

Champaign County
Rural Transit Advisory Group (RTAG)
Meeting Minutes

DATE: Wednesday, January 21, 2015

LOCATION: CUMTD Administrative Office

1101 E. University Avenue, Urbana, IL 61802

Attendee	Representation	Organization
Chris Burns	*Medical	The Pavilion
Stanley Harper	*County Board	Champaign County Board Liaison
Regina Crider	*Youth	Youth and Family Alliance
Seamus Reilly	*Employment	Parkland College, Institutional Advancement
Mary Sleeth	*Seniors	St. Joseph Resident
Rita Morocoima-Black	#County (Planning & Community Dev.)	Champaign County Regional Planning Commission
Tina-Marie Ansong	Champaign County PCOM	Champaign County Regional Planning Commission
Eileen Sierra-Brown	HSTP Region 8	Champaign County Regional Planning Commission
Drew Bargmann	Planner	Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District

#Chair

**Voting*

- I. **Call to Order** – Ms. Morocoima-Black called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.
- II. **Roll Call** – The roll was taken by written record and a quorum was declared present.
- III. **Audience Participation** – None.
- IV. **Approval of Agenda** – Mr. Reilly motioned to approve the agenda, Ms. Sleeth seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.
- V. **Approval of Minutes** –
 - A. **Meeting of October 15th, 2014** –
Ms. Sleeth motioned to approve the RTAG Minutes from October 15th, 2014 meeting, Mr. Reilly seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.
- VI. **Old Business** –
 - A. **Change of Operators from CRIS RMTD to CUMTD**

Ms. Black stated that the transition from CRIS RMTD to CUMTD, which started on October 1st, 2014, is still in progress. Ms. Black provided a short history of the rural transportation program that has been in place for the new committee members. Before February of 2011, rural transportation services were not available in Champaign County. The transportation bill that was approved at the federal level allocated funding for rural transportation to those counties that did

not have transportation services available to them. The policy that IDOT followed at the time was to contact all the county boards that had representation of the rural areas and let them know about the availability of funding for rural transportation. There were three options available to use the funding:

- a. Don't use the money at all.
- b. Use the money if you already have a service in place and you continue providing the service.
- c. If you don't have any service, you must go through a process that was established by IDOT to select the provider to access the funding. This process is called the ICTT Primer Process which lasts about three years.

Ms. Black continued her explanation about how CRIS became the service provider for Champaign County. After completing the process, the funding was received and CRIS started providing service in rural Champaign County back in February of 2011, but only in the northeast part of the county. At the time, surveys were completed and it was determined that the northeast part of the county indicated the highest need for transportation services. Two years later the service was extended to the whole county. CRIS provided the service from February 15, 2011 until September 30, 2014. In early 2014, CRIS notified RTAG that they would no longer be able to provide service in Champaign County. At that time, CUMTD became the new rural transportation service. There are still issues with IDOT that still need to be resolved regarding the transition and the local match for the service that was provided in the past.

VII. New Business

A. Champaign County FY15 2nd Quarter Service Report – Ms. Ansong referred the group to the Champaign County FY15 2nd Quarter Service Report attached in their packet. Ms. Ansong indicated she will be referencing comparative statistics to the previous quarter – FY15 1st quarter as well as the comparative quarter of the previous fiscal year – FY14 second quarter and presented the following findings to the group:

- For the second quarter in a row, the employment trips were the #1 trip type. In the past, medical trips were the #1 trip type for the service.
- When comparing the service to the previous quarter, there were over 200 more total trips provided this quarter.
- Daily average has increased to 6 more daily trips.
- CUMTD is providing more trips with less mileage and hours, which shows that the efficiency has improved.
- Mileage and hours differential – The current quarter was due to one of the vehicles having been in an accident and temporarily out of service.
- When comparing to FY14 second quarter, approximately 2,078 more trips were provided the second quarter FY15. The daily average increased by 32 each day.
- Trip denials – 189 fewer trips were denied this quarter over FY14 second quarter.
- Mileage and hours were less indicating the efficiency was greater.

- Ms. Ansong reported that there were 98 new registered riders this quarter bringing the total number of new registered riders to 1,629. Most of the registered riders are in the Rantoul area.

B. Champaign County FY15 1st Quarter Fiscal Report – Going forward, Ms. Ansong will providing the report.

- Revenue is up by approximately \$1,700 over the previous quarter.
- Fares were down, but the service contract revenue went up significantly.
- To date, \$141,465 of the grand funds has been expended for first quarter.
- Remaining grant funds available \$599,652.

C. CUMTD's C-CARTS Operation – Mr. Bargmann stated that currently C-CARTS is dispatched and operated out of the CUMTD building. In the next coming months, CUMTD will start the renovation of the CUMTD maintenance facility. C-CARTS vehicles would then be stored indoors which will help with the longevity of the vehicle. The new facility will allow for growth of the C-CARTS service. Mr. Bargmann indicated that this project will take about two years to complete. In the meantime, CUMTD will be leasing space which includes a mobile office for dispatching and space for the operating and service vehicles.

VIII. Announcements – Ms. Morocoima-Black announced that four members of the board have left. At this time two members have been replaced. One person is needed to represent the low income community and the other is a representative of person with disabilities. Several people have been asked including the Salvation Army, CU at Home (homeless population), and Restoration Ministries. Ms. Morocoima-Black requested that the board members let her know of anyone that might be interested in filling the two positions.

IX. Audience Participation – None.

X. Adjournment – The meeting adjourn at 4:29 p.m.