Huntingdon-Bedford-Fulton
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Meeting of the Huntingdon-Bedford-Fulton Area Agency on Aging
Transportation Advisory Committee
Thursday, May 15, 2025, at 10:00am
Bedford Area Agency on Aging Office, 240 S. Wood Street, Bedford, PA

The Huntingdon-Bedford-Fulton Area Agency on Aging Transportation Advisory Committee met on Thursday, May 15, 2025. The meeting was opened by Connie Brode, Executive Director of the Huntingdon-Bedford-Fulton Area Agency on Aging.

Item 1- Welcome- Connie Brode, Executive Director of the Huntingdon-Bedford-Fulton Area Agency on Aging welcomed all committee members to today's meeting and reviewed the agenda items for today's meeting.

Item 2- Approval of Minutes- Connie Brode asked the committee for the approval of the minutes from the February 20, 2025, meeting. Marty Dombrowski made a motion to approve the minutes, and Michele Heane seconded the motion to approve the minutes.

Item 3- Staffing Updates- Anthony Molinari, Transportation Director, provided an update on the staffing situation with the committee. Anthony informed the committee that Central Dispatch is fully staffed with the addition of Transportation Reservationist, Alura Burket, and Transportation Dispatcher, Krista Geyer. Anthony informed the committee that Destiny Koontz was hired to fill the open Bedford Driver position and that Mark Ramsey and Charles Swope were hired to fill the two open driver positions in Huntingdon County. Anthony informed the committee that all open-driver positions have been filled to date.

Item 4- Increase of Repairs Costs and Trends Identified- Anthony Molinari informed the committee that the costs of preventative maintenance on the fleet continue to increase, as prices for parts, oil changes, and labor continue to increase. Anthony informed the committee that 5 of the 8 2021 Ford Transit Vans have now experienced transmission issues. Anthony informed the committee that there was an increase of 1 additional vehicle from the last meeting in February and that 1 additional vehicle is showing signs of transmission issues. Anthony informed the committee that Ford Manufacturing has been sending out mobile units to conduct inspection tests and software testing on these vehicles. Anthony informed the committee that mini-vans will no longer be an option within the new SCTA Vehicle Contract that started on April 1, 2025, and that the mini-vans will have to be replaced with Transit Vans when the mini-vans have hit their 5-year usage life.

Item 5- Exploration of Adding Routes- Connie Brode informed the committee that the agency is still exploring and wanting to add additional travel lanes. Committee member, Robert Cook, stated that there needed to be an increase in runs from the Hyndman area. Robert also stated that he has experienced and has had others inform him of "rude" call takers, missing appointments and incorrect scheduling when calling into Central Dispatch. Mr. Cook stated that he was still waiting to hear from the Senior Center about their experiences with Central Dispatch. Mr. Cook also stated that on the third Friday the food bank from Bedford to Hyndman is strictly drive thru.

Item 6- New Vehicle Requisitions- Anthony Molinari informed the committee that the Agency received its 7 new Ford Transit Vans in March. The committee discussed options of technology available for possible utilization by transportation for clients who are deaf or hard of hearing. The committee discussed text options for communication, email, and ADA phones. Anthony Molinari informed the committee of the vehicle replacement projects for next fiscal year.

Item 7- Central Dispatch Office Expansion Update- Connie Brode informed the committee that the contractor for the Central Dispatch expansion broke ground around March 1, 2025, and that the expansion continues, with only a few delays in the expansion project. Connie informed the committee that the expansion of Central Dispatch is scheduled to be completed in July 2025 and that the renovation of the existing part of Central Dispatch will start.

Item 8- Expansion Of Transportation Committee- Connie Brode introduced Sarah Locke and Robert Cook to the committee and informed the committee of the need for additional members.

Item 9- IVR- Connie Brode informed the committee that HBFAAA is still working on the implementation of the IVR phone system.

Item 10- Meeting Dates- Connie Brode informed the committee of the remaining meeting dates for 2025. Connie informed the committee that the next meeting date would be Thursday, August 14, 2025, and the final meeting date for 2025 will be Thursday, November 13, 2025. Connie provided the committee with the meeting dates for 2026.

Item 11- Adjournment- Connie Brode adjourned the meeting.