

Minutes of the

ILLINOIS REGION 2 TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)

Serving Henry, Mercer, rural Rock Island, and Whiteside Counties

Tuesday, June 17, 2025 – 2:00 p.m.

Geneseo City Hall,

115 S. Oakwood Avenue, Geneseo, IL

Committee Members Present

Jeanette Amidon	MetroLINK
Katy Deadmond	Western Illinois Area Agency on Aging
Denise Garcia	Whiteside County Public Transportation
Emily Hammer	Whiteside County Public Transportation
Melissa Ohrwall	Illinois Department of Transportation
Kim Walker	Abilities Plus/Henry County Public Transportation

Others Present

Bryan Schmid	Bi-State Regional Commission
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1. Welcome and Introductions. Mr. Schmid welcomed those in attendance and requested introductions. He also noted that there were technical difficulties, and the virtual meeting option was not working.
2. Approval of the March 18, 2025 Transit Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes. The minutes were included in the agenda packet to review. Ms. Deadmond noted that a correction in the minutes was needed. Western Illinois Area Agency on Aging has a contract with RIM Rural Transit to provide rides for seniors in Mercer County through FY2027. The agency cannot shift funding mid-contract without conducting a competitive bid process. Ms. Hammer motioned to approve the minutes with those edits, and Ms. Garcia seconded. The motion carried unanimously.
3. Update on Mercer County Transit Services. Morgan Lewis of Warren County Public Transportation was unable to attend due to the aforementioned technical difficulties. Mr. Schmid shared materials sent by Ms. Lewis prior to the meeting. Warren County would be assuming transportation services in Mercer County beginning July 1. WCPT would implement fare-free service to introduce the new operator in the county. Mercer County would be split into four quadrants, which will have service to Aledo depending on the day. There will be an Aledo Main Run for service within the city, and a Quad City Run three times a day connecting Mercer County with the urban area.
4. Discussion on Iowa Rideshare Website. Mr. Schmid shared information about the IowaRideshare.org website, which was recently relaunched by the Iowa Department of Transportation. The website connects users to carpools, van pools, transit routes, and more. Users must register to book a ride. Transit agencies in Illinois can register to publish their services on the site, as well, for people needing to cross into Illinois. The online system identifies options by origin-destination addresses, and allows for the ability to select options such as wheelchair-accessible vehicles, an extra seat for assistants, and medically equipped vans.
5. Other business. An issue that has come up recently has been riders not wearing footwear. It was noted that this was a potential medical issue, and riders should have appropriate footwear. Attendees discussed lost and found policies. MetroLINK retains items for 30 days, which are often school-

related from children using the tripper services. Ms. Ohrwall provided the DOT update. All Consolidated Vehicle Procurement (CVP) vehicles have been delivered. The next application round is expected later this summer. Any questions on preventative maintenance of vehicles can be directed to IDOT. Ms. Deadmond noted WIAAA took part in a roundtable discussion with Rep. Sorenson, and Medicaid was mentioned. Whiteside County Public Transportation does not provide Medicaid rides, while MetroLINK has one Medicaid rider.

6. Public comments. There were no public comments given at the meeting.
7. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.