# **Mountain Transit Authority**

## **Webster Springs Driver Joe Harris Retires**

#### **Special points of interest:**

- Joe Harris Retires
- Nicholas/Greenbrier
  Commission Meetings
- DAPM Training
- White Sulphur Springs-EMS
- NCHS Reality Store
- New Employees



Joe Harris began driving for MTA in June, 2011, after retiring the first time as a bus driver for the Nicholas County Board of Education. Over the past six years he has driven the Webster Springs/Summersville route.

Joe was a dedicated employee. He was the first to arrive at the garage and the last one to leave. He kept the cleanest bus and always had fresh coffee made for the office.

Joe will be greatly missed not only by MTA employees



(l-r) Evy Hall, Pam O'Dell, Joe Harris, Bill Fox, Martha Mazzella

but his passengers as well. They could always count on him to provide safe and dependable service.

We wish Joe the best of luck in his retirement!

## **Greenbrier and Nicholas County Commission**

### Nicholas Co. Commission

On May 3, 2017, Manager Bill Mauzy and Asst. Manager Ashley Funk attended the Nicholas County Commission meeting to ask for local monetary commitment for FY2018. Mr. Mauzy discussed current routes and the number of passengers that have used MTA's services over the last year.

Local commitment affords Nicholas County the opportunity to have a representative on the MTA board. Ms. Funk expressed to the Commission that due to the number of services and passengers using MTA, it is important that Nicholas County have representation on the board. At this time, Linda Sproles is the current board member representing Nicholas County and serves as board president.

At the meeting's end, the Commissioners voted to continue Nicholas County's commitment to MTA for the upcoming year. Their contribution and support is greatly appreciated.

#### **Greenbrier Co. Commission**

Manager Bill Mauzy attended the Greenbrier County Commission meeting on May 9, 2017. Again, Mr. Mauzy shared with the Commission regarding the services that are provided in Greenbrier County and the number of individuals that are using MTA's services. Greenbrier County had already voted to send local commitment funds to MTA for the upcoming fiscal year.

Mr. Mauzy expressed his gratitude for their continued support.

## **Employees Attend DAPM Training**



MTA receives FTA 5311-Non -Urban (rural) transit funds and is therefore subject to USDOT-FTA Drug and Alcohol regulations. On May 17, Jim Davis, Ashley Funk and Clara O'Dell attended a Drug and Alcohol Program Manager course presented by RLS & Associates, Inc. The all-day class addressed the history of drug and alcohol testing in the transit industry, the basic requirements of the federal rules, and DAPM/DER responsibilities under 49 CFR Part 655 and Part 40. Step by step, instructor Sean Oswald, guided participants through the building blocks that make up a compliant FTA program. Through discussion of "best practices," participants learned efficient and effective methods used by covered employers to comply with the regulations.

### White Sulphur Springs EMS Donates to MTA

White Sulphur Springs EMS contacted MTA earlier this year to offer a donation. They expressed their appreciation for the service that MTA provides to the White Sulphur Springs area and wanted to make a contribution on behalf of the Emergency Medical Services Team. MTA appreciates WSS EMS not only for their monetary contribution but for also recognizing the importance of transportation in their area.

Pictured to the right is Thomas Hayes, WSS EMS and William Mauzy, MTA

## NCHS Reality Store

Ashley Funk and Clara O'Dell participated in the Nicholas County High School 2017 Reality Store on April 11. This is a community project to help teach financial management, educational planning, and life skills to students. Some of the booths included Uncle Sam (taxes), housing, transportation, entertainment, etc. Students then made decisions based on income criteria given to them.

Ms. Funk and Ms. O'Dell represented the transportation booth.

### MTA Welcomes New Employees

Butch Fox and John Groves began working with MTA on May 24th, 2017. Butch is now driving the Summersville-Webster Springs route, replacing the recently retired Joe Harris. John is a non-emergency medical transportation driver and fills in as back-up driver for other routes. MTA welcomes them aboard!



# Thank you to MTA Employees

The MTA staff wants to give a big THANK YOU to the employees for stepping up and doing "double duty" during the months of April and May while MTA was temporarily short-handed. Your dedication to providing continued safe transportation to those who depend on MTA is deeply appreciated.



### **Dates to Remember:**

June 16, 2017– Richwood Grocery Run June 20, 2017—MTA Closed (Driver Training) June 21, 2017– MTA Board Meeting June 30, 2017—Richwood Grocery Run July 4, 2017—MTA Closed