

Four Counties Transportation Services Committee

Minutes

**February 14, 2022, 8:30 a.m.
Electronic Participation Meeting via Zoom**

Present: Bonnie Rowe, Chair
Marigay Wilkins, SWM
John Wright, Chatham-Kent
Duncan McPhail, West Elgin
Ann-Marie Millson, Chatham-Kent
Mark McGill, SWM
Lorie Arens, Adult Day Program

Regrets: Ron Challis, Newbury
Shelley Vergeer, WECHC

Staff Present: Magda Badura, CAO/Treasurer
Jana Nethercott, Clerk

1. Call to Order

Chair Bonnie Rowe called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m.

2. Welcome New Member

Chair Bonnie Rowe welcomed Mark McGill as the new representative from Southwest Middlesex.

3. Adoption of Agenda

Moved: Marigay Wilkins

Seconded: Duncan McPhail

That the Four Counties Transportation Services Committee adopt the agenda as presented.

Carried

5. Minutes

Moved: Duncan McPhail

Seconded: Lorie Arens

That Four Counties Transportation Services Committee hereby approve the Minutes of January 10, 2022 as printed and circulated.

Carried

6. Business Arising from Minutes

Chair Bonnie Rowe inquired if there had been any feedback on the agreement. Marigay Wilkins reported that Southwest Middlesex hasn't had this brought forward but will be coming shortly. Chair Rowe is anticipating that by they June meeting there will be comments from participating municipalities.

7. Financial Information

Financials were missing from the Agenda package and were distributed by email. CAO/Treasure Magda Badura went through the financials and rider summary on the screen.

Ridership is still low compared to 2020, however higher than 2021.

Moved: Mark McGill

Seconded: John Wright

That the Four Counties Transportation Services Committee hereby receive the Financials as of January 31, 2022.

Carried

8. New Business

8.1 New Bus Purchase

Chair Bonnie Rowe thanked Ian Clark from Chatham-Kent for providing information on their experience with Metrolinx. Magda Badura stated that the previous dealership was able to give us a discount, but she will compare the prices through Metrolinx and the dealership once the Board decides the model and the size of the vehicle.

The Adult Day Program is on the road to returning to normal numbers and therefore more than 6 persons could be using the bus and with a smaller van, more than one trip would be required.

Marigay Wilkins stated she will support whatever the Board decides, however the concern has been about getting a driver for the Bus with the qualifications of a B License as in the past we have always had 2 drivers and at present we only have the one. Chair Rowe stated that at this time it appears that West Elgin Community Health Centre is struggling to get a driver and their vehicle only requires a G license.

Chair Rowe stated that it appears our estimates on the cost of a new Bus may be \$10,000 to \$15,000 more than anticipated last year.

Suggestion to go with a ramp verses a hydraulic lift due to the mechanical costs of the lift and the lift would assist the driver with loading clients with limited mobility.

Moved: Duncan McPhail

Seconded: Marigay Wilkins

That Staff return to the Committee with a report on the cost of a 16 passenger Bus to replace the existing Four Counties Transit Bus.

Carried

9. Adjournment

CAO/Treasurer stated that a meeting should be held in March to follow up on the Bus purchase.

Moved: Lorie Arens

Seconded: Ann-Marie Millson

That the Four Counties Transportation Services Committee hereby adjourn at 9:13 a.m. to meet again on March 21, 2022, or at the call of the chair.

Carried

Bonnie Rowe, Chair

Jana Nethercott, Clerk