

**Emmet County
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING
February 3, 2016**

Present: Commissioner Les Atchison; Commissioner Charles MacInnis; Commissioner Bert Notestine.

Staff: Director of Transportation and Development Kelley Atkins; Administrator Marty Krupa; Recording Secretary Priscilla Meyer

Absent: None.

Call to order:

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Atchison in the Emmet County Board of Commissioners Room.

Agenda:

Approved by consensus.

Public Comment:

None.

Minutes:

Motion by MacInnis to approve the minutes from the January 19, 2016 meeting. Supported by Notestine.

Motion carried in a unanimous voice vote.

Update from Kelley Atkins & Marty Krupa:

Atkins reported that they met with the Cheboygan County Administrator Jeff Lawson and Michael Couture of Straits Regional Ride on January 27, 2016 to explore the possibility of expanding services of the Straits Regional Ride in Emmet County. Couture is in the process of accumulating data and costs. Another tentative meeting is set for February 24, 2016 to review this information. Krupa has met with Harry Kitchen from GIS and they will be working on setting up current routes.

Atkins is working on a voucher system. Atchison requested that this voucher system include working people in addition to senior citizens.

Couture will submit an application to MDOT by March 1, 2016 which can be amended up to August 25, 2016.

The present goal is to have all the information organized and proposals ready by the first of May.

Notestine reported that he received a call from a Carp Lake individual who is presently using Straits Regional Ride and is very happy with the services they provide.

Public Comments:

Martha Lancaster said she hopes there is one dispatcher who will dispatch all of the buses to make it easier for the public to access.

Rachel Smolinski asked whether the plan is to keep the Friendship Center buses intact throughout the transition and then eventually pulling them in over a couple of years.

Atchison reported that there isn't a plan at this time, but they are gathering all the information and then the options will be explored. Krupa indicated that once all the information has been put together and routes have been established they will meet with Bay Bluffs, Vital Care, the Friendship Center and the Living Room to discuss options and what will work best for each of them.

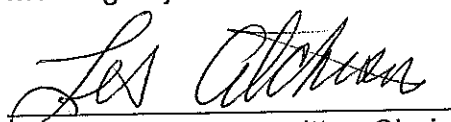
Matt Mikus asked if there was any talk about the organizational side to address issues that might come up for Emmet County. Krupa reported that there is already representation on the Board and issues are being addressed as they come up.

Martha Lancaster encouraged the Board to form an advisory committee for Emmet County that might include representation of seniors from the Friendship Center, the disabled community, the Tribe and other stakeholders to ensure over time that the services provided by Straits Area Ride are meeting all the needs.

Couture responded that every county must have a local advisory committee called the LAC Committee consisting of disabled individuals, seniors and different groups.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Transportation Committee will be on Monday, March 7, 2016 at 8:30 a.m. in the Board of Commissioners Room.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.


Les Atchison, Committee Chair


Priscilla Meyer, Recording Secretary

Date: March 7, 2016