



Rural Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes – June 23, 2020

**Participants:** Jim Collins (chair), Sophie Shulman, Dave Norman, Jean Nofles, Ann Rajewski, TJ Burr, Kate Williams, Troy Larson, Susan Maxfield, Glenn Krause, Sarah Curtis, Yolanda Zink, and Zoe Devito

**Action Items:**

- Jarett Hughes to coordinate with Jim Collins and Sophie Shulman about next steps for July meeting
- Jarett Hughes to follow-up with Ann Rajewski about county-level NEMT providers and mapping out gaps

**Key Notes and Takeaways:**

*Update on Medicaid Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) Brokerage Expansion*

Ann Rajewski and others offered an update on the NEMT Brokerage Expansion through Health First Colorado. Ann noted that the timeline for the expansion is worse than they previously thought – with the July 1 start date being the target. Transit agencies continue to have concerns over the “hand-off” and their currently scheduled trips. There is also concern about the online scheduling being a barrier for some folks.

It was suggested that Uber/Lyft, Go-Go Grandparent, and the Area Agency on Aging network through the Aging and Disability Resource Centers can be valuable resources to help alleviate gaps related to this brokerage expansion. Ann supports the notion of some type of performance review of the brokerage expansion.

*Discussion Related to Local Transportation Coordination*

Jim Collins made it clear that Medicaid transportation cannot be the only focus – there are other “types” of riders that need trip support. Door through door services that link local and regional transit is important – first mile/last mile problems continue to be a challenge that needs addressing.

Jim shared the transportation coordination model used in his region for discussion. It was noted that All Points Transit on the Western Slope uses a similar model. It was suggested the committee work towards identifying regions or counties in Colorado that do not have an established transportation coordination system.