



MINUTES
OCONEE COUNTY
TRANSIT ADVISORY TASK FORCE COMMITTEE
January 23, 2014

MEMBERS:

Scott Moulder, Oconee County, **Chair**
Al Babinicz, CEO, CAT Bus
Lorenia Lee, Salem
David Underwood, Walhalla
Gene Blair, At Large Member
Arthur Rodgers, At Large Member

Sandra Powell, Westminster, **Vice Chair**
Mike Smith RME, SC DOT
Ed Halbig, Seneca
Linda Oliver, West Union
Charles Morgan, Jr., At Large Member
Elizabeth Hulse, Clerk to Council, TATFC Secretary

The Oconee County Transit Advisory Task Force Committee [TATFC] met at 6:00 PM in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all representatives present [except Mr. Babinicz, Ms. Lee, Mr. Blair and Mr. Smith] and Clerk to Council Elizabeth G. Hulse present.

Press:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting, date, time, place of meeting and agenda were posted on the bulletin board at the County Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC, and the County Council website [www.oconeese.com/council]. In addition it was made available [upon request] to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens.

Member of the press present: Dick Mangrum – WGOG Radio & Ray Chandler – Anderson Independent.

Call to Order:

Mr. Moulder called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Moulder thanked the members for participating in this project; noting its importance to the citizens to identify public transportation needs.

Appointment of Vice Chairperson by Chair:

Mr. Moulder asked Ms. Powell if she would be willing to serve as Vice Chair for this group. Ms. Powell accepted appointment.

Transit Feasibility Study Report Presentation / Mr. Chip Burger, URS

Mr. Burger addressed the Committee utilizing a PowerPoint presentation [copy filed with these minutes] highlighting the following issues:

- Goals of Update
- Public Involvement
- Public Opinion Study
- Selected Responses
- Census 2010 Data
- Key Demographic Observations
- Review of Current Transit Service
- Peer Community Analysis
- Path Forward
- Typical Reasons for Transit Service Implementation
- Conceptual Service Development

Mr. Halbig briefly outlined the City of Seneca's role with CAT Bus, Clemson being included in the Greenville Metropolitan Planning Organization [MPO] and Federal & State funding for rural transit. Discussion followed regarding various topics to include:

- Studies Conducted re: Transit: original conducted in 2008, updated in 2013
- Rural Transit Funding [5311 money]

- Potential Funding Sources for Expansion: Grants, Fares for extended service, local government and or municipal subsidies
- Origin Destination Study: need for, timing for study, etc.
- Need for Implementation Study to assist Committee in forming recommendation
- City of Seneca as Transit Authority
- CAT Bus only Electric Bus System in USA – designation important to City of Seneca & CAT Bus system; discontinued use diesel busses
- CAT Bus statistics: City of Seneca cost \$65/hour operation [peer agencies \$60-\$70/hour], 25,000 monthly riders
- Potential Expansion Scenarios to include service to Duke Energy, Keowee Key, Salem, etc.

Mr. Underwood made a motion, seconded by Mr. Morgan, approved 6 – 0 to recommend to County Council to fund an Implementation Study.

Establishment of 2014 Meeting Schedule:

Mr. Moulder led discussion regarding a meeting schedule for 2014. After discussions, the committee decided they would meet next on Thursday, February 27, 2014, at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, Oconee County Administrative Offices, 415 S. Pine Street, Walhalla, SC.

Other Business

No Other Business was addressed at this meeting.

Adjourn

Ms. Powell made a motion, approved unanimously by the Committee to adjourn the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Elizabeth G. Hulse
Clerk to Council