



STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY
TAXICAB AUTHORITY

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BEFORE THE STATE OF NEVADA TAXICAB AUTHORITY
BOARD MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

July 27, 2015

The Board Meeting and Public Hearing of the State of Nevada Taxicab Authority was held on Monday, July 27, 2015. The meeting was held in the Taxicab Authority Boardroom at 2080 E. Flamingo Road, Suite 114, Las Vegas, Nevada 89119. The meeting began at 9:40 A.M.

Present were: Chairman Ileana Drobkin, Member Dean Collins, Member Bruce Aguilera and Member James Campos. Others present: Jennifer DeRose, Acting Administrator, Gary Mathews, Deputy Attorney General, Legal Counsel for the Taxicab Authority; Ruben Aquino, Chief Investigator; Christine Guerri-Nyhus, Deputy Attorney General, Legal Counsel for the Board and Recording Secretary, Barbara A. Webb. Absent: Member Dennis Nolan.

1. Call to Order.

Meeting was called to order at 9:40 A.M.

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Member Aguilera.

3. Compliance with Open Meeting Law.

Acting Administrator Jennifer DeRose said we were in Compliance with the Open Meeting Law.

4. Public Comment.

There was no public comment.

Chair Drobkin asked Investigator Rivers to bring the candidates to the inside entrance and she would call the back individually.

5. Interviews with and Possible Action Regarding the Applicants for the Position of Administrator of the Taxicab Authority.

The recruitment for the position of Administrator of the Taxicab Authority was posted on March 27, 2015 by Agency HR Services. There were 45 people who responded. Agency HR Services then sent the applications to the Board Chair Ileana Drobkin for review. The Chair then picked 10 applicants to be interviewed and sent the names of those 10 applicants to Agency HR Services. After HR Services contacted the 10 applicants, one declined the invitation to interview. HR Services then sent the list of 9 applicants to the Taxicab Authority's Legal Secretary to prepare an agenda. Just prior to the board

meeting, another applicant withdrew. Eight applicants were interviewed in the order that was submitted. The Board Chair stated that all the Board Members have reviewed all of the applicants' resumes prior to today and independently.

Interviews were taken in the following order:

1. Joseph Decker
2. Christiane Hayashi
3. Ari Levin - withdrew
4. Ronald Grogan
5. Ken Luzak
6. Bruce Martin
7. James Cooper
8. Susahn March
9. John Scott

The interviewees were asked to wait in the entrance way where seats were made available prior to being called in for an interview. After each of the interviews were held, they returned to the entrance way. When all were interviewed, Chair Drobkin asked Investigator Rivers to bring the interviewees back into the room.

6. Discussion and Possible Decision Regarding the Creation of a Three-name List of Applicants to be submitted to the Director of the Department of Business & Industry for possible appointment to the Position of Administrator of the Taxicab Authority.

The Chair welcomed them back. She thanked the interviewees for the time and patience. She commented that everyone was very qualified. She explained to them the process of picking the top three that would then go to the Director of Business and Industry. They will be contacted by his office and scheduled for an interview. He will then make his decision from that list and they will be notified as will the Taxicab Authority.

DAG Christine Guerri-Nyhus explained how the three-name list is created. Each board member lists their top 3 picks, a tally is done, the board will then have a discussion regarding their choices and after that discussion the list will be created.

Member Aguilera – Christiane Hayashi, Dr. James Cooper and John Scott.

Member Collins – Ronald Grogan, John Scott, Joseph Decker and Christiane Hayashi.

Chair Drobkin – Christiane Hayashi, Ronald Grogan and John Scott.

James Campos – Christiane Hayashi, Dr. Cooper and Ronald Grogan.

DAG Christine Guerri-Nyhus summarized that there were three candidates with three votes – Christiane Hayashi, Ronald Grogan and John Scott; one candidate, James Cooper, with two votes and Joseph Decker with one vote. She explained the board has to decide whether to keep the three candidates or change any one of them out for James Cooper or Joseph Decker.

Chair Drobkin commented that the board always felt that someone in the Administrator position should have a background in the taxi industry which Christiane Hayashi and Dr. Cooper do have and she has no problem with either one of them as both are extremely smart and know what this position entails but not sure if they'd be happy here. John Scott knows what is going on



and knows how to bring us forward but we need people who have been doing it which is why Christiane Hayashi with her knowledge of the taxicab industry and John Scott with his knowledge and Ronald Grogan with his knowledge of working with people are the top choices.

Member Aguilera stated that, although he was not in attendance, he had heard that the last meeting was such an important meeting due to the issues the taxicab industry is facing with Uber and other companies coming into Las Vegas which is why he feels that someone with transportation background is why he picked the three he picked. Ronald Grogan has a great background but there is a great learning curve needed regarding what is happening in the future with Uber.

The Chair said she has no problem with that.

Member Campos agrees with what everyone has said. Experience in transportation is good but candidates that have other experiences to bring to the table is also good, and asked the board to consider that.

Member Collins stated he agrees with Member Campos. His top four are Ronald Grogan, John Scott, Joseph Decker and Christiane Hayashi. Everyone is very qualified. He feels they must communicate with the Taxicab Authority and disseminate information to staff and wants to be sure everyone can do that.

Member Aguilera asked if they only allowed to pick 3.

DAG Guerri-Nyhus said yes. You have to decide what 3 you want.

Chair Drobkin asked if the ones in contention can be voted on.

DAG Guerri-Nyhus stated that they can vote on all of the ones chosen but only need 3, so vote who is going on the list.

Chair Drobkin asked if they can start to make process.

She asked the board to vote on Christiane Hayashi.

DAG Guerri-Nyhus stated that it doesn't matter 1, 2 or 3.

Motion:	Include Christiane Hayashi to the 3-name list
By:	Member Aguilera
Seconded:	Member Collins
Vote:	Passed unanimously

Motion:	Include John Scott to the 3-name list
By:	Member Collins
Seconded:	Member Aguilera
Vote:	Passed unanimously

Chair Drobkin asked the board if there were any further discussions or any concerns.

Member Aguilera said that he had no concerns but feels having transportation background and understanding would be viable at this time. He thought more of James Cooper's comments when



he was asked about his operational experience commenting that he looks to people he's overseeing to give him information and experience that he can take with his background and philosophy to move in the direction the Taxicab Authority and industry is going.

Chair Drobkin agreed stating she would like to have someone like him to contract out to do the studies that are needed for the board.

Member Campos stated that we have to choose within the scope of what has to be done and stays with his motion.

Motion: Include Ronald Grogan to the 3-name list
By: Member Collins
Seconded: Member Campos
Vote: Passed unanimously

Chair talked about recruiting for a year and how she was pleasantly surprised with the current applicants and their backgrounds. She thanked everyone.

These names will be submitted to the Director of Business and Industry. These top 3 will be interviewed at a later day by the Director who will then make his decision.

7. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

8. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn
By: Member Aguilera
Seconded: Member Collins
Vote: Passed unanimously

Chair commented that that was extremely painful.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by:


Barbara A. Webb, Recording Secretary

08-20-2015
Date

Approved by:

Ileana Drobkin, Chairman

08-24-15
Date


Jennifer DeRose, Acting Administrator

8/20/15
Date

