Care Administration
Sheryl Dick-Stanford Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities	Sylvia Bamberg Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities
Selvin Cray Regional Workforce Board Grievance Committee Member	Vacant Regional Workforce Board
Vacant Florida Association for Community Action Term ending June 30, 2023	Vacant Florida Association for Community Action Term ending June 30, 2023
Michelle Walker-Crawford Public Education	Vacant Public Education
Vacant Veterans Term ending June 30, 2023	Vacant Veterans Term ending June 30, 2023
Vacant Citizen Advocate Term ending June 30, 2024	Vacant Citizen Advocate Term ending June 30, 2024
Vacant Citizen Advocate - User Term ending June 30, 2024	Vacant Citizen Advocate - User Term ending June 30, 2024
Leslie Esseck Persons with Disabilities Grievance Committee Member Term ending June 30, 2024	Vacant Persons with Disabilities Term ending June 30, 2024
Richard Esseck, Vice-Chair Elderly Grievance Committee Member Term ending June 30, 2023	Vacant Elderly Term ending June 30, 2023
Brittney Keeling Medical Community Term ending June 30, 2022	Krishna Stemple Medical Community Term ending June 30, 2022
Sandra Woodard Children at Risk Grievance Committee Member Term ending June 30, 2022	Brooke Ward Children at Risk Term ending June 30, 2022
Vacant Private Transit Term ending June 30, 2022	Vacant Private Transit Term ending June 30, 2022

Note: Unless specified, members and alternates serve at the pleasure of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council.

**GILCHRIST COUNTY
TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED COORDINATING BOARD**

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Room
Suwannee River Economic Council
1439 SW CR 307A
Trenton, Florida

Dial in Number: Toll free 1.888.585.9008
Conference Code: 864 183 272

Wednesday
April 14, 2021
1:34 p.m.

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT IN PERSON

Sandra Collins, Florida Department of Transportation Representative
Selvin Cray, Regional Workforce Board Representative
Leslie Esseck, Persons with Disabilities Representative
Richard Esseck, Vice-Chair, Elderly Representative
Brittney Keeling, Medical Community Representative
Pastor Ralph Williams, Florida Department of Elder Affairs Representative

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT VIA TELECOMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

Jeff Aboumrad, Florida Department of Education Representative
Sandra Woodard, Early Childhood Services Representative

ALTERNATE MEMBERS PRESENT VIA TELECOMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

Krishna Stemple, Medical Community Representative

VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT

Commissioner Marion Poitevint, Chair
Sheryl Dick-Stanford, Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities Representative
Dewece Ogden, Florida Agency for Health Care Administration Representative
Michelle Walker-Crawford, Public Education Representative

OTHERS PRESENT

Matthew Pearson, Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.

STAFF PRESENT

Lynn Godfrey, North Central Florida Regional Planning Council

I. BUSINESS MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chair Esseck called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m.

A. Approval of the Meeting Agenda

ACTION: Sandra Collins moved to approve the meeting agenda. Brittany Keeling seconded; motion passed unanimously.

B. Approval of the October 14, 2020 Minutes

ACTION: Brittany Keeling moved to approve the October 14, 2020 meeting minutes. Sandra Collins seconded; motion passed unanimously.

II. NEW BUSINESS

A. 2021/26 Memorandum of Agreement

Ms. Lynn Godfrey, North Central Florida Regional Planning Council Senior Planner, stated that the Memorandum of Agreement is an agreement between the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged and Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. She said the Memorandum of Agreement designates Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. the Community Transportation Coordinator for Gilchrist County.

ACTION: Pastor Williams moved to approve the 2021/26 Memorandum of Agreement between the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged and Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. Sandra Collins seconded; motion passed unanimously.

B. 2021/26 Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan

Ms. Godfrey stated that Chapter 427, Florida Statutes requires Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. prepare a Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan in cooperation with the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council for the Board's approval. She reviewed the draft plan with the Board.

Sandra Woodard noted that children 5 years of age or younger must be properly restrained.

ACTION: Brittany Keeling moved to approve the 2021/26 Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan with the noted amendment concerning use of child restraint devices. Pastor Williams seconded; motion passed unanimously.

C. Elect Vice-Chair

Vice-Chair Esseck asked Selvin Cray to conduct the election of Vice-Chair.

Selvin Cray asked for Vice-Chair nominations.

ACTION: Sandra Collins moved to re-elect Richard Esseck as Vice-Chair. Leslie Esseck seconded; motion passed unanimously.

D. Resolutions of Appreciation

Ms. Godfrey stated that the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged rescinded their December 17, 2020 Emergency Order allowing the local Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Boards to meet virtually on January 15, 2021. Therefore, she said the actions taken by the Board at its January 13, 2021 meeting were considered null and void. She said the Board approved awarding resolutions of appreciation to the Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. drivers and transportation staff for continuing to provide essential transportation services during the COVID-19 pandemic. She asked the Board to approve awarding the resolutions of appreciation since the previous action was declared null and void.

ACTION: Pastor Williams moved to award resolutions of appreciation to Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. drivers and transportation staff for the outstanding work they are doing during the COVID-19 pandemic. Brittney Keeling seconded; motion passed unanimously.

JE. Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. Operations Reports

Mr. Matthew Pearson, Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. Executive Director, discussed Suwannee River Economic Council's operations reports for the October – December 2020 quarter. He said the number of trips decreased because the mealsite is still closed and recreational trips are not being provided at this time due to COVID-19. He said the trip numbers are still not up to the pre-pandemic numbers, but, are slowly increasing. He commended the Florida Department of Transportation for providing additional financial assistance to the Community Transportation Coordinators in order to continue providing transportation services.

III. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Comments

Vice-Chair Esseck expressed his appreciation to Mr. Pearson and Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. staff for the outstanding job they do.

IV. FUTURE MEETING DATES

Vice-Chair Esseck stated that the next meeting of the Board will be held Wednesday, July 14, 2021 at 1:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:09 p.m.

Coordinating Board Chair

Date



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June 30, 2021

TO: Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board

FROM: Lynn Godfrey, AICP, Senior Planner

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2021/22 Transportation Disadvantaged Program Rate Calculation Model and Service Rates

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Approve Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.'s Fiscal Year 2021/22 Transportation Disadvantaged Program Rate Calculation Model and Service Rates.

BACKGROUND

The Transportation Disadvantaged Program Trip and Equipment Grant Agreement must include the service rates charged for Transportation Disadvantaged Program sponsored trips. The Transportation Disadvantaged Program Rate Calculation Model must be completed and submitted to the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged to support the proposed service rates. The Transportation Disadvantaged Program Rate Calculation Model is required to be reviewed and approved by the local Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board.

Attached are Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.'s Fiscal Year 2021/22 Transportation Disadvantaged Program Rate Calculation Model worksheets and proposed service rates. If you have any questions concerning the attached materials, please contact me at extension 110.

Attachment

T:\Lynn\TD2021\Gilchrist\Memos\ratecalcmod.docx



Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund Service Rates Form

Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC)	Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.
Service Rate Effective Date	7/1/2021

Grant Agreement Service Rates		
Type of Service Transportation Mode	Unit of Measure	Cost Per Unit
* Ambulatory	Passenger Mile	\$1.78
* Wheel Chair	Passenger Mile	\$3.04

Preliminary Information Worksheet Version 1.4

CTC Name: Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.

County (Service Area): Gilchrist

Contact Person: Matt Pearson, Executive Director

Phone #: 386-362-4115 ext. 223

Check Applicable Characteristic:

<p>ORGANIZATIONAL TYPE:</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Governmental</p> <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> Private Non-Profit</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Private For Profit</p>	<p>NETWORK TYPE:</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Fully Brokered</p> <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> Partially Brokered</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Sole Source</p>
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Gilchrist County
Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan

	Prior Year's ACTUALS from July 1st of 2019 to June 30th of 2020	Current Year's APPROVED Budget, as amended from July 1st of 2020 to June 30th of 2021	Upcoming Year's PROPOSED Budget from July 1st of 2021 to June 30th of 2022	% Change from Prior Year to Current Year	Proposed % Change from Current Year to Upcoming Year	Confirm whether revenues are collected as a system subsidy VS a purchase of service at a unit price. Explain Changes in Column 6 That Are > ± 10% and Also > ± \$50,000
REVENUES (CTC/Operators ONLY / Do NOT include coordination contractors!)						
Local Non-Govt						
Farebox						Other: SREC match funds Other Column 3: \$64,878 + \$73,373 (50% profit) = \$138,251 Other Column 4: \$15,820 (10% TD local match) + \$73,373 = \$89,193
Medicaid Co-Pay Received						
Donations/ Contributions						
In-Kind, Contributed Services						
Other	\$ 17,727	\$ 64,878	\$ 17,578	266.0%	-72.9%	
Bus Pass Program Revenue						
CTD						
Non-Spons. Trip Program	\$ 164,814	\$ 179,378	\$ 158,202	8.8%	-11.8%	
Non-Spons. Capital Equipment						
Rural Capital Equipment	\$ 72,546			-100.0%		
Other TD (specify in explanation)						
Bus Pass Program Revenue						
USDOT & FDOT						
49 USC 5307						
49 USC 5310						
49 USC 5311 (Operating)	\$ 135,645	\$ 20,000	\$ 120,200	-85.3%	501.0%	
49 USC 5311(Capital)						
Block Grant						
Service Development						
Commuter Assistance						
Other DOT (specify in explanation)						
Bus Pass Program Revenue						
AHCA						
Medicaid	\$ 76,031	\$ 119,006	\$ 68,100	56.5%	-42.8%	
Other AHCA (specify in explanation)						
Bus Pass Program Revenue						
DOEA						
Older Americans Act	\$ 10,449	\$ 7,715	\$ 6,335	-26.2%	-17.9%	
Community Care for Elderly						
Other DOEA (specify in explanation)						
Bus Pass Program Revenue						
Balancing Revenue is Short By =			None			
Total Revenues =	\$477,212	\$390,977	\$370,416	-18.1%	-6.3%	

EXPENDITURES (CTC/Operators ONLY / Do NOT include Coordination Contractors!)					
Operating Expenditures					
Labor	\$ 103,007	\$ 153,327	\$ 156,024	48.9%	1.8%
Fringe Benefits	\$ 44,406	\$ 73,787	\$ 67,285	66.2%	-8.8%
Services	\$ 10,562	\$ 18,709	\$ 15,483	77.1%	-17.2%
Materials and Supplies	\$ 49,369	\$ 82,474	\$ 77,108	67.1%	-6.5%
Utilities	\$ 8,324	\$ 12,680	\$ 10,494	52.3%	-17.2%
Casualty and Liability	\$ 19,135	\$ 20,053	\$ 20,499	4.8%	2.2%
Taxes	\$ 244	\$ 501	\$ 465	105.3%	-7.2%
Purchased Transportation:					
Purchased Bus Pass Expenses					
School Bus Utilization Expenses					
Contracted Transportation Services		\$ 2,817			-100.0%
Other					
Miscellaneous	\$ 1,403	\$ 2,693	\$ 1,787	91.9%	-33.6%
Operating Debt Service - Principal & Interest					
Leases and Rentals					
Contrib. to Capital Equip. Replacement Fund		\$ 4,007	\$ 3,691		-7.9%
In-Kind, Contributed Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
Allocated Indirect	\$ 17,727	\$ 19,930	\$ 17,578	12.4%	-11.8%
Capital Expenditures					
Equip. Purchases with Grant Funds	\$ 76,289				-100.0%
Equip. Purchases with Local Revenue					
Equip. Purchases with Rate Generated Rev.					
Capital Debt Service - Principal & Interest					
ACTUAL YEAR GAIN					
	\$ 146,746				
Total Expenditures =	\$330,466	\$390,978	\$370,414	18.3%	-5.3%

PROGRAM-WIDE RATES ¹		Fiscal Year	
Total Projected Passenger Miles =	120,500	2021 - 2022	
Rate Per Passenger Mile =	\$ 2.08		
Total Projected Passenger Trips =	3,950		
Rate Per Passenger Trip =	\$ 63.35		
		Avg. Passenger Trip Length 30.5 Miles	

Rates If No Revenue Funds Were Identified As Subsidy Funds	
Rate Per Passenger Mile =	\$ 3.07
Rate Per Passenger Trip =	\$ 93.78

		RATES FOR FY: 2021 - 2022			
		Ambul	Chair	Stretcher Leave Blank	Leave
Projected Passenger Miles (excluding totally contracted services addressed in Section III) =	120,500	91,950	28,550		
Rate per Passenger Mile =		\$1.78	\$3.04	\$0.00	\$



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June 29, 2021

TO: Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
FROM: Lynn Godfrey, AICP, Senior Planner
SUBJECT: Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board Bylaws

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the Board's Bylaws.

BACKGROUND

The Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged requires that the Board review and approve the Bylaws annually. Attached are the Board's Bylaws for review and approval.

If you have any questions concerning the Bylaws, please contact me at extension 110.

Attachment

T:\Lynn\TD2021\Gilchrist\Memos\bylaws.docx

Bylaws

July 14, 2021

Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board



Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board

Bylaws

Approved by the

Gilchrist County
Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board

2009 NW 67th Place
Gainesville, FL 32653-1603
www.ncfrpc.org/mtpo
352.955.2000

Marion Poitevint, Chair

with Assistance from



North Central Florida Regional Planning Council
2009 NW 67th Place
Gainesville, FL 32653-1603
www.ncfrpc.org
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July 14, 2021

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Chapter I: Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board Bylaws

A. Preamble

The following sets forth the bylaws which shall serve to guide the proper functioning of the Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board. The intent is to provide procedures and policies for fulfilling the requirements of Chapter 427, Florida Statutes, Rule 41-2, Florida Administrative Code, and subsequent laws setting forth requirements for the coordination of transportation services to the transportation disadvantaged.

B. Agency Description

The Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board is a public body appointed by the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council serving as the Designated Official Planning Agency as authorized by Section 427.015, Florida Statutes.

C. Definitions

Transportation disadvantaged means those persons who because of physical or mental disability, income status, or age are unable to transport themselves or to purchase transportation and are, therefore, dependent upon others to obtain access to health care, employment, education, shopping, social activities, or other life-sustaining activities, or children who are handicapped or high-risk or at-risk as defined in Section 411.202, Florida Statutes.

Agency means an official, officer, commission, authority, council, committee, department, division, bureau, board, section, or any other unit or entity of the state or of a city, town, municipality, county, or other local governing body or a private nonprofit transportation service-providing agency.

Community Transportation Coordinator means a transportation entity recommended by a metropolitan planning organization, or by the appropriate designated official planning agency as provided for in Section 427.011, Florida Statutes in an area outside the purview of a metropolitan planning organization, to ensure that coordinated transportation services are provided to the transportation disadvantaged population in a designated service area.

Coordinating Board means an advisory entity in each designated service area composed of representatives appointed by the metropolitan planning organization or designated official planning agency, to provide assistance to the community transportation coordinator relative to the coordination of transportation services.

Coordination means the arrangement for the provision of transportation services to the transportation disadvantaged in a manner that is cost-effective, efficient and reduces fragmentation and duplication of services.

Designated Official Planning Agency means the official body or agency designated by the Commission to fulfill the functions of transportation disadvantaged planning in areas not covered by a Metropolitan Planning Organization. The Metropolitan Planning Organization shall serve as the designated official planning agency in areas covered by such organizations.

Designated Service Area means a geographical area recommended by a designated official planning agency, subject to approval by the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged, which defines the community where coordinated transportation services will be provided to the transportation disadvantaged.

Florida Coordinated Transportation System means a transportation system responsible for coordination and service provisions for the transportation disadvantaged as outlined in Chapter 427, Florida Statutes.

Memorandum of Agreement is the state contract for transportation disadvantaged services purchased with federal, state or local government transportation disadvantaged funds. This agreement is between the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged and the Community Transportation Coordinator and recognizes the Community Transportation Coordinator as being responsible for the arrangement of the provision of transportation disadvantaged services for a designated service area.

Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan means an annually updated plan jointly developed by the Designated Official Planning Agency and the Community Transportation Coordinator which contains a development plan, service plan and quality assurance components. The plan shall be approved and used by the local Coordinating Board to evaluate the Community Transportation Coordinator.

D. Name and Purpose

- (1) The name of the Coordinating Board shall be the Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board, hereinafter referred to as the Board.
- (2) The purpose of the Board is to identify local service needs and provide information, advice and direction to the Community Transportation Coordinator on the provision of services to the transportation disadvantaged within the designated service area. In general, the Board is considered an advisory body (Section 427.0157, Florida Statutes).

E. Membership

- (1) Voting Members. In accordance with Section 427.0157, Florida Statutes, all voting members of the Board shall be appointed by the Designated Official Planning Agency. The Designated Official Planning Agency for Gilchrist County is the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council.
 - (a) An elected official from the service area which the Board serves shall be appointed to the Board.
 - (b) A local representative of the Florida Department of Transportation;
 - (c) A local representative of the Florida Department of Children and Family Services;

- (d) A local representative of the Public Education Community which could include, but not be limited to, a representative of the District School Board, School Board Transportation Office or Headstart Program in areas where the School District is responsible;
- (e) In areas where they exist, a local representative of the Florida Division of Vocational Rehabilitation or the Division of Blind Services, representing the Department of Education;
- (f) A person recommended by the local Veterans Service Office representing the veterans of the service area;
- (g) A person who is recognized by the Florida Association for Community Action (President), representing the economically disadvantaged in the service area;
- (h) A person over age sixty (60) representing the elderly in the service area;
- (i) A person with a disability representing the disabled in the service area;
- (j) Two citizen advocate representatives in the service area; one who must be a person who uses the transportation service(s) of the system as their primary means of transportation;
- (k) A local representative for children at risk;
- (l) In areas where they exist, the Chairperson or designee of the local Mass Transit or Public Transit System's Board, except in cases where they are also the Community Transportation Coordinator;
- (m) A local representative of the Florida Department of Elder Affairs;
- (n) An experienced representative of the local private for-profit transportation industry. In areas where such representative is not available, a local private non-profit representative shall be appointed, except where said representative is also the Community Transportation Coordinator;
- (o) A local representative of the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration;
- (p) A representative of the Regional Workforce Development Board established in Chapter 445, Florida Statutes; and
- (q) A representative of the local medical community, which may include, but not be limited to, kidney dialysis centers, long term care facilities, assisted living facilities, hospitals, local health department or other home and community based services, etc.
- (r) A local representative of the Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities.

- (s) No employee of a Community Transportation Coordinator shall serve as a voting member of the Coordinating Board in an area where the Community Transportation Coordinator serves. However, an elected official serving as a member of the Community Transportation Coordinator's Board of Directors, or other governmental employees that are not employed for the purpose of making provisions for transportation and are not directly supervised by the Community Transportation Coordinator, shall not be precluded from serving as voting members of the Coordinating Board.

It is the intent of the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged for the membership of the Board to represent to the maximum extent possible a cross section of their local community.

- (2) **Alternate Members.** The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council may appoint one alternate member to represent appointed voting members in their absence. Alternate members may vote only in the absence of the voting member on a one-vote-per-member basis. Alternate members must be a representative of the same interest as the primary member.
- (3) **Terms of Appointment.** Except for the Chair, non-agency members of the Board shall be appointed for three-year staggered terms with initial membership being appointed equally for one, two and three years. The Chair shall serve until elected term of office has expired or otherwise replaced by the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council. There are no limits to the number of terms served by any member of the Board.
- (4) **Termination of Membership.** Any member of the Board may resign at any time. Each member of the Board is expected to demonstrate his/her interest in the Board's activities through attendance of the scheduled meetings, except for reasons of an unavoidable nature. The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council shall review, and consider rescinding, the appointment of any voting member of the Board who fails to attend three consecutive meetings.

F. Officers

- (1) **Chair.** The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council shall appoint an official Chair for all Board meetings. The appointed Chair shall be an elected official from the designated service area that the Board serves (41-2.012(1), Florida Administrative Code). For a multi-county Board, the Chair shall be from one of the counties in the designated service area. The Chair shall serve until their elected term of office has expired or otherwise replaced by the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council. The Chair shall preside at all meetings.
- (2) **Vice-Chair.** The Board shall hold an organizational meeting each year for the purpose of electing a Vice-Chair (41-2.012(2) Florida Administrative Code). The Vice-Chair shall be elected by a majority vote of a quorum of the members of the Board present and voting at the organizational meeting. The Vice-Chair shall serve a term of one year starting with the first meeting after their election. For a multi-county Board, an elected official not serving as the Chair shall serve as Vice-Chair. In the event of the Chair's absence, the Vice-Chair shall assume the duties of the Chairperson and conduct the meeting. The Vice-Chair may serve more than one term.

G. Meetings

- (1) Regular Meetings. The Board shall meet at least quarterly. The Board may meet as often as necessary to fulfill its responsibilities as set forth in Section 427.0157, Florida Statutes. Business meetings of the Board may be called, rescheduled, postponed or cancelled for any appropriate purpose by the Chair. All meetings will function under the "Government in the Sunshine Law." All meetings will provide opportunity for public comments on the agenda. The Board shall conduct business using parliamentary procedures according to Roberts Rules of Order.
- (2) Emergency Meetings. The Board may hold emergency meetings in order to transact business necessary to ensure the continuation of services to the transportation disadvantaged population. Special meetings may be called by the Chair or by 1/3 of the Board's voting membership.

North Central Florida Regional Planning Council staff shall give the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged, Board members and all interested parties one week notice, if possible, of the date, time, location and proposed agenda for the emergency meeting. Meeting materials shall be provided as early as possible. Emergency meetings shall be advertised at a minimum, in the largest general circulation newspaper in the designated service area as soon as possible prior to the meeting.

- (3) Special Meetings. Special meetings of the Board may be called for any appropriate purpose by the Chair or by written request of at least seven (7) voting members of the Board. Special meetings of the Board may be rescheduled, postponed or cancelled for any appropriate purpose by the Chair.
- (4) Public Workshop. The Board shall hold a public workshop annually. Public workshops may be called, rescheduled, postponed or cancelled for any appropriate purpose by the Chair.
- (5) Notice of Regular and Special Meetings. All meetings, public workshops, committee meetings, etc. shall be advertised, at a minimum, in the largest general circulation newspaper in the designated service area prior to the meeting. Meeting notices shall include the date, time and location, general nature/subject of the meeting a contact person and phone number to call for additional information and to request accessible meeting material formats.

Notices and tentative agendas shall be provided to the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged, Board members and other interested parties at least two weeks prior to each Board meeting. Meeting notices shall include the date, time, location, general nature/subject of the meeting, a contact person and phone number to call for additional information and to request accessible formats.

- (6) Quorum. At all meetings of the Board, the presence in person of at least two voting members or their alternates in addition to voting or alternate member presence via communications media technology sufficient to make up 40 percent of the voting members shall be necessary and sufficient to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Vacant voting positions as specified in Chapter 1, Section 3 which are vacant shall not be included in the number of persons required to be present in order to constitute a quorum.

In the absence of a quorum, those present may, without notice other than by announcement at the meeting, recess the meeting from time to time, until a quorum shall be present. At any such recessed meeting, any business may be transacted which might have been transacted at the meeting as originally called. In the absence of a quorum, the members present may also elect to either:

- a) Cancel and reschedule the meeting; or
- b) Continue to meet and discuss agenda items for informational purposes only. Agenda items that require formal action shall be presented at a future meeting where a quorum is present.

Board members can participate (and vote) in meetings via conference call, however, a physical quorum must be present to vote on agenda items that require formal action.

- (7) Voting. At all meetings of the Board at which a quorum is present, all matters, except as otherwise expressly required by law or these Bylaws, shall be decided by the vote of a majority of the members of the Board present. As required by Section 286.012, Florida Statutes, all Board members, including the Chair of the Board, must vote on all official actions taken by the Board except when there appears to be a possible conflict of interest with a member or members of the Board.
- (8) Voting Conflicts. In accordance with Chapter 112.3143(2)(a), Florida Statutes, "A state public officer may not vote on any matter that the officer knows would inure to his or her special private gain or loss. Any state public officer who abstains from voting in an official capacity upon any measure that the officer knows would inure to the officer's special private gain or loss, or who votes in an official capacity on a measure that he or she knows would inure to the special private gain or loss of any principal by whom the officer is retained or to the parent organization or subsidiary of a corporate principal by which the officer is retained other than an agency as defined in s. 112.312(2); or which the officer knows would inure to the special private gain or loss of a relative or business associate of the public officer, shall make every reasonable effort to disclose the nature of his or her interest as a public record in a memorandum filed with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who shall incorporate the memorandum in the minutes. If it is not possible for the state public officer to file a memorandum before the vote, the memorandum must be filed with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting no later than 15 days after the vote."
- (9) Proxy Voting. Proxy voting is not permitted.
- (10) Parliamentary Procedures. The Board will conduct business using parliamentary procedures according to Robert's Rules of Order, except when in conflict with these Bylaws.
- (11) Attendance. The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council shall review, and consider rescinding, the appointment of any voting member of the Board who fails to attend three consecutive meetings. The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council shall notify the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged if any state agency voting member or their alternate fails to attend three consecutive meetings. The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council must maintain an attendance roster for each meeting. Board members can participate (and vote) at meetings via conference call, however, a physical quorum must be present to vote on action items.
- (12) Public Comment. Public comments shall be limited to three (3) minutes and directed to the Chair. Additional time may be given at the Chair's discretion. The Chair may impose a cumulative time limit for all public comment on any specific agenda item.

Members of the public shall be allowed to address the Board following the making of a motion that has been properly seconded concerning a proposition before the Board. Such comments shall be directed to the Chair.

All comments made by Board members, Board staff, guests and members of the public during any public meeting of the Board shall be governed by the City, County and Local Government Law Section of the Florida Bar Civility Pledge, as follows:

1. We will be respectful of one another even when we disagree;
2. We will direct all comments to the issues; and
3. We will avoid personal attacks.

H. Administration

- (1) Staff Support. The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council shall provide the Board with sufficient staff support and resources to enable the Board to fulfill its responsibilities as set forth in Section 427.0157, Florida Statutes. These responsibilities include providing sufficient staff to manage and oversee the operations of the Board and assist in the scheduling of meetings, preparing meeting agenda packets and other necessary administrative duties as required by the Board within the limits of the resources available.
- (2) Minutes. The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council is responsible for maintaining an official set of minutes for each Board meeting regardless of the presence of a quorum. The minutes shall be prepared in a reasonable time following the meeting and shall include an attendance roster indicating what agency, organization or position each member represents and reflect a summary of official actions taken by the Board. Meeting minutes shall be provided at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting for approval.

I. Duties

- (1) Board Duties. The following Board duties are set forth in Chapter 427, Florida Statutes and Rule 41-2, Florida Administrative Code.
 - (a) Maintain official meeting minutes, including an attendance roster, reflecting official actions and provide a copy of same to the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged.
 - (b) Review and approve the Memorandum of Agreement and Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.
 - (c) Annually evaluate the Community Transportation Coordinator's performance in general and relative to Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged and local standards as referenced in Rule 41-2.006, Florida Administrative Code, and the performance results of the most recent Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan. As part of the Community Transportation Coordinator's performance, the Board shall also set an annual percentage goal increase for the number of trips provided within the system for ridership on public transit, where applicable. In areas where the public transit is being utilized, the Board shall set an annual percentage of the number of trips to be provided on public transit. The Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged shall provide evaluation criteria for the Board to use relative to the performance of the Community Transportation Coordinator. This evaluation shall be submitted to the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged upon approval by the Board.

- (d) In cooperation with the Community Transportation Coordinator, review all applications for local, state or federal funds relating to transportation of the transportation disadvantaged in the service area to ensure that any expenditures within the county are provided in the most cost effective and efficient manner.
- (e) Review coordination strategies for service provision to the transportation disadvantaged in the service area to seek innovative ways to improve cost effectiveness, efficiency, safety, working hours and types of service in an effort to increase ridership to a broader population. Such strategies should also encourage multi-county and regional transportation service agreements between area Community Transportation Coordinators and consolidation of adjacent counties when it is appropriate and cost effective to do so.
- (f) Working with the Community Transportation Coordinator, jointly develop applications for funds that may become available.
- (g) Assist the Community Transportation Coordinator in establishing eligibility guidelines and trip priorities for trips that are purchased with Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Funds.
- (h) Annually review coordination contracts to advise the Community Transportation Coordinator whether the continuation of said contract provides the most cost effective and efficient transportation available.
- (i) Annually review all transportation operator contracts as to the effectiveness and efficiency of the transportation operator and recommend approval or disapproval of such contracts to the Community Transportation Coordinator.
- (j) Annually hold a public workshop for the purpose of receiving input regarding unmet transportation needs or any other areas that relate to the local transportation services provided under Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program in Gilchrist County.
- (k) Annually review the Annual Operations Report.

J. Committees

The Chair subject to approval by the Board shall appoint a Grievance Committee to process and investigate complaints from agencies, users, transportation operators and potential users of the system in the designated service area. The Grievance Committee shall make recommendations to the Board or to the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged for improvement of service. The Board shall establish a process and procedures to provide regular opportunities for issues to be brought before the Grievance Committee and to address them in a timely manner. Rider brochures or other documents provided to users or potential users of the system shall provide information about the complaint and grievance process including the publishing of the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged's Transportation Disadvantaged Helpline service when local resolution has not occurred. When requested, all materials shall be made available in accessible format. Members appointed to the Grievance Committee shall be voting members of the Board. If a Grievant claims a conflict between the Grievant and a Grievance Committee member, the Grievance Committee member identified as having a conflict shall recuse themselves from hearing the grievance.

Additional committees shall be appointed by the Chair, subject to approval by the Board, as necessary to investigate and report on specific subject areas of interest to the Board and to deal with administrative and legislative procedures.

K. Amendments

These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote with previous notice, or without notice, a majority of the entire membership.

L. Certification

The undersigned hereby certifies that he/she is the Chair of the Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board and that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the Bylaws of this Board as adopted by the Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board the 14th day of July 2021.

Marion Poitevint, Chair
Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board

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Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board

Bylaws Team

Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

* Lynn Franson-Godfrey, AICP, Senior Planner

* Primary Responsibility



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June 29, 2021

TO: Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board

FROM: Lynn Godfrey, AICP, Senior Planner

SUBJECT: Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board Grievance Procedures

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the Board's Grievance Procedures.

BACKGROUND

The Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged requires that the Board review and approve the Grievance Procedures annually. Attached are the Board's Grievance Procedures for review and approval.

If you have any questions concerning the Grievance Procedures, please contact me at extension 110.

Attachment

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Grievance Procedures

July 14, 2021

Gilchrist County
Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board



Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board

Grievance Procedures

Approved by the

Gilchrist County
Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board

2009 NW 67th Place
Gainesville, FL 32653-1603
www.ncfrpc.org/mtpo
352.955.2000

Marion Poitevint, Chair

with Assistance from



North Central Florida Regional Planning Council
2009 NW 67th Place
Gainesville, FL 32653-1603
www.ncfrpc.org
352.955.2200

July 14, 2021

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Chapter I: Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board Grievance Procedures

A. Preamble

The following sets forth the procedures for the Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board to address grievances from agencies, users, potential users, sub-contractors, and other interested parties concerning Florida's Coordinated Transportation System.

B. Agency Description

The Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board, herein after referred to as the Board, is a public body appointed by the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council serving as the Designated Official Planning Agency as authorized by Section 427.015, Florida Statutes.

C. Definitions

Transportation disadvantaged means those persons who because of physical or mental disability, income status, or age are unable to transport themselves or to purchase transportation and are, therefore, dependent upon others to obtain access to health care, employment, education, shopping, social activities, or other life-sustaining activities, or children who are handicapped or high-risk or at-risk as defined in Section 411.202, Florida Statutes.

Agency means an official, officer, commission, authority, council, committee, department, division, bureau, board, section, or any other unit or entity of the state or of a city, town, municipality, county, or other local governing body or a private nonprofit transportation service-providing agency.

Community Transportation Coordinator means a transportation entity recommended by a metropolitan planning organization, or by the appropriate designated official planning agency as provided for in Section 427.011, Florida Statutes in an area outside the purview of a metropolitan planning organization, to ensure that coordinated transportation services are provided to the transportation disadvantaged population in a designated service area.

Coordinating Board means an advisory entity in each designated service area composed of representatives appointed by the metropolitan planning organization or designated official planning agency, to provide assistance to the community transportation coordinator relative to the coordination of transportation services.

Coordination means the arrangement for the provision of transportation services to the transportation disadvantaged in a manner that is cost-effective, efficient and reduces fragmentation and duplication of services.

Designated Official Planning Agency means the official body or agency designated by the Commission to fulfill the functions of transportation disadvantaged planning in areas not covered by a Metropolitan Planning Organization. The Metropolitan Planning Organization shall serve as the designated official planning agency in areas covered by such organizations.

Designated Service Area means a geographical area recommended by a designated official planning agency, subject to approval by the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged, which defines the community where coordinated transportation services will be provided to the transportation disadvantaged.

Florida's Coordinated Transportation System means a transportation system responsible for coordination and service provisions for the transportation disadvantaged as outlined in Chapter 427, Florida Statutes.

Grievance means a written complaint to document any concerns regarding the operation or administration of services provided by Florida's Coordinated Transportation System by the Community Transportation Coordinator, subcontracted transportation operators, the Designated Official Planning Agency, or the Board. A grievance may also be a service complaint that has been left unresolved for more than 45 days.

Memorandum of Agreement is the state contract for transportation disadvantaged services purchased with federal, state or local government transportation disadvantaged funds. This agreement is between the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged and the Community Transportation Coordinator and recognizes the Community Transportation Coordinator as being responsible for the arrangement of the provision of transportation disadvantaged services for a designated service area.

Service complaint means routine incidents that occur on a daily basis, are reported to the driver or dispatcher, or to other individuals involved with the daily operations, and are resolved within the course of a reasonable time period suitable to the complainant. All service complaints shall be recorded and a summary of complaints should be provided by the Community Transportation Coordinator on a quarterly basis, to the Board.

Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan means an annually updated plan jointly developed by the Designated Official Planning Agency and the Community Transportation Coordinator which contains a development plan, service plan and quality assurance components. The plan shall be approved and used by the local Coordinating Board to evaluate the Community Transportation Coordinator.

D. Purpose

- (1) The Board shall appoint a Grievance Committee to serve as a mediator to process, and investigate complaints from agencies, users, potential users of the system and the Community Transportation Coordinator in the designated service area, and make recommendations to the Board for the improvement of service.
- (2) The Board shall establish procedures to provide regular opportunities for issues to be brought before the Grievance Committee and to address them in a timely manner. Members appointed to the Grievance Committee shall be voting members of the Board.

- (3) The Grievance Committee and the Board shall have the authority to hear and advise on grievances. When an entity makes a determination of the rights, duties, privileges, benefits, or legal relationships of a specified person or persons, it is exercising "adjudicative" or "determinative" powers. Deciding a grievance between two independent parties may fall within these parameters, depending on the nature of the grievance. Chapter 427, Florida Statutes grants no adjudicative powers to anyone.

E. Membership

- (1) The Chair, subject to approval by the Board, shall appoint five (5) voting members to a Grievance Committee. The membership of the Grievance Committee shall include broad geographic representation from members of the local Coordinating Board representing the counties in the service area.
- (2) Term limits on the Grievance Committee may coincide with term limits on the Board.

F. Officers

- (1) The Grievance Committee shall elect a Chair and Vice-Chair.

G. Meetings

- (1) The Grievance Committee may meet as often as necessary to fulfill its responsibilities. Meetings may be called, rescheduled, postponed or cancelled for any appropriate purpose by the Chair. The Grievance Committee may meet following Board meetings to hear complaints and grievances. All meetings will function under the "Government in the Sunshine Law." All meetings will provide opportunity for public comments on the agenda.
- (2) Notice of Meetings. Notices and tentative agendas shall be provided to the Florida Commission for the Transportation, Committee members and other interested parties at least two weeks prior to the meeting. Meeting notices shall include the date, time, location, general nature/subject of the meeting, a contact person and phone number to call for additional information and to request accessible formats.
- (3) Quorum. At all meetings of the Grievance Committee, the presence in person of a majority of the voting members shall be necessary and sufficient to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. In the absence of a quorum, those present may, without notice other than by announcement at the meeting, recess the meeting from time to time, until a quorum shall be present. At any such recessed meeting, any business may be transacted which might have been transacted at the meeting as originally called.
- (4) Voting. A majority vote is required for actions by the Grievance Committee. As required by Section 286.012, Florida Statutes, all Grievance Committee members, including the Chair, must vote on all official actions taken by the Grievance Committee except when there appears to be a possible conflict of interest with a member or members of the Grievance Committee.

- (5) Conflict of Interest. In accordance with Chapter 112 (Part III), Florida Statutes, "No county, municipal, or other public office shall vote in an official capacity upon any measure which would inure to his or her special private gain or loss, or which the officer know would inure to the special private gain or loss of a principal by whom he or she is retained, of the parent organization or subsidiary of a corporate principal which he or she is retained, of a relative or of a business associate. The officer must publicly announce the nature of his or her interest before the vote and must file a memorandum of voting conflict on Ethics Commission Form 8B with the meeting's recording officer within 15 days after the vote occurs disclosing the nature of his or her interest in the matter."

In cases where a grievance involves the private or personal interests of a member of the Grievance Committee, such member shall be disqualified from hearing such grievance. If a Grievant claims a conflict between the Grievant and a Grievance Committee member, the Grievance Committee member identified as having a conflict shall recuses themselves from hearing the grievance. No member of the Grievance Committee shall appear before the Grievance Committee as an agent or attorney for any person.

- (6) Proxy Voting. Proxy voting is not permitted.
- (7) Parliamentary Procedures. The Grievance Committee will conduct business using parliamentary procedures according to Robert's Rules of Order, except when in conflict with these Grievance Procedures.
- (8) Public Comment. Public comments shall be limited to three (3) minutes and directed to the Chair. Additional time may be given at the Chair's discretion. The Chair may impose a cumulative time limit for all public comment on any specific agenda item.

Members of the public shall be allowed to address the Committee following the making of a motion that has been properly seconded concerning a proposition before the Committee. Such comments shall be directed to the Chair.

All comments made by Committee members, Committee staff, guests and members of the public during any public meeting of the Grievance Committee shall be governed by the City, County and Local Government Law Section of the Florida Bar Civility Pledge, as follows:

1. We will be respectful of one another even when we disagree;
2. We will direct all comments to the issues; and
3. We will avoid personal attacks.

H. Administration

- (1) Staff Support. The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council shall provide the Grievance Committee with sufficient staff support and resources to enable the Grievance Committee to fulfill their responsibilities.
- (2) Minutes. The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council is responsible for maintaining an official set of minutes for each Grievance Committee meeting.

I. Duties

The Grievance Committee shall make recommendations to the Board, the Community Transportation Coordinator, and/or to the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged for improvement of service.

J. Procedures

- (1) The grievance procedures shall be open to addressing concerns by any person or agency including but not limited to: purchasing agencies, users, potential users, private-for-profit operators, private-nonprofit operators, Community Transportation Coordinators, Designated Official Planning Agencies, elected officials, and drivers. The grievant, in their formal complaint, should demonstrate or establish their concerns as clearly as possible.
- (2) The Board must make a written copy of the grievance procedures available to anyone, upon request. All documents pertaining to the grievance process will be made available, upon request, in accessible format. The following procedures are established to provide regular opportunities for grievances to be brought before the Grievance Committee.
- (3) Should an interested party wish to file a grievance with the Board, that grievance must be filed in writing within ninety (90) days after the occurrence of the event giving rise to the grievance. The grievance shall be sent to:

Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
Grievance Committee
2009 N.W. 67th Place
Gainesville, FL 32653-1603
- (4) If requested, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council staff will provide assistance to individuals in preparing written grievances.
- (5) The grievance should try to demonstrate or establish a clear violation of a specific law, regulation, or contractual arrangement. Copies of pertinent laws and regulations may be obtained from North Central Florida Regional Planning Council staff.
- (6) The grievance shall include:
 - a. the name, address and telephone number of the Complainant;
 - b. a statement of the grounds for the grievance and be supplemented by supporting documentation, made in a clear and concise manner; and
 - c. an explanation by the Complainant of the improvements needed to address the complaint.

- (7) If the Board receives a grievance pertaining to the operation of services by the Community Transportation Coordinator, that grievance shall be forwarded to the Community Transportation Coordinator for a written response. The Community Transportation Coordinator's written response shall be provided to the Grievance Committee at least one week prior to the Grievance Committee meeting to hear such grievance.
- (8) If the Complainant does not want to be contacted by the Community Transportation Coordinator concerning the grievance before the grievance is heard, the Community Transportation Coordinator is prohibited from contacting the Complainant.
- (9) Within fifteen (15) working days following the date of receipt of the formal grievance, North Central Florida Regional Planning Council staff shall advise the Grievance Committee of the grievance to schedule a hearing on the grievance and inform the Complainant of the hearing date.
- (10) The Grievance Committee shall meet to hear the grievance within forty-five (45) calendar days from the date of receipt of the grievance.
- (11) North Central Florida Regional Planning Council staff shall send notice of the Grievance Committee's scheduled hearing in writing to the local newspaper of greatest circulation, the Complainant and other interested parties.
- (12) All involved parties have a right to present their views to the Grievance Committee, either orally or in writing. In addition, all parties may present evidence. The Community Transportation Coordinator shall provide transportation to and from Grievance Committee meetings at no charge to complainants who cannot transport themselves to the meetings.
- (13) A written report and any recommendations of the Grievance Committee shall be provided to the Board. A copy of this report shall be provided to the concerned parties within ten (10) working days after the hearing on the grievance and no more than sixty (60) calendar days from the date of receipt of the formal grievance. The Grievance Committee's recommendation will stand unless the recommendation is changed by the Board.
- (14) A written report shall also be provided to the Community Transportation Coordinator's Governing Board.

K. Appeals

- (1) Appeals of recommendations by the Grievance Committee to the Board shall be made within twenty (20) working days from the date when the Grievance Committee makes a recommendation regarding a grievance. The appeal shall be mailed to:

Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
2009 N.W. 67th Place
Gainesville, FL 32653-1603
- (2) The Complainant will be notified in writing of the date, time and place of the Board meeting where the appeal will be heard. This written notice will be mailed at least ten (10) calendar days in advance of the meeting.

- (3) The Board will meet to hear the appeal and render its recommendation within thirty (30) calendar days of the date the appeal was filed. A written copy of the recommendation will be mailed to all parties involved within ten (10) calendar days of the date of the recommendation.
- (4) Should a Complainant remain dissatisfied with the Board's decision, he or she may contact the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged at the following address:

Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged
605 Suwannee Street, MS-49
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450
- (5) The Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged also has an Ombudsman Program to assist individuals with complaints. The toll-free Ombudsman Hotline is 1-800-983-2435. Chapter 427, Florida Statutes does not expressly confer the power or authority for the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged to "hear and determine" a grievance between two (2) third parties. The Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged may choose to listen to grievances and it can investigate them from a fact-finding perspective. It cannot be the "judge" or "arbiter" of the grievance in the sense of determining that one party's version of the facts is right and the other is wrong, and order the wrong party to somehow compensate the right party. On the other hand, the grievance may bring to light a problem within "the system."
- (6) If the grievance showed that one (1) of the parties with whom the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged contracts was acting so aberrantly as to not be in compliance with its contract, the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged could exercise whatever contractual rights it has to correct the problem.
- (7) The Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged may take part in the grievance process, if it wants to, for purposes of listening to the grieving parties and gathering the facts of the matter. It may not decide the grievance, where doing so would amount to an exercise of adjudicative powers.

L. Suspension Reconsideration

- (1) If a rider has been issued a notice of suspension of service by the Community Transportation Coordinator, they have ten (10) calendar days from the date of issuance of suspension notice to request a reconsideration hearing on the suspension. If a reconsideration hearing is requested, the hearing will be held by the Grievance Committee if the suspension involves transportation provided under Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program.
- (2) The written request must include the name, address and telephone number of the person who is requesting the hearing and a statement as to why his or her riding privileges should not be suspended. If the request is not received within ten (10) calendar days from the issue date of the suspension, then the suspension becomes effective ten (10) calendar days from the date of issue.
- (3) Upon receipt of letter requesting the reconsideration hearing, a hearing shall be held within 30 (30) working days. The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council will advise the person requesting the reconsideration hearing by return correspondence of the date, time and location of the hearing.
- (4) The suspended rider will be given the opportunity to present the reasons why they believe the suspension should not take place. The Grievance Committee will make a recommendation whether

or not to uphold the suspension. A written statement of the decision whether or not to uphold the suspension shall be forwarded by certified mail within two (2) working days by the Community Transportation Coordinator to the suspended rider requesting the reconsideration.

M. Prohibition Against Retaliation

The Community Transportation Coordinator shall not take any punitive action against an individual who files a grievance. No individual shall be denied Transportation Disadvantaged Program services because such individual has filed a grievance related to Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program or has testified or is about to testify in any such proceeding or investigation related to Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program.

N. Alternative Recourse

Apart from these grievance processes, aggrieved parties with proper standing may also have recourse through Chapter 120, Florida Statutes, administrative hearings process or the judicial court system.

O. Certification

The undersigned hereby certifies that he/she is the Chair of the Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board and that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the Grievance Procedures of this Board as adopted by the Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board the 14th day of July 2021.

Marion Poitevint, Chair
Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board

Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board

Grievance Procedures Team

Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

* Lynn Franson-Godfrey, AICP, Senior Planner

* Primary Responsibility



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June 29, 2021

TO: Gilchrist County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
 FROM: Lynn Godfrey, AICP, Senior Planner
 SUBJECT: Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. - Operations Reports

RECOMMENDATION

No action required. This agenda item is for information only.

BACKGROUND

Attached are the following reports for the Board’s review:

1. January – March 2021 Operations Report;
2. 2020/21 Trip & Equipment Grant Report;
3. January – March 2021 Complaint/Commendation Report; and
4. January – March 2021 Trip Denial Report.

If you have any questions regarding the attached reports, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Attachments

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**QUARTERLY OPERATING REPORT
GILCHRIST COUNTY
JANUARY - MARCH 2021**

OPERATING DATA	Suwannee River Economic Council
NUMBER OF INVOICED TRIPS	745
Aging Program - Title III-B	0
Florida Transportation Disadvantaged Program	370
Florida Managed Medical Care Program (Medicaid)	317
Community Trips	58
TOTAL VEHICLE MILES	22,374
TOTAL DOLLARS INVOICED	\$35,795.79
Aging Program - Title III-B	\$0.00
Florida Transportation Disadvantaged Program	\$23,304.96
Florida Managed Medical Care Program (Medicaid)	\$12,490.83
Community Trips	\$0.00
AVERAGE COST PER TRIP	\$48.05
Aging Program - Title III-B	#DIV/0!
Florida Transportation Disadvantaged Program	\$62.99
Florida Managed Medical Care Program (Medicaid)	\$39.40
Community Trips	\$0.00
AVG. COST PER VEHICLE MILE	\$1.60
TRIP PURPOSE	-
Medical	726
Employment	6
Education/Training	4
Shopping	0
Meal Site	0
Recreation	9
CHARGEABLE ACCIDENTS	0
NUMBER OF VEHICLES	10
AVERAGE MILES PER TRIP	30
NUMBER OF ROADCALLS	0

**QUARTERLY OPERATING REPORT
GILCHRIST COUNTY
JANUARY - MARCH 2020**

OPERATING DATA	Suwannee River Economic Council
NUMBER OF INVOICED TRIPS	1,528
Aging Program - Title III-B	246
Florida Transportation Disadvantaged Program	844
Florida Managed Medical Care Program (Medicaid)	438
TOTAL VEHICLE MILES	21,254
TOTAL DOLLARS INVOICED	\$69,013.18
Aging Program - Title III-B	\$3,808.08
Florida Transportation Disadvantaged Program	\$45,498.15
Florida Managed Medical Care Program (Medicaid)	\$19,706.95
AVERAGE COST PER TRIP	\$45.17
Aging Program - Title III-B	\$15.48
Florida Transportation Disadvantaged Program	\$53.91
Florida Managed Medical Care Program (Medicaid)	\$44.99
AVG. COST PER VEHICLE MILE	\$3.25
TRIP PURPOSE	-
Medical	1,196
Employment	0
Education/Training	31
Shopping	12
Meal Site	116
Recreation	173
NUMBER OF ACCIDENTS	0
NUMBER OF VEHICLES	10
AVERAGE MILES PER TRIP	14
NUMBER OF ROADCALLS	0

Source: Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.

**TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED PROGRAM
2020/21 TRIP & EQUIPMENT GRANT SUMMARY
GILCHRIST COUNTY**

MONTH/YEAR	FUNDING ALLOCATION	TOTAL DOLLARS SPENT	TOTAL AMOUNT REMAINING	NUMBER OF TRIPS	AVERAGE COST PER TRIP
Jul-20	\$199,298.00	\$8,840.02	\$190,457.98	138	\$64.06
Aug-20	-	\$8,732.18	\$181,725.80	185	\$47.20
Sep-20	-	\$8,692.32	\$173,033.48	143	\$60.79
Oct-20	-	\$14,484.78	\$158,548.70	232	\$62.43
Nov-20	-	\$7,178.88	\$151,369.82	127	\$56.53
Dec-20	-	\$8,051.52	\$143,318.30	107	\$75.25
Jan-21	-		\$143,318.30		#DIV/0!
Feb-21	-		\$143,318.30		#DIV/0!
Mar-21	-		\$143,318.30		#DIV/0!
Apr-21	-		\$143,318.30		#DIV/0!
May-21	-		\$143,318.30		#DIV/0!
Jun-21	-		\$143,318.30		#DIV/0!
TOTAL	\$133,912.00	\$55,979.70	-	932	\$60.06

Source: Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.

Total Contract Amount: \$199,298.00

**GILCHRIST COUNTY
SERVICE COMPLAINTS/COMMENDATIONS
JANUARY - MARCH 2021**

TYPE OF COMPLAINT	Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.	Resolved
Vehicle Condition	0	-
Driver's Behavior	0	-
Client Behavior	0	-
Tardiness - Late pickup	0	-
Tardiness - Late dropoff	0	-
No Show by Operator	0	-
Dispatch/Scheduling	0	-
Service Denial	0	-
Other	0	-
TOTALS	0	0
COMMENDATIONS	0	

Source: Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.

**GILCHRIST COUNTY
UNMET TRANSPORTATION NEEDS
JANUARY - MARCH 2021**

REASON FOR TRIP DENIAL	NUMBER OF TRIP DENIALS
Lack of Funding	0
Trip Purpose	0
Out of Service Area Trip	0
Insufficient Advance Notice	0
After Hours Trip Request	0
Weekend Trip Request	0
Other	0
TOTALS	0

Source: Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.

ATTENDANCE RECORD

**GILCHRIST COUNTY
TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED
COORDINATING BOARD**

MEMBER/ORGANIZATION	NAME	7/15/2020	10/14/2020	1/13/2021	4/14/2021
Chair	Commissioner Marion Poitevint	A	A	A	A
Florida Department of Transportation Alternate Member	Sandra Collins Lauren Adams	P A	P A	P A	P A
Florida Department of Children and Families Alternate Member	(Vacant) (Vacant)				
Florida Agency for Health Care Administration Alternate Member	Deweese Ogden (Vacant)	P	P	P	A
Florida Department of Education Alternate Member	Jeffrey Aboumrad (Vacant)	P	A	A	P
Florida Department of Elder Affairs Alternate Member	Pastor Ralph Williams (Vacant)	P	P	A	P
Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities Alternate Member	Sheryl Dick-Stanford Sylvia Bamburg	P	A	A A	P A
Florida Association for Community Action Alternate Member	(Vacant) (Vacant)				
Public Education Alternate Member	Michelle Walker-Crawford (Vacant)	A	A	A	A
Citizen Advocate Alternate Member	(Vacant) (Vacant)				
Citizen Advocate-User Alternate Member	(Vacant) (Vacant)				
Elderly Alternate Member	Richard Esseck (Vacant)	P	P	P	P
Veterans Alternate Member	(Vacant) (Vacant)				
Persons with Disabilities Alternate Member	Leslie Esseck (Vacant)	P	P	P	P
Children at Risk Alternate Member	Sandra Woodard Brooke Ward	P A	P A	P A	P A
Local Medical Community Alternate Member	Brittney Keeling Krishna Stemple	A A	A P	A A	P P
Regional Workforce Board Alternate Member	Selvin Cray (Vacant)	P	P	P	P

ATTENDANCE POLICY: According to Article III, Section 5 of the Coordinating Board bylaws:

"The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council shall review and consider rescinding the appointment of any voting member on the Board who fails to attend three consecutive meetings."

