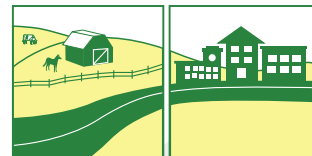




neccog



Northeastern Connecticut
Transit District

Meeting Minutes

January 2020 Meeting

January 24, 2020 - 8:30am - 125 Putnam Pike, Dayville, CT

Tracey Hanson, NECCOG Vice Chair, opened meeting at 8:33am.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance which included representation from the following towns: Ashford, Brooklyn, Canterbury, Chaplin, Hampton, Killingly, Plainfield, Pomfret, Putnam, Scotland, Union, Voluntown, and Woodstock.

Previous Meeting Minutes - motion to accept made by Maureen Nicholson, second by Rick Ives.

Public Participation - none

Directors Reports - John Filchak, Executive Director, reported the following:

- **Regional Animal Services:** investigation and placed animals numbers have increased, though no animals were euthanized due to lack of space at the NECCOG facility - the same since 2004 when the program began.
- **Regional Reval:** currently in the final year of the 5 year cycle with Vision Government Solutions. New vendor RFP for next 5 year cycle anticipated to be issued in February.
- **Paramedic Services:** paramedic intercept numbers have been on an upward trend. Totals for 2019 are roughly 2,200 transports and 2,700 responses.
- **Transit Operations:** Pending approval from ConnDOT to extend transit services to Plainfield where NECTD and SEAT would connect.
 - In an effort to increase ridership and remove stigma, there may be an elimination of NECTD's current fare rate of \$1 per ride, per rider. Currently, drivers are not denied rides to those that cannot meet the fare requirement.
- **Crumbling Foundations:** over 100 homes have had their foundations raised and homeowners have been able to return to their residency upon completion of repairs.
- **FY19 Audits:** audits have been completed for both NECCOG and NECTD - no issues were found. Reports will be made available once released.
- **Rural Policy Plan:** developing a strategy to address rural issues. The top priorities of the rural policy plan are to a) expand diversity and implement relocation strategies to boost population b) develop a statewide land use plan/growth management strategy and c) determine and create a rural factor to adjust state funding formulas.
- **Putnam Department of Motor Vehicle:** due to lack of adequate space, shelter, and parking, DMV Commissioner and Deputy, Tony Guerrero, is seeking an alternative, existing piece of property, within

the region that has the capacity to accommodate DMV needs.

Presentations/Discussion - Jake Keyes, Regional Ranger Program Proposal

1. Jake Keyes proposed a Regional Park Ranger Program of which NECCOG would offer as a service for participating towns.
 - The goal of this program is to promote safe daily usage of parks for the public use all calendar year, reduce vandalism, and to increase community involvement. Mr. Keyes spoke of the increase of littering, illegal dumping, criminal behaviors, illegal camping and fires occurring in the regions parks.
 - Rangers will not replace traditional law enforcement, but will have the capacity to address quality of lie issues within the parks and investigate complaints, then in turn confer with applicable law enforcement agencies.
 - Some members of the Board expressed some concerns of the effectiveness of the proposed program - "more reactive, than proactive" - Rick Ives, Brooklyn.

Discussion and Action Items

2. STIP Amendments - Motion to accept made by Barney Seney and Bill Rose: approved

- a. Project 0170-3383, Various, Statewide - LOAD RATINGS FOR BRIDGES - NON-NHS ROADS (1/1/16-12/31/20) - AC CONVERSION - Phase OTH, 2020 \$4.5 million - REVISE STATE SHARE TO 904K. THERE WAS A TYPING ERROR IN PREVIOUS REQUEST.THE TOTAL COST AND FEDERAL SHARE HAVE NO CHANGE
- b. Project 0172-0496, District 2 - REPLACE TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNALS AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS, Phase PD 2020 - \$560,000 - New Project
- c. Project 0172-0496, District 2 - REPLACE TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNALS AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS, Phase FD 2021 - \$591,000 - New Project
- d. Project 0172-0496, District 2 - REPLACE TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNALS AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS, Phase ROW 2021 - \$160,000 - New Project
- e. Project 0172-0496, District 2 - REPLACE TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNALS AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS, Phase CON FYI - \$7.6 million - New Project

3. Regional Referrals - none

4. 2020-21 Program Assessments

5. Committee Assignments:

- a. DMV NE Office Location Committee - Rick Ives, Barney Seney, Mary Calorio, Kevin Cunningham
- b. Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Committee - Allan Cahill, Chris Lippke, Gary Greenberg
- c. Regional Revaluation Advisory Committee - towns will first confer with assessors

6. 2020 Legislative Priorities and January Legislative Meeting

- February 5, 2020: Governor expected to release budget
- February 7, 2020: legislative meeting

7. New Regional Program Options

- a. Land Use Inspections
- b. Human Resources
- c. Assessment
- d. Back-Office Functions
- e. Building Officials

8. Other Items for Discussion/Action

- 1. FMSCA Drug & Alcohol Clearinghouse
- 2. Regional Initiative for new fleet radios

Motion to adjourn made by Rick Ives, second by Bill Rose - 10:08am