



***Grafton–Coos County Regional Coordination Council***

***Minutes Quarterly Meeting***

**10:00 A.M to 11:30 A.M., Friday, January 25, 2019**

**Littleton Regional Healthcare, Littleton, NH**

**Present:** Brenda Gagne, Barbara Robinson, Van Chesnut, Kathleen Vasconcelos, Douglas Grant, Andy Fitch, Mark Frank, Michele Morin–Grey, Alex, Belenzs, Nick Altonaga, Patricia Crocker

**Welcome and Community Updates**

Chair Brenda Gagne called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

Kathleen Vasconcelos of GCSCC reported that they had taken delivery of one new vehicle and 4 others were on order.

Van Chesnut reported that Advance Transit is updating fleet. They have two – three open administrative positions. They are also making improvements to the real time schedule application with the assistance of Dartmouth College and Vtrans grants.

Barbara Robinson reported that Transport Central is moving office this week and will be in new space, but at the same location. They have increased the number of miles of rides to over 200,000. They are struggling with changes from providers including CTS and the changes and working with partners in Plymouth area to expand services.

NCT Planner Alex Belenzs reported that the 2020 regional transportation plan update will highlight public transportation services. They are applying for grants to complete the Coordination Plans through 5305e for Regions 1 and 2 and will be working with the RCC once that process begins. Nick Altonaga announced he would soon be leaving NCC to become a City Planner in Montana.

## **Minutes of October 26, 2018**

Van Chesnut moved to approve minutes as presented; Mark Frank seconded. Vote Unanimous

### **5310 Lead Agency Designation for 2020**

Pat Crocker advised that following the January training session and learning of the changes to local match and oversight requirements the UVLSRPC has declined to serve as the lead agency for the region going forward. They have discussed the issues related to this with NHDOT Public Transit, Grafton County Senior Citizens Council and with staff of North Country Council.

NCC Michele Morin-Grey had spoken with Fred Butler and Public Transit staff and understood from that conversation that the Ultimate goal is that the lead agency role would be put into transportation providers hands where they are familiar with the compliance obligations of the lead agency. The costs of compliance are difficult to determine and the added expense of cash match make the responsibility that much more challenging. The DOT's first choice is to have a transportation provider act in that role. It is a big ask and there was acknowledgement that there would be help to work with the providers.

The members of the RCC thanked UVLSRPC and NCC for serving as the lead agency over the years. A vote of the RCCs will be required to determine who will serve as the lead agency beginning on July 1, 2019.

Van Chesnut moved to have Tri-County CAP become the lead agency contingent upon their willingness to assume the responsibility and to support the three current projects at NCT, GCSCC and TC. Mark Frank seconded the motion. Vote: Unanimous but for Brenda Gagne who abstained as the representative of Tri-County CAP.

The RCC may call a special meeting depending upon the outcome of discussions with the Tri-County Cap's senior management.

## **New Business and Announcements**

SCC Update – A Driver Recruitment and Retention Seminar is scheduled on March 7, 2019 at Horseshoe Pond Center in Concord led by Karyn Souza of Community Transit Association of America. The next SCC meeting is Thursday, February 7.

Nick Altonaga announced that he is leaving in mid-February to become City Planner for Laurel, Montana. Alex Belenz will fill in at NCC as transportation planner for now.

Alex Belenz announced that NCC will be pursuing 5305(e) grant funds to support the update of the Coordinated Plan for Carroll, Coos, and Northern Grafton Counties. The intent is to work both GCRCC and CCRCC on the update. Mr. Belenz asked if the providers supported doing another Coordinated Plan for the entire Carroll, Coos, and Northern Grafton area, or if providers would prefer to have a separate plan for a similar region (e.g., Northern Grafton and Coos Counties). Brenda Gagne indicated that she liked having one plan for the entire area. No other comments were received. Mr. Belenz indicated that NCC would have the same conversation with CCRCC before submitting the application. Providers will be contacted for letters of support.

State Committee on Aging Representative for Coos County Mark Frank reported that there is a bill going through the legislature to create a statewide council on aging with the various agencies of jurisdiction represented.

Van Chesnut moved to adjourn at 11:40 AM. Seconded by Mark Frank

Next RCC meeting – scheduled is March 22, however, a special meeting may be called in the intervening time period.