



SECOND REQUEST UPPER GREAT PLAINS TRANSPORTATION BOARD POSITION

TRANSIT TIDBITS

Issue 22, July 2013

Pat Hansen, South Central Adult Services, has been on the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute Board for many years. Pat will be stepping down from that position in September 2013. If any ND DTA member would like to consider sitting on the UGPTI Board, please contact me.

R E M I N D E R SAFETY IS NO ACCIDENT! 2013 FALL CONFERENCE BISMARCK, ND RAMADA INN

**The dates for the Fall Conference are:
Rodeo September 14th and 15th
Conference September 16th, 17th and 18th
Please mark your calendars as this proves
to be an exciting conference.**

CONFERENCE FORMS

The following forms are on the website:

- ..2013 DTA Fall Conference Registration**
- ..2013 Rodeo Judges & Volunteers Form**
- ..2013 Rodeo Driver Registration**
- ..2013 Transit Employee Professional Training**

MYRNA PETERSON EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/DRIVER SANBORN COUNTY TRANSIT

I worked for Sanborn County for 35 years with 30 years dedicated to transit. I started working for Sanborn County Highway Department in 1979. In 1980 I went to work for the Auditor's Office. In 1983 I switched positions to work for the Sheriff's Office, working with the Sanborn County Rural Bus which is now known as Sanborn County Transit. In 1990 I went to work full time for transit. The fun part of my job was trying to convince people that transit was needed. By the end of the first year I had between 5 & 6 people that rode the bus every time it went anywhere! Over the years, I gave rides to 830 different riders and drove in all kinds of weather: snowstorms, hail and rainstorms. You name it, I drove in it. I have enjoyed my years with transit and will remember the many people that I met along the way, both on the bus and at meetings. I will miss all the riders and my transit co-workers. As for my future, I'll do whatever I want, whenever I

want, because I want to. This will be different after 35 years of schedules.

I believe a written thank you should be given to people who have given you something. I won a clock at the last conference I attended, so I sent a thank you e-mail to the vendor. He replied saying he was so pleased to hear from someone who enjoyed his gift. He stated usually representatives never hear from the winners. Suggestion - maybe this is something that needs to be done. Just send an e-mail that only takes a few minutes to write. It definitely meant a lot to that vendor.

Jacque - keep up the good work. You do a great job with the Transit Tidbits.



**PLEASE SHARE YOUR TRANSIT
TIDBIT WITH YOUR STAFF AND ANY
INTERESTED PERSON(S).**

**ELLEN LANG
WEST RIVER TRANSIT
BISMARCK, ND**

EXPO 2013-ALBUQUERQUE, NM

This past June 3-7, 2013, I had the great pleasure of attending the EXPO in

Albuquerque, New Mexico. First of all I would like to thank the NDDOT and RTAP for this excellent opportunity. Events of this type allow agency employees the opportunity to attend a diverse selection of training workshops to improve their skills and knowledge, not to mention the added ideas, thoughts, and projects you hear about while networking with fellow transit employees at the Expo. It was truly a good learning experience.

One of the workshops I attended was “Developing Policies and Procedures for Transit”, which was presented by Dave Cyra. This workshop focused on a variety of examples of different policies, procedures, and guidelines that are geared directly to the transit industry from cell phone usage to articles not permitted on vehicles. This session was designed for all types of transit systems and would be very beneficial to any personnel, managers or board members. Whether you are new to transit or a veteran, you will see and learn many new approaches to the management and supervision of transit operations at training events of this type. I hope what I have learned will not only benefit me, but also West River Transit and the people we serve.

**DRIVER TRAINING
LINDA FREEMAN
DTA PASS COORDINATOR**

As always, check the web site (dakotatransit.org) for any new planned training sessions. As of now, we have no sessions set but watch for a session in Dickinson in early fall. Information will be in your “Transit Tidbit” when sessions are scheduled.

We also hope to arrange for a session in central South Dakota. Please e-mail me at wandm@restel.net if your agency would like to sponsor a session.

**KIM ADAIR
NORTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION**

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

FTA has published a Final Rule in the Federal Register.

This rule amends 49 CFR part 655 to implement 49 U.S.C. 5331(g)(2), as amended by § 20022 of the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act, Public Law 112–141 (2012) (MAP–21). The new legislation provides the Secretary of the Department of Transportation (DOT) with the option of barring a recipient from receiving Federal public transportation funds, in an amount the Secretary considers appropriate, for non-compliance with FTA’s D&A regulations which are codified at 49 CFR part 655. This authority is delegated to the FTA Administrator pursuant to 49 CFR 1.91.

With this rule, FTA is amending part 655 to implement this discretionary statutory enforcement remedy available to the Administrator. Additionally, this rule makes several technical corrections to part 655 that include: (1) Removing reference to 23 U.S.C. 103(e)(4) from 49 CFR part 655 as it relates to recipients of the Federal Highway Administration’s Interstate Substitute Program which has been repealed; (2) replacing the terms “mass transportation” and “mass transit” with the term “public transportation” as defined in 49 U.S.C. 5331(a)(3); and (3) revising Subpart I to more clearly explain the statutory requirement to establish a compliant D&A testing program as a condition for receiving Federal transit funds and the associated compliance and certification requirements for recipients.

[Click here to see the full Final Rule](#), which is effective June 25, 2013 (PDF Format).

[Click here to visit the FTA Drug and Alcohol Regulations, Rules, and Notices page.](#)

**ATTENTION – ATTENTION
JACQUE SENGER
DTA EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR**

In the past 4 months, we have had at least one piece of mail sent to the **old address in Fargo, ND. Directors, please check with your bookkeepers to assure they have the correct address. Thanks to all!**

LINDA FREEMAN KENMARE WHEELS AND MEALS KENMARE, ND

I attended “How to Address the Issue of Distracted Drivers” one-day session at the CTA Expo in hopes of finding ways to eliminate distractions. Sadly, I found that eliminating all of them is impossible. I did, however get some ideas on what to do to minimize distractions so here goes:

1. Mobile devices of all kinds must be off while driving. Our trainer even suggested the vehicle radio should not be used while in motion.
2. Reaching for items - Wait until you are stopped to “get” something and definitely do paperwork at drop off/pick up points only. Adjust heat and cooling controls, seat positions and mirrors before beginning the trip.
3. Leave “Home” at home. Do your best to avoid thinking about problems unrelated to the job while driving. Also, try to be rested before you begin driving. Suggestion to managers - build some short “relaxation” time into the driver’s daily schedule.
4. Try to keep visiting with passengers at a minimum.
5. Eating while driving should never be done.
6. Remember drivers have much to do without adding distractions: keeping your eyes on the road in front, side and rear of vehicle, monitoring gauges, monitoring passengers, other vehicles, and road conditions. Remember, at 65

miles an hour if you take your eyes off the road for two seconds, you will have driven almost the length of a football field before you see the road again.

7. Remember, as you age your eyes change. Getting regular eye exams, keep your mirrors, side glass & windshields clean, watch a bit further down the road if possible. Also, your reaction time slows so make sure you are concentrating on driving.

DTA’s mailing address-PO Box 973, Devils Lake, ND 58301. E-mail address: jacque.senger@hotmail.com Phone Number - 701-662-2465.

**PLEASE CONTACT ME
WITH ARTICLES FOR
YOUR “TRANSIT TIDBIT”**