

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
February 16, 2023

Members Present: Adam Olenik, Hope Prather, Jacki Hawkins, Janna Bianculli, Noah Rose, Richard Reagen, Stephanie Cole, Trina Stokes and Victoria Cortes (9)

Members Absent: Brandi Claybrooks, Peggy Allen, Scott Adams, Shannon Perry, Tim Jones and Tim McFalls (6)

WCCA Staff Present: David White, Bonnie Wilson, Jeff Roper and Kim Hall (4)

Guests: Elizabeth Hanson, H Co Planner (1)

Welcome and Introductions:

Noah Rose opened the meeting at 10:03 am by welcoming everyone. She called for any announcements or comments. None were proffered.

Minutes of Transportation Advisory Board Meeting:

Noah called for questions and/or concerns regarding the minutes of the November 17, 2022 TAB meeting. None were proffered. Hope Prather motioned to approve the minutes. Janna Bianculli seconded the motion. All were in favor. The minutes stand approved as submitted.

Membership Business:

Jimmie Brissie has resigned due to scheduling issues.

- Victoria Cortes will replace him as Vice Chair.

Felisha Sanchez has resigned from WNCSOURCE.

New Members introduced:

Adam Olenik joins us from Thrive where he is the Clubhouse Director.

Bonnie Wilson joins us from WNCSOURCE's Apple Country Transit Department.

Website Update:

Kim Hall briefly review updates to the Transportation Department webpage. The TAB section has been relocated and reorganized for ease of use.

Transportation Directors Report, Jeff Roper:

- With Felisha's resignation, we are taking the opportunity to do a bit of reorganization within the department. Marvin Holbert has been promoted to Operations Manager.

- **Safe Ride Health:** We have contracted to provide service for Advantaged Medicare patients. We completed onboard with Safe Ride in December and have now begun providing that service.
- **Healthy Opportunities Program (HOP):** Lucinda Walker has been hired as the program administrator. HOP provides transportation to Medicaid recipients under Managed Care. Transportation can be provided for anything from getting groceries to going to a gym. Anything that will impact and improve their health.
- **The Title III Program** is still struggling to get back up to capacity. There are a lot of older folks in this group that are still scared to get out after Covid. We are working to improve participation.

Transportation Support Specialist, Bonnie Wilson:

- Recently, we have seen an uptick in requests. We have shifted/combined some trips so we can be efficient and continue to serve clients. We do have a waiting list pending hiring drivers. We are hopeful that will happen quickly. We are optimistic that we will be back up to pre Covid numbers soon.

Old Business: None was proffered

New Business:

Janna Bianculli reported the county is working on the 2023 Feasibility Study. A consultant has been hired and various surveys, focus groups and interviews will be included in the study. The study will really dig into the data and allow us to have our plan and backup options in place when it is presented to the Board of Commissioners. There was discussion of a no-fare system as well as other items that the study will be looking at.

Adjourn: Noah called for any other business. With no further business, Noah called for a motion to adjourn. Janna Bianculli so motioned. Victoria Cortes seconded. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 10:51 AM.

Next Meeting Date:

The next meeting date was set for Thursday, May 18, 2023 at 10:00 AM. We will meet virtually until further notice.

Transit Advisory Board Members

Board Leadership

Noah Rose	Retired	TAB Board Chair
Victoria Cortes	Henderson County Emergency Services	TAB Board Co-Chair
Jeff Roper	WNCSource	Transportation Director

General Board

Adam Olenik	Thrive	Clubhouse Director
Bonnie Wilson	WNCSource	Transportation Support Specialist
David White	WNCSource	CEO
Hope Prather	Vocational Solutions	Production Coordinator
Jackie Hawkins	Blue Ridge Community Health Services	Director of Practice Operations
Janna Bianculli	Henderson County Planning	Senior Planner
Kim Hall	WNCSource	Executive Assistant
Peggy Allen	The Hope Center of Hendersonville	Executive Director
Richard Reagen	WNCSource Board Member	Retired/Paratransit Client
Scott Adams	Land of Sky Regional Council	
Shannon Perry	WNCSource Board Member	Content/Copy writer
Stephanie Cole	Henderson County Council on Aging	
Tim Jones	Hendersonville Rescue Mission	Vice President, COO
Tim McFalls	Henderson County Emergency Services	Logistics Officer
Trina Stokes	Advent Health	Major Gifts Officer / Foundation