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Champaign County
Rural Transit Advisory Group (RTAG)
Minutes

4 **DATE:** Wednesday, February 1, 2012

5 **PLACE:** John Dimit Room, 1776 E. Washington Street, Urbana, IL 61802

6 **Chair: Andy Kulczycki** (*RTAG Voting + Proxy #Chair)

Attendee	Organization
Michelle Ramage*	Thomasboro and Rantoul City School Districts
Martha Paap*	Provena Center for Healthy Aging
Amy Marchant	CRIS Rural Mass Transit District
Andy Kulczycki*	Community Service Center of Northern Champaign County
Eileen Sierra	Champaign County Regional Planning Commission
Chris Bruns*	The Pavilion
Minor W. Jackson III*	Parkland College
Stan James*	Champaign County Board
Elaine Palencia*	Disability Advocate
Kathy Cooksey	CRIS Rural Mass Transit
Eileen Sierra	Champaign County Regional Planning Commission, HSTP Coordinator
Rita Morocoima-Black	Champaign County Regional Planning Commission, PCD Director
Ryan McCoy	Champaign County Regional Planning Commission, Planning Intern

8 Agenda

9 **I. Call to Order** – Mr. Kulczycki called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

10 **II. Roll Call** – Each member around the room announced their presence. A quorum was present.

11 **III. Approval of Agenda** – Mr. Kulczycki requested two additional “new business” items to be added to the
 12 agenda. The first was a discussion of meeting times and the second was concerning the Open Meeting
 13 Acts. Ms. Bruns motioned the agenda be approved, Mr. James seconded, and the motion carried. Agenda
 14 was approved.

15 **IV. Approval of Minutes**

16 **A. Meeting of December 1, 2011** - Mr. Jackson motioned to approve the minutes, Ms. Bruns seconded,
 17 and the motion carried. Minutes were approved.

18 **V. New Business**

19 **A. Service Update: Quarterly Report & Other News- CRIS** - Ms. Marchant reviewed the quarterly report.
 20 She noted that the numbers suggest they are plateauing. Other comments made were that public
 21 relations activities can help if rides were consolidated. They are using all of their equipment and have a
 22 good relationship with the medical providers and dispatchers. Ms. Morocoima-Black noted that when
 23 comparing the present and past quarters the number of trips for medical reasons decreased while rides

1 for education and shopping increased. Ms. Marchant indicated that rides may have increased for
2 shopping due to Christmas shopping in December.

- 3 - Mr. Jackson asked if unplanned medical visits could play a role and Ms. Marchant stated that a
4 person needs to call ahead two days in advance so that couldn't play a role.
- 5 - Mr. Kulczycki suggested looking at the cell phone use policy due to Mr. James comments regarding a
6 county board member noticed that a bus driver was using their cell phone while driving. Ms.
7 Marchant noted that cell phones cannot be used while driving.

8 **B. *Annual Oversight Update- CCRPC***- Ms. Morocoima-Black discussed that public meetings are needed
9 in the northeast quadrant of the county to assess socioeconomic conditions and obtain a better
10 understanding of the needs of the county to better plan the routes. Mr. Kulczycki asked why just the
11 northeast quadrant and Ms. Morocoima-Black replied that for now that is where transportation is being
12 served and the hope is to create a methodology that can serve the whole county.

13 - Mr. Kulczycki presented to the county board and they requested for CRIS not to ask county for funds
14 if having a cash flow problem. Ms. Morocoima-Black was asked by the board to provide a financial
15 report and she replied the report can be accessed on the RPC website.

16 - Mr. Kulczycki brought up the topic of setting up a regular meeting schedule for RTAG. The
17 committee agreed that the second Wednesday of the quarter is best at 4:00 p.m. A new schedule will
18 be revised to address change.

19 - Ms. Morocoima-Black spoke about the Open Meetings Act. All RTAG members must take the
20 training on-line and it takes about an hour.

21 **VI. Old Business**

22 **A. *Funding Update- JARC (5316), New Freedom (5317), & CVP (5310) - CRIS*** - Ms. Marchant
23 mentioned that they are reviewing funding priorities for New Freedom in Champaign and Vermilion
24 Counties. They are also prioritizing JARC grant such as the Rantoul to Parkland route. Ms. Marchant
25 noted that bankers are asking for new line of credit for each grant due state delays in payments.

26 - Mr. James asked about Philo. Ms. Marchant said they are streamlining up and down I-74 as it is a
27 higher requested area. The idea of the grants are to help people get to medical appointments and to
28 move people from an area of low employment to an area of higher employment.

29 - Several members discussed grant use for the Access Initiative regarding setting up a network of
30 mental health services.

31 **B. *Rural Transportation Planning Project Update - CCRPC*** - Ms. Sierra reported that they are conducting
32 presentations to increase people's awareness of what CRIS and other counties are providing. Travel
33 Trainings were conducted at Generations of Hope with 25 participants and at Yeoman Place with 15
34 participants. Ms. Sierra and Marchant approached the Ludlow mayor and they will do a Travel Training
35 within a month.

36 **VII. RTAG Announcements** – Mr. Jackson discussed an IDOT grant opportunity of \$50 million. The grant is
37 for city improvements where there are safety issues such as adding sidewalks and paths. Collaborating
38 partners could consist of Parkland College, RTAG, and RPC. The deadline for submission is May 29,
39 2012. An email regarding details of the grant will be sent to members.

40 **VIII. Audience Participation** – There was none.

41 **IX. Adjournment** – Mr. Kulczycki adjourned the meeting at 4:44 p.m. Next meeting is on May 9, 2012 in the
42 John Dimit Room at the Brookens Administrative Center in Urbana.