



**Partners' and Stakeholders' Meeting
January 13, 2016 Minutes**

Stakeholders Present

**Rina Bale
Willie Barber
Mike Bates
Bert Beall
Virginia Belew
Michael Black
Megan Davis
Peggy DeLeon
Ashley Ervine
Janet Everheart
Karen Faulkner
Eric Garcia
Jenny Gibson
Alfredo Gonzales
Deanne Hamilton
Kim Henderson
Mary "Tita" Nunez
Sunshine Thompson
Tenchi Ybarra**

Organization Representing

**Permian Basin MPO
Advocate for individuals with disabilities
Advocate for individuals with disabilities
All Aboard America!
Permian Basin Regional Planning Commission
PBCC MHMR
PEN Project
2-1-1 Texas
Maximus
Advocate for Senior Citizens
West Texas Opportunities, Inc.
TxDOT – Odessa District
West Texas Opportunities, Inc.
TxDOT – Odessa District
TxDOT – Odessa District
Aphasia Center of West Texas
Big Bend Community Action Committee
Ector County Veterans Services
Experience Works**

AGENDA ITEM

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting of the Regionally Coordinated Transportation Planning committee was called to order at 11:45 a.m. by Rina Bale.

2. Public Comment & Introductions

Everyone introduced themselves.

3. Review/Approve Minutes for December 9, 2015

A motion was made by Sunshine Thompson and seconded by Karen Faulkner to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2015 RCTP meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Coordinated Call Projects

Projects submitted during the TxDOT Coordinated Call must receive local support. West Texas Opportunities, Inc. and All Aboard America are applying for funding and informed the committee of the projects they would like to complete using the funding. WTO is applying for funds to

construct a multi-use facility in Ector County and to pave parking lots and entrances at the Marfa and Presidio facilities owned by sub-contractor Big Bend Community Action Committee. All Aboard America is requesting operating assistance to continue routes from Odessa south to Presidio. Alfredo Gonzales provided details about Coordinated Call criteria to the group.

A motion was made by Michael Black and seconded by Mike Bates to support the Coordinated Call projects as submitted by West Texas Opportunities, Inc. and All Aboard America. The motion passed unanimously.

5. FY 2016 PGA – Transportation Resource Inventory

Rina encouraged the group to submit the Transportation Provider Profile if they have not done so already. She requested they be submitted by January 25 since the Transportation Resource Inventory is due to TxDOT by February 29. Mike Bates requested a copy be sent to him.

6. Section 5310 – Public Meetings

Rina requested feedback from the committee members who attended either of the Section 5310 public meetings in Midland and Odessa. Michael Black felt a CPS representative who attended the meeting had a valid concern regarding transportation for children with special needs. She was unsure if agencies providing service to children with ADHD, Autism, and other like disabilities would qualify for 5310 funding. She was encouraged to attend RCTP meetings to discuss the unmet transportation needs of the clients. Mike Bates would like to provide a survey to the individuals he knows through support groups in order to identify the transportation needs of those individuals.

Deanne Hamilton commended the outreach efforts since there were approximately 17 attendees at each meeting. Janet Everheart appreciated the involvement of those who were in attendance and a lot of networking happened after the meetings. Karen Faulkner spoke with a MARC representative and they expressed not always able to get consumers to work due to broken down vehicles and no back-up. Partnerships are important in these situations so this type of need can be fulfilled.

During the RCTP meeting on Feb. 10, the committee will hear from those applying for 5310 funds and what the potential projects will be. The group will review the RCTP Plan to ensure each project is identified. If amendments are needed, they will be identified at the February meeting and approved at the March 9 meeting. Also, each entity submitting an application will present the projects to the committee. The applications are due to the local TxDOT PTC on March 21.

The scoring committee will meet sometime after that to score the projects and submit to TxDOT PTN. There will be a WebEx set up to provide information to the scoring team about the process but a date has not been set yet.

7. Emergency Management Planning

Discussions began on emergency management planning. Peggy DeLeon was asked to provide information on how 2-1-1 was involved in emergency management. The staff at 2-1-1 has participated in State required emergency management simulation exercises to help prepare them for an actual emergency. They have not received their score from the State but feels they did very well and were able to identify areas that could be improved. Rina attended a 2-1-1 meeting and was involved in a discussion regarding emergency management. She informed the group that during Hurricane Katrina, the Permian Basin call center and others across several

states was opened up to received calls and provide information to individuals searching for family members affected by the storm.

The purpose of these discussions, which will be ongoing, is to identify resources in the area that can be utilized in case of an actual emergency. Each entity was encouraged to review the Emergency Management Plan at their organization and come prepared to discuss at future meetings.

8. Stakeholder Updates

2-1-1 Texas: by Peggy DeLeon

Directory sent for editing; planning 2-1-1 day with an Open House on Feb. 11.

All Aboard America: by Bert Beall

Still running routes to Presidio; during Christmas had some setbacks but all is well. All Aboard America is turning 80 this year.

Aphasia Center of West Texas: by Kim Henderson

Looking to see Aphasia friendly transportation.

BBCAC: by Tita Nunez

Still looking for drivers in Alpine; Emma Vasquez, Director, has retired but remains available for assistance until February.

Advocate for individuals with disabilities: by Mike Bates and Willie Barber

Willie expressed the need for local leaders to become part of the RCTP committee. EZ-Rider trying to develop programs to improve the transportation of the Senior Center clients; fully staffed.

Ector Co. Veteran Services: by Sunshine Thompson

No updates

Experience Works: by Tenchi Ybarra

Everything is the same.

Maximus: by Ashley Ervine

Project Amistad will be presenting at the Family Health Coalition on Feb. 5

PBCC MHMR: by Michael Black

All good

Pen Project: by Megan Davis

Working with children with disabilities and learning about transportation in this area.

Permian Basin MPO & Mobility Manager: by Rina Bale

Working on the Transportation Resource Inventory; worked on getting the public meetings planned

Permian Basin Regional Planning Commission: by Virginia Belew

Public outreach program beginning for Texas 811; looking for advertisement opportunities

TxDOT – Odessa District: by Alfredo Gonzales

Semi-annual meeting on Jan. 26; Jan. 27 Operator’s meeting in Austin.

WTO: by Karen Faulkner & Janet Everheart

Everything’s good; events happening throughout the year to celebrate WTO’s 50th birthday.

9. Future Discussions & Meeting Dates

Next month, we will continue discussing Emergency Management and MPO strategies as they relate to regional planning.

The next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, February 10, 2016 at 11:30 a.m.

10. Adjourn

A motion was made by Sunshine Thompson and seconded by Megan Davis to adjourn at 1:08 p.m.