Houma – Thibodaux Metropolitan Planning Organization Regional Transit Committee (CHSTP)

Terrebonne Parish Library – North Branch 4130 West Park Avenue, Gray, LA 70359

MEETING MINUTES

Regional Transit Committee Meeting Date: Wednesday, May 18th, 2022, 10:00 AM

Meeting Location: Terrebonne Parish Library – North Branch.

In Attendance

Assumption ARC

Ellen Daigle

St. James Parish

No Representative Present

Assumption COA

Arc of St. Mary Cheryl Doiron

Angele Authement

St. Mary COA

No Representative Present

Committee:

<u>Lafourche ARC</u> Anita Webb Wanda Bennett

Terrebonne ARC
Trudy Bergeron

Lafourche COA Marilyn Collins

Terrebonne COA

Kayla Dardar

SED #1

Mona Danos

Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government

<u>Transit</u>

No Representative Present

Other Attendees: Sherry Wilmore, Goodwill

Josh Manning, SCPDC

Staff:

Shannon Edgerson, SCPDC Thomas Rhodes, SCPDC

LeeAnn Rucker, SCPDC

J. Manning welcomed everyone to the meeting. J. Manning turned the presentation over to S. Edgerson.

Agenda Item #1

Roll Call and Introductions

S. Edgerson called the meeting to order

Roll call took place

Agenda Item #2

Adoption of the November 17th, 2021, Meeting Minutes

It was then motioned by Angelle Authement, seconded by Kayla Dardar to approve the Regional Transit Committee Meeting Minutes of November 17th, 2021. The vote was unanimous, motion passed.

Agenda Item #3

Opportunity of Public Comment

S. Edgerson opened the floor to accept Public Comment; however, there were no comments received from the Public.

Agenda Item #4

LA DOTD Updates

There was no one from DOTD present at the meeting. Therefore, there were not any LA DOTD updates.

Agenda Item # 5

Transit Agency Reports

<u>Assumption ARC:</u> They are still struggling with having a shortage of drivers. They are also being delayed with a vehicle that would have been rewarded to them.

Assumption COA: They need to hire at least five new drivers. The usual number of drivers they have on duty is seven. They're now down to only three drivers on duty. The priority has been on dialysis. Drivers are not required a class B or C license; they're only required to have a chauffeur license. They are fine on vehicles. They are starting them up every so often to keep the batteries from going out. The other services are not as stressed as transportation. Despite increased salaries, they have not brought in more drivers.

<u>Terrebonne COA:</u> Their clientele has decreased significantly since the storm. They have ten less drivers, pulling staff from office as needed to fill extra routes.

<u>Lafourche ARC:</u> They have a few vehicles in the shop. They had a Cadillac stolen from the Raceland area but caught the perpetrator from video surveillance.

Lafourche COA: They lost some clients due to COVID, but things are picking up.

<u>SED#1:</u> Their main problem has been finding drivers. They were able to have one glass window replaced but the other glass window was difficult to find. They used a plexiglass window in its place to use as a backup vehicle. They had a vehicle stolen twice. Replaced flooded vehicle that Kyle discussed. They are waiting for Karen to get proper paperwork.

Terrebonne ARC: They're still dealing with damages from the storm and having problems finding drivers.

Agenda Item # 6

Other Partner Updates

Goodwill: Sherry Wilmore

Goodwill is working with Terrebonne and Lafourche to hire more drivers. They want certain policy changes to get more people employed. Fletcher has been offering classes to people who have been incarcerated or have been through a re-entry program.

Agenda Item # 7 Other MPO Updates

J. Manning discusses the new MPO Updates

a. Amtrak/Southern Rail Commission

They are seeking Federal funding for special programs included in the Federal Infrastructure Bill. Encourage Amtrak for fixing up the Schriever station.

b. Travel Demand Management Program

They want to partner with Fletcher, Terrebonne Adult Education and Good Earth-Transit to implement a van pool program.

Agenda Item # 8

Training Opportunities for 2022

The training opportunities from the last meeting have not changed.

There will be a drug and alcohol regional suspicion training taking place on April 14th in person.

Agenda Item # 9

Next Meeting Date: May 18th, 2022

There being no other business to discuss, Angelle Authement motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ellen Daigle. All were in favor, motion passed.