BRIAN SANDOVAL Governor

BRUCE BRESLOW

Director



# STATE OF NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY TAXICAB AUTHORITY

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Administrator

JENNIFER DeROSE

Deputy Administrator

STAN OLSEN Chairman

Members
DEAN COLLINS
BRUCE AGUILERA, ESQ.
JAMES E, CAMPOS

## MINUTES OF THE MAY 19, 2016 BOARD MEETING AND HEARING

1. Call to Order

Chairman Stan Olsen called the meeting to order at 9:14 a.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Chairman Stan Olsen led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

3. Compliance with Open Meeting Law

Administrator Ronald Grogan stated the meeting is in compliance with Open Meeting Law.

4. Public Comment

No comments.

5. Approval of the April 21, 2016 Board Meeting Minutes

All in favor - motion passes.

- 6. Discussion with Maria Soto, Traffic Manager for LVCVA, Regarding Recent Taxicab Service Maria Soto was not present for the meeting.
- 7. Discussion with Freddie Kirtley, Assistant Director, Landside Operations, McCarran International Airport, Regarding Recent Taxicab Service.

Freddie Kirtley was not present for the meeting.

- 8. Discussion with Jeff White, Security Manager, Sands Expo, Regarding Recent Taxicab Service Jeff White stated all is well with their taxicab service.
- 9. Discussion with Dale Keller, NDOT Project Manager for Project Neon, Regarding Project Neon. Project Neon is a transportation project on the I-15 from Sahara through the Spaghetti Bowl. There are also projects involving Grand Central Parkway and Industrial. Project Neon is designed to increase safety and improve traffic flow. The Project Neon team is dedicated to minimizing disruptions to the public and to events during the three year project. Project Neon is a state bonded project that will be reimbursed by the federal government. The anticipation is an employ of 4,000 jobs for this project. Further information and updates can be obtained through social media platforms, the Project Neon app

to update the public on lane closures, and at the Project Neon website <a href="http://ndotprojectneon.com/">http://ndotprojectneon.com/</a>.

#### 10. Staff Report

### a. Administrator's Report

Administrator Grogan discussed the Executive Audit Committee that will be held on June 20, 2016. Administrator Grogan stated they are developing an action plan and will keep everyone posted. Administrator Grogan addressed the recent concerns regarding vehicle inspectors and their work schedule. Administrator Grogan stated he would like to sit down with the industry and discuss this matter further to discover what works best for everyone.

#### b. Chief Investigator's Report

Chief Aquino congratulated Gina Giglio on her recently announced retirement. Investigator Giglio has served with the Taxicab Authority for over 20 years. Chief Aquino stated that the Taxicab Authority is continuing its efforts to hire more enforcement staff. Chief Aquino stated there is a shortage of qualified applicants at this time and they are looking into various recruitment options. Chairman Olsen stated there is shortage throughout Las Vegas and Henderson police agencies at this time.

Chief Aquino stated the dominate citations at this time are rotation violations. Chief Aquino stated that during the month of April they ramped up their sting operations for long haul violations and were successful. Chief Aquino stated they were also able to issue three citations for gypsy operators. Chief Aquino mentioned profiling for the gypsy operators including no registration, no vehicle insurance, no driver's license, and criminal warrants. Chief Aquino stated that the profile of gypsy drivers is getting worse and he is concerned for the riding public. Chief Aquino stated they are ramping up enforcement in regards to gypsy operators.

Member Campos asked Chief Aquino if the Taxicab Authority has enough enforcement staff to handle the growing problem of gypsy operators. Chief Aquino answered that there is not enough enforcement staff and currently he is seeking interagency cooperation to assist with these violators.

Chairman Olsen asked Chief Aquino how many investigators is he down. Chief Aquino stated he is currently down six investigators and anticipates being down eight or nine investigators within the next 30 days. Chairman Olsen asked what is the total number of personnel is in enforcement. Chief Aquino answered 34. Chairman Olsen remarked that this would indicate enforcement will be down by a third within 30 days.

## c. Stats for February 2016

Kelly Kuzik on behalf of the Nevada Taxicab Authority was present to answer any questions or concerns regarding the monthly stats. There were no comments.

#### d. Future Agenda Items

A future agenda item for discussion regarding the presentation before the Executive Audit Committee. Also, an agenda item for discussion regarding the relationship between the TNCs and the gypsy activity that is recently prevalent.

#### 11. Report of Legal Counsel

Legal Counsel has nothing to report at this time.



#### 12. Public Comment

Jaime Pino, Nellis Cab, stated there needs to be more enforcement regarding TNCs and when they are working off the app as a gypsy. Given the shortage of enforcement staff, Mr. Pino recommends collaboration between the Taxicab Authority and the Nevada Transportation Authority.

George Balaban addressed the TNCs and how it is affecting driver morale. He suggested enforcement on the obvious violators. Mr. Balaban stated for example there are a number of TNCs that use cars with out of state license plates causing them to be in violation of the law.

Richard Gray, Henderson Taxi, stated they cannot compete with the TNCs' pricing. He stated his income is down about 50%. He thanked Chief Aquino for his efforts in enforcement.

# 13. Failures to Appear: Citation Appeals

Tewodros Walde TA# 30984 - Upheld

## 14. Citation Appeals

Not applicable.

#### 15. Public Comment

No comments.

### 16. Adjournment

All in favor of adjournment - motion passes.

Approved by:

Stan Olsen

Chairman

Ronald Grogan

Taxicab Authority Administrator