

Nebraska Transit Trends

NATP ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING



Transit Manager of the Year – Christy Warner of Kimball County Public Transit with Board member, Beth Siegfried

The NATP Annual Business meeting was held on September 11, 2019 in conjunction with the Midwest/SW Transit Conference in Kansas City.

The meeting began with lunch and was called to order at 12:07 p.m. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was not present, no business could be held and elections were not conducted.

President Scott Bartels provided a recap of NATP activities from the past fiscal year. Treasurer Jeff Baker provided a financial update on the association.



Pioneer award – Frank Faughn with Board member, Beth Siegfried

Awards were presented to: Friend of Transit award – Connie Trautwein; In Appreciation award – Cindy Sanders; Rookie Manager of the Year – Nikki Pinkelman of Cedar County Transit

The meeting was then suspended and scheduled to resume at 6:30 p.m. At 6:28 p.m. the meeting was called to resume. Roll call was taken and twenty members were in attendance – quorum was achieved.



Rookie Manager of the Year – Nikki Pinkelman of Cedar County Transit with Board member, Denise Smith

Business was conducted and election held. Beth Siegfried was unanimously approved for the West Central Region Board position. Brenda Sherwin was unanimously approved for the East Central Region Board position. Ballots were distributed for the At-large position as both Larry Vortherms and Nikki Pinkelman were nominated for the position. Nikki Pinkelman was elected to serve as the At-Large Board position. These terms begin immediately and expire in two years.

Appreciate was expressed to both Jeff Baker and Jeanne Doerneman for their service to the Board as their terms expire.

Awards were presented to: Pioneer award – Frank Faughn; Transit Manager of the Year – Christy Warner of Kimball County Public Transit

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m. The NATP Board of Directors met on Wednesday, September 11 for thier quarterly meeting. In addition to conducting Association business, the election of officers was held. The officers elected for 2019 are: President: Scott Bartels, Saline Area County Transit; Secretary: Beth Siegfried, McCook Public Transit; Treasurer: Coletta Clouse, Ogallala Public Transit

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NATP PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hello Transit Friends,

The Nebraska Association of Public Transportation Providers (NATP) hosted the 27th statewide annual Driver's Training and Roadeo August 20th and 21st at the Nebraska Safety Center, located at the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

This year's winners in the Van Division were first place and Driver of the Year for the most accumulated points, Ramona Daniels, Saline County Area Transit. Second place was Mindy Manning with Florence Home and third place went to Karen Lammers of Cedar County Transit.

In the Small Bus Division the winners were first place, Diane Schaepe, second place, Jon Kruse, and third place Ken Baldinger, all with Seward County Public Transit.

Thanks to all the Roadeo Committee members, NATP, UNK Safety Center, NDOT, volunteers, and especially drivers for making this year's Roadeo another successful event. The event is a great opportunity in recognizing drivers as our front line "face" of transit and providing them the opportunity to learn, network and showcase their skills in serving residents with safe, efficient, friendly transportation.

It was great to have a good turnout of Nebraska transit managers attending the Midwest/SW Transit Conference in Kansas City September 11-13. NATP conducted the annual membership meeting on Wednesday which included electing three board members. Congratulations to Beth Siegfried for being re-elected to the West Central region, and to new board members Brenda Sherwin and Nikki Pinkelman for being selected to represent the East Central and At Large regions. Thank you to all nominees for considering service to your Association in this capacity. Also, we owe a very big Thank You to Jeff Baker and Jeanne Doerneman for their years of service and dedication to serving as Directors for NATP. You have done a wonderful job and it has been a pleasure to work with you in this endeavor.

Thursday and Friday were filled with keynote speakers, FTA award presentations, interesting general session topics and a host of opportunities to network and learn through breakout sessions. Congratulations to Nikki Pinkelman of Cedar County, Lori Byers of York County and Mike Davis of StarTran in Lincoln for your FTA increased ridership awards. It is exciting to see how Nebraska transit systems are meeting the demand for increased service.

NATP events that are being organized are the Legislative Day and the Managers' Conference for 2020. As was the case last year, the Legislative Day will not be scheduled until we receive confirmation from the Governor's office for a proclamation date. However, the Managers' Conference dates have been set for June 23-25 to be held in Kearney. More details on each of these events will be shared as they develop.

Until next time, safe travels everybody.

Scott Bartels, President



NATP HOSTS BOOTH AT THE LEAGUE OF NEBRASKA MUNICIPALITIES CONFERENCE



NATP hosted a booth at the League of Nebraska Municipalities (LNM) Conference. The event took place September 19-20 at the Marriott Cornhusker Hotel in Lincoln.

Executive Director Jennifer Eurek was on hand to share information about the importance of public transit with city officials and staff from across the state. We had over 75 people visited the NATP booth.

The next event that NATP will be participating in is the Nebraska Association of County Officials in Kearney in December.

If you have ideas for events that NATP should be participating in, please contact the office.

2019 NEBRASKA STATE FAIR - OLDER NEBRASKANS DAY



For the fourth year, the NATP hosted a booth at the Nebraska State Fair during Older Nebraskans Day on August 26.

Over 600 people came through the Bosselman Conference Center for the Wellness Festival. Many stopped by the NATP booth to view our map of transit services in Nebraska and receive contact information for transit agencies in their area. Attendees could spin the wheel for a giveaway item.

As it has been for the past few years, this was a great opportunity to reach out to potential riders and emphasize that transit is for everyone!

On hand to help with the booth were Sharon Menke (CRANE Public Transit) and Jennifer Eurek (NATP).

FTA AWARDS

At the Midwest/SW Transit Conference, FTA Region VII Administrator Mokhtee Ahmad and staff presented Awards of Excellence to three Nebraska transit providers.

Cedar County Transit was presented the Award of Excellence for the highest percentage increase in ridership of 60%; with an increase of ridership of 1,994 riders, among rural transit providers in Nebraska with over 5 vehicles for 2017-2018.



Lori Byers, York County Public Transportation; Nikki Pinkelman, Cedar County Transit; and Mike Davis, StarTran were presented Awards of Excellence by FTA Region VII staff.

York County Public Transportation was presented the Award of Excellence for the highest percentage increase in ridership of 29%; with an increase of ridership of 1,960 riders, among rural transit providers in Nebraska with under 5 vehicles for 2017-2018.

City of Lincoln Transportation and Utilities - StarTran was presented the Award of Excellence for the highest percentage increase in ridership of 27% among urban transit providers in Nebraska with an increase of ridership of 526,072 riders. The highest ridership increase of any transit system in FTA Region VII 2017-2018.

2019 NATP ROADEO



Drivers in the Minivan Division



Drivers in the Small Bus Division



Diane Schaepe and Ramona Daniels with the Traveling Trophies



First place winner in the Small Bus Division, Diane Schaepe, Seward County Public Transit with Board member Beth Siegfried

Each of the first-place winners took home the traveling trophy to be displayed at their agency until next year's Roadeo.

The Driver of the Year Award went to Ramona Daniels of Saline County Area Transit who had the highest score of the day. Ramona received a \$50 gift card as a prize.

The Nebraska Association of Transportation Providers held its Annual Statewide Roadeo at the Nebraska Safety Center in Kearney on August 21. The theme was "Rock and Roll".

Thank you to all the drivers, volunteers and staff who participated in the event.

The event could not have occurred without the planning of the Roadeo Committee members including Jeff Baker, Scott Bartels, Marshall Barth, Corrina Boles, Lori Byers, Coletta Clouse, Kaitlyn Richardson and Beth Siegfried, Denise Smith and Jennifer Eureka. The Nebraska Safety Center donated the use of the driving range, garage and tent, and provided volunteers for the event.

The Roadeo competition consists of a written test, pre-trip inspection, wheelchair securement, and a driving skills course.

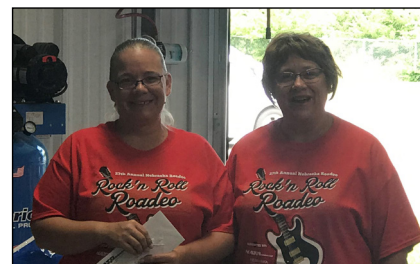
Following the Roadeo competition, all attendees gathered for an awards luncheon. Drivers from both the minivan and small bus divisions were introduced and presented with certificates for their participation.

First place winners of both divisions took home a \$250 check and an engraved clock. The second-place winners received a \$150 check along with an engraved key ring. Third place winners were presented with a \$100 check.

The first and second place drivers from each division and their managers are eligible to attend and compete in the CTA National Roadeo in Louisville, Kentucky, May 30 -31, 2020.

Winners of the small bus division were, Diane Schaepe, Seward County Transit, first place; Jon Kruse, Seward County Transit, second place; and Ken Baldinger, Seward County Public Transit, third place.

Mini-van division winners included, Ramona Daniels of Saline County Area Transit, first place; Mindy Manning, Florence Home, second place; and third place, Karen Lammers, Cedar County Transit.



Second place winner in the Minivan Division, Mindy Manning of Florence Home with Board member Beth Siegfried



Third place winner in the Small Bus Division, Ken Baldinger, Seward County Public Transit with Board member Beth



Spirit award presented to Denny Carr by Roadeo Planning Committee Chair, Jeff Baker and Executive Director, Jennifer Eureka



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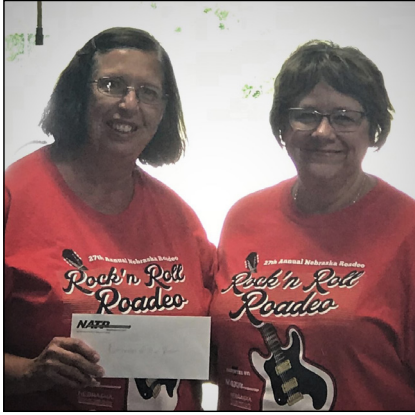
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Ramona Daniels was presented the **Driver of the Year Award** for receiving the highest score of the day.

For the ninth year, the Roadeo committee honored someone who exemplified good sportsmanship and participated in the theme. This year's recipient of the Spirit Award was Denny Carr of Seward County Public Transit. Denny was a judge and cheered on each driver as they came through the course.

Thank you to everyone who participated.



Third place winner in the Minivan Division, Karen Lammers of Cedar County



Second place winner in the Small Bus Division, Jon Kruse, Seward County Public Transit with Board member Beth



2019 MIDWEST/SW TRANSIT CONFERENCE



The 2019 Midwest/SW Transit Conference was another great success for the NATP. This is the third time Nebraska has joined forces with the transit associations of Kansas, Missouri and Iowa to provide a three-day event. This year the Southwest Public Transit Association was also invited to participate.

This year's event was held September 11-13 at the InterContinental Kansas City at the Plaza in Kansas City, Missouri. The planning committee spent many hours coordinating this event.

Nebraska's responsibilities included the exhibitors and sponsors. We had to turn down some exhibitors because we ran out of space! Thank you to the exhibitors and sponsors for their support and helping make the conference happen.

There were over 500 attendees from 29 different states plus the District of Columbia and British Columbia. Thirty-seven participants from Nebraska attended the event.

Over 60 exhibitors filled the exhibit hall and overflowed into the foyer. Participants could visit the vendors throughout the day. On Thursday evening, a Bus Expo featuring 19 vehicles was offered at the City Market on Thursday evening in conjunction with an authentic KC barbeque featuring Gates Bar-B-Q.

The event kicked off Wednesday evening with a welcome reception in the exhibit hall. Most exhibitors were set up and ready to visit with attendees. Attendees then had the evening to explore Kansas City on their own.

On Thursday morning, all attendees gathered for an opening session highlighting a FTA Town Hall meeting and award presentation from Region 7 FTA Administrator Mokhtee Ahmad.

The first general session included panelists Robbie Makinen (Kansas City Area Transit Authority), Tom Gerend (Kansas City Streetcar Authority), and Scott Bogren (Community Transportation Association of America).

The general session at lunch was provided by Damon Young and Billy Terry on the topic of highly skilled workforce in transit.

Both Thursday and Friday featured numerous breakout sessions with four tracks; including, Transit Law, Transit Marketing, Community Mobility, and Regional Workshops.

Thank you to everyone who attended the Transit Midwest Conference!

Dates to Remember

March 2020

NATP Legislative Day and Training

April 2020

Public Transit Week

June 23-25, 2020

NATP Manager's Workshop, Holiday Inn Hotel and Convention Center, Kearney

May 30 - 31, 2020

CTAA Rodeo, Louisville, Kentucky

May 31 - June 4, 2020

CTAA EXPO, Louisville, Kentucky

2020 National RTAP Rural and Intercity Bus Transportation Conference will be held in South Carolina - Dates not yet posted

NATP 2018-2019 LEADERSHIP

BOARD MEMBERS

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Grand Island, NE 68801



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**Next newsletter
deadline is
November 15, 2019**

Please send your articles and pictures for the Nebraska Transit Trends newsletter to the NATP office by July 15, 2019.

We want to know what all of our members are doing throughout the state. Also, if you see something newsworthy, be sure to let the office know. Submit your typed articles via email (as a word document) to the NATP office at jennifer@youraam.com. You may include pictures if you like, be sure to save them as a .jpeg file or they may not be included in the newsletter. Documents received after the deadline will appear in the next newsletter.

Visit Us On The Web!
www.neatp.org

NATP Annual Meeting

Wednesday, September 11, 2019 - 11:30 a.m.
InterContinental Kansas City at the Plaza
Kansas City, Missouri

2018 - 2019 ACTIVITIES

Nearly 60 managers, exhibitors and speakers gathered at the Ramada Midtown and Conference Center in Grand Island on June 19 - 21, 2018, to meet and discuss the needs of managers from across the state during the Managers Workshop.

Two managers were honored for their service and commitment to public transportation. Christy Warner of Kimball County Transit was awarded The Rookie Manager of the Year award and Denise Smith of Phelps County Public Transit was awarded Manager of the Year.

NATP once again hosted a booth on Older Nebraskans Day during the Nebraska State Fair on August 29. Over 600 people viewed the booth, and many stopped to visit and pick up informational brochures and giveaways. NATP Board Members, Denise Smith and Beth Siegfried, and NATP staff Tiffany Fougeron and Jennifer Eurek helped with the booth.

Congratulations NATP Rodeo Committee for another successful event. The 26th Annual NATP Rodeo was held on September 19-20 in Kearney. Nineteen drivers competed in the event and thirty judges volunteered on the course. The Driver of the Year Award went to Mindy Manning who had the highest score of the day.

Winners of the small bus division were First Place: Marvin Baden, Blue Rivers Area Agency of Aging; Second Place: Diane Schaepe, Seward County Transit; and Third Place: Carol Graham, Blue Rivers Area Agency on Aging.

Mini-van division winners included, first place, Mindy Manning, Florence Home; second place, Ramona Daniels of Saline County Area Transit; and third place, Rod Kinning, Avera Creighton Hospital.

Continued on next page...

NATP BOARD MEMBERS

Western Region
Coletta Clouse

West Central Region
Beth Siegfried, Secretary

East Central Region
Jeffrey Baker, Treasurer

Eastern Region
Scott Bartels, President

City of Omaha - Metro
Curt Simon

City of Lincoln - StarTran
Mike Davis

CRANE Public Transit
Sharon Menke

Member At Large
Jeanne Doerneman

Member At Large
Denise Smith

2018 - 2019 ACTIVITIES CONTINUED...

These drivers received cash awards and scholarships to compete at the National CTAA Rodeo in Palm Springs, California.

The present officers are Scott Bartels, Saline County Public Transit, President; Jeff Baker, Seward County Public Transit, Treasurer; Beth Siegfried, McCook Public Transit, Secretary; Curt Simon, Omaha Metro Area Transit; Mike Davis, StarTran; Sharon Menke, CRANE Public Transit; Coletta Clouse, Ogallala Public Transit; Jeanne Doerneman, Norfolk Public Transportation; and Denise Smith, Phelps County Public Transit.

NATP sponsored and hosted a booth at the National Federation of the Blind of Nebraska Annual Conference on October 5th in Norfolk.

NATP placed promotional advertisements in the Nebraska Health Care Association's "Keeping You Connected" publication and the NNFA/NALA/LPNAN Fall Convention booklet.

NATP was represented at the Nebraska Association of County Officials' (NACO) 123rd Annual Conference which was held December 12-13 in Kearney. Scott Bartels, Jeff Baker and Jennifer Eurek were on hand to visit with officials.

NATP staff and members attended the 23rd National RTAP Conference on Rural & Intercity Bus Transportation in Breckenridge, Colorado on September 30 - October 3. This was a great event and opportunity for Nebraska managers. NATP provided two scholarships for members to attend.

"I Love Public Transit" tumblers were designed and ordered for managers to hand out to their employees to show appreciation.

A Legislative Event was held on March 11-12 in Lincoln. A half-day training event was held along with a breakfast with Senators and proclamation signing with Governor Ricketts which declared the second week in April as Public Transit Week.

The fifth annual Public Transit Week was held in Nebraska where transit systems from across the state participated in the event. We received a lot of great publicity for public transit.

NATP was well represented at the CTAA Rodeo and EXPO. Jennifer Eurek, along with six drivers, five managers, four judges and one scholarship recipient attended the CTAA Rodeo and EXPO May 18-24 in Palm Springs, California. All the drivers placed well among the competition. Mindy Manning of Florence Home Healthcare Center finished in the top ten of the minivan division.

Membership support was provided via phone, mail, quarterly newsletters, Facebook, website (www.neatp.org) and recognition for all NATP members. Staff participated in conference calls provided by RTAP and CTAA.



LEGISLATIVE DAY



CTAA





Managers Workshop



2018 RODEO



RTAP



AGENDA

Welcome

**Approve 2018 Annual Meeting
Minutes**

Treasurer's Report

New Business

- Discussion of Addition of a Non-Voting
Advisory Board Member
- Discussion of Adding Electronic Voting for
Board of Directors

Election of NATP Board Members

Awards

Adjourn