



STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY
TAXICAB AUTHORITY
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ILEANA DROBKIN
Chairman

VACANT
Vice Chairman

Members
JOSHUA C. MILLER
JOSEPH P. HARDY, JR., ESQ.
DENNIS NOLAN

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

November 29, 2011

The Board Meeting and Public Hearing of the State of Nevada Taxicab Authority was held on Tuesday, November 29th, 2011. The meeting was held at the Taxicab Authority, 1785 E. Sahara Avenue, Suite 200, Las Vegas, Nevada 89104. The meeting began at 9:30 A.M.

Present were: Charles D. Harvey, Administrator, Chairman Ileana Drobkin, Member Josh Miller, Member Joseph Hardy and Member Dennis Nolan. Others present: were Legal Counsel, Deputy Attorney General Scott R. Davis and Recording Secretary, Barbara A. Webb.

1. Call to Order

Chairman Drobkin called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M.

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Pledge was led by Member Miller.

3. Compliance with Open Meeting Law

Administrator Harvey stated that we were in compliance with the Open Meeting Law.

4. Public Comment

Steve Lanett stated that SEMA was just in Las Vegas with 110,000 people attending and no additional medallions were allocated and no medallions were needed. He also doesn't feel that an allocation is needed for NFR, New Year's Eve or any of the events coming in January because he said that the infrastructure does not accommodate any allocation. He stated that drivers are dropping off at the airport and picking up without going to the pit. He also stated that drivers are going where they are not supposed to, long hauling and that good drivers are going bad.

David Kober stated that blown shifts are purposely blown and feels it is okay. He said what is happening and a driver spoke at the August meeting about what was going on which is that drivers in geo cabs are called back to the yards and given a different cab to take back out on the road. He said it takes about 2 hours to come in and go back out and drivers are losing a lot of money. He



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doesn't understand why geos are taken off the road when they can service all the conventions except those at Mandalay Bay and hopes that changes in the future. He said he has a problem with taking cabs off the road that can service the city and it was exacerbated when over 300 new cabs are out on the weekends. He hopes the Board will look a little closer at the new allocation given in August and no temporary medallions are needed.

James Shaffner agrees that the honest drivers are turning into criminals so they can make enough money. He also feels there is no need for additional medallions.

Tony Marzullo commented that he doesn't have a lot to say because he was told not to abuse the Board. He questioned why the Board does the opposite of what staff recommends, now the companies want more medallions when 200 were put on the road in August. He stated that cabs are not needed for NFR, maybe for one day for New Year's Eve, CES is coming with the same amount of people as SEMA and whatever cabs are out there can handle that. He said it doesn't matter how many cabs are on the road when the shows let out, that's when cabs are needed, but cannot get to the people. He said the he makes \$50-\$60 less now than he did at the beginning of the year because of the August allocation.

Sam Moffitt with regard to the recent allocation given, he said he wants to quote what some of the company owners had said. Mr. Pino has said, June 2007 compared to June 2011, it should also be noted that there are 97,934 more trips than in 2007 which is true but in June of 2007, not one of the allocated cabs had been put on the road. The reason for more trips now than then is because in 2007 they were not all put on the road. He said in October's statistics there were 1323 blown shifts in Las Vegas, 771 were non-restricted and 441 restricted. The reasons are in October there was not a need for all the cabs available and because the cab companies didn't have enough cars to cover the shifts. With the companies saying that October was a stellar month even without using all the cabs they had or if they don't have enough cars, why do they need temporary medallions. He stated that he doesn't know one cabbie that is a millionaire nor does he know one company owner who is not a millionaire. Why don't the people who can afford to, show compassion. He commented that NRS 706.8824 is always referred to by company representatives when talking about the drivers' trips. The only argument given for an allocation is they loose of market share that companies are subjected to. According to NRS 706.8824, that has nothing to do with consideration of medallions.

Ron Johnson representing the riding public. He handed out a graph that he made regarding long hauling. This is available at the TA. He stated that he sat at the airport for 2-1/2 hours over 5 days and watched the cabs loading at the airport. He watched the number of cabs going through the tunnel and the number of cabs that went to Swenson, his handout is his findings. He stated the 33% of the cabs loading at the airport are utilizing the tunnel with maybe 3% going to the south side. He said that 30% of the cabs are stealing from the public and he feels it is up to the Board to fix the problem. He asked in the past for the Board to ask the Administration to start enforcing the law and he feels it is still not being done. He feels that if the TA starting writing citations for long hauling, it would offset the cost of putting officers out on the street. He feels it is not the drivers' fault, but the fault of the companies who are firing many drivers monthly for low book.

Stephanie Edelman, ANLV driver, speaking on behalf of herself. She stated that during SEMA, access was very difficult to LVCVA. She said that at 1:30 SEMA started breaking down their show which is outside and it made it very dangerous for drivers as well as the people. At 2:30, north hall shut down and conventioners had to go to the south hall to get a cab. Entry for cabs was impossible taking 30 minutes sometimes to get to LVCVA. The second problem is the Zappos Marathon which closed the Strip from 3:30 on Sunday until 10:30 which makes it very difficult for drivers as well. She feels that the calendar of events should be coordinated better.



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Jay Nady spoke about his 224 blown shifts which were done by choice. He stated that if business is not there on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday he doesn't send the cabs out or he shortens the hours of service. He said that Member Nolan asked the industry how many new drivers have been hired since the allocation in August and he stated he has hired 44 more drivers.

George Balaban stated that he hired 24 new drivers, 1 additional office staff and 1 additional person in his garage. He stated that no one is asking for more medallions for NFR. With regard to the allocation, he stated that the cabs are put out when it is busy which is why his averages are up and far better than he expected. He spoke regarding blown shifts stating that when more medallions are allocated, that means they have to buy more cars and have them equipped as taxicabs, plus training new people which create blown shifts.

Jamie Pino stated that as of September 1st they had hired 51 extra drivers. He said that September and October were their best months ever with regard to revenue per shift, trips per shift, based on the whole industry.

Desiree Dante stated that they hired 59 additional drivers since the allocation and are still hiring. Their drivers are volunteering to work on their days off. She feels the industry is getting stronger and that October was their best month ever.

Luo Yue stated he has been driver for 5-1/2 years and his daily income is lower. He stated he had to wait 1-1/2 hours for one ride at the airport.

No further Public Comment.

***5. Approval of the September 27th, 2011 Board Meeting Minutes (for possible action).**

Motion: Approve the September 27th, 2011 Board Meeting Minutes
By: Member Nolan
Second: Member Hardy
Vote: Passed unanimously

6. Discussion with Davy Ann Noahr, Administrative Traffic Supervisor, LVCVA, regarding the taxicab service during the past 2 months.

Steve Patterson spoke in place of Davy Ann Noahr. He introduced former Mayor Oscar Goodman who is now the Chairman of the Host Committee for LVCVA.

Mr. Patterson spoke about SEMA stating that there were 133,000 attendees and agreed that there were several different challenges during this show. It was the first time they had a parade on the last day. He stated that the wait time was from 45 minutes to an hour for a cab.

He commented that NFR/Cowboy Christmas will be from December 1st for 2 weeks and expected attendance is 25,000 with the International Association of Exhibition Executives, the IAW Show which is a 2500 person show that LVCVA is hosting from December 6th through 8th. These are the people that put these shows on and feels it is a very important show for LVCVA because they choose where they want to go so they will be putting their best foot forward and feels they need the industry's help to provide the service that will be needed to bring them to Las Vegas.



He stated that CES will be here January 10th through 13th with pre-registration numbers strong and expecting 140,000. He passed the remainder of his time to Mayor Oscar Goodman.

Mayor Oscar Goodman stated it was a privilege to be here. He stated that he's here as the Chairman of the Host Committee which is a creation of people in the community that feel that Las Vegas is the #1 destination in the world and they also recognize that the competition is trying to take over the #1 position. They wanted to have a host for this permanent committee which has a two-fold purpose. #1 – everyone has to be ambassadors of Las Vegas. He said that he was just in London and saw every country imaginable trying to be the host city. They have to have the feeling that this is the only place to come to. #2 – a lot of people in Las Vegas do not realize how important tourism is to Las Vegas' economy. He said they are trying to educate the community about how roads are built, schools are funded, etc. and it is through tourism. He said that he is asking all the taxicab drivers as well as the owners who have agreed to participate in the NFR by wearing either cowboy hats, pins or whatever. He said that years ago before NFR came to Las Vegas, that nothing was happening here from Thanksgiving to New Year's and if that happened today it would be devastating so we have to do our best to keep them coming back. Second event is a one-day event is the MAACO Bowl. LVCVA handed out flyers "LVCVA Host Committee Interest Form" if anyone is interested in getting involved. He commented that the cabdrivers are the ambassadors of Las Vegas as they are the first person the tourists see and the last person tourists see and he wants a positive message sent out to them to bring them back next time.

***7. Discussion and Possible Decision regarding the Application of Creighton J. Nady for Approval to Change the Ownership of A Cab, LLC, to the Laurie Nady Family Trust, dated October 18, 1996 (for possible action).**

Scott Davis, DAG, explained to the Board that per NAC 706.466, any transferring of ownership must be approved by the Board.

Briar Stahl, attorney for A Cab, explained that this wasn't really a transfer just a linking of a beneficiary designation to an asset.

Motion: Accept the Application to Change Ownership of A Cab, LLC to the Laurie Nady Family Trust
By: Member Miller
Second: Member Nolan
Vote: Passed unanimously

***8. Discussion and Possible Decision regarding A Cab, LLC's Petition for Declaratory Order concerning advance approval requirements under NRS Chapter 706 and conversion to a series LLC (for possible action).**

Scott Davis, DAG, explained that this is the Declaratory Order from previously that the Board had voted to grant authority of A Cab, LLC, to seek clarification of whether or not it needed Board approval to convert to a series LLC. Today's action is to approve or modify the order drafted by the Administrator.

Motion: Approve the Declaratory Order
By: Member Hardy
Second: Chair Drobkin
Vote: Passed unanimously



***9. Discussion and Possible Decision regarding a temporary allocation of medallions for the National Finals Rodeo/Cowboy Christmas which runs concurrently for 2 weeks starting December 1, 2011. (for possible action)**

Chair Drobkin granted intervenor status to all intervenors for Agenda Items 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13.

Intervenors were Desert Cab, United Steelworkers Union, Frias Holding Companies, Nellis Cab Company, Whittlesea Blue/Henderson Taxi, Yellow/Checker/Star Cab Companies, Western Cab Company, A Cab, LLC, Lucky Cab Company and ITPE Union.

George Balaban, Desert Cab, stated that the new allocation of medallions in August are sufficient to service the NFR/Cowboy Christmas.

Stephanie Edelman, USW, stated that definitely no additional medallions are needed for NFR. She stated it is not the availability of cabs, but the accessibility to get into LVCVA.

John Hickman, COO, Frias, no additional vehicles needed.

Marilyn Moran, Western Cab, supports Desert. She commented that the problem is getting in and out of the convention center not how many cabs are available. She also stated that the Sands is also a problem for drivers and they don't want to go there because the wait is so long.

Jay Nady, A Cab, agrees with Desert stating he can only put out about 7 cabs.

Desiree Dante, Lucky Cab, also supports Desert.

Richard Segerbloom, ITPE Union, does not support any allocation because of the permanent allocation given in August. He asked the Board to deny or cut back what the companies are requesting.

Motion:	No additional medallions
By:	Chair Drobkin
Second:	Member Miller – asked staff to talk to LVCVA about ingress/egress
Vote:	Passed unanimously

Staff had said that they will meet with Thomas & Mack regarding that issue.

***10. Discussion and Possible Decision regarding a temporary allocation of medallions for 2011/2012 New Year's Eve. (for possible action).**

Intervenors were Desert Cab, United Steelworkers Union, Frias Holding Companies, Nellis Cab Company, Whittlesea Blue/Henderson Taxi, Yellow/Checker/Star Cab Companies, Western Cab Company, A Cab, LLC, Lucky Cab Company and ITPE Union.

George Balaban, Desert Cab, is asking for 20 medallions on Friday, December 30th from 7 AM – 7 PM and 20 medallions from 12 Noon – 2 AM (any 12-hour period); Saturday, December 31st, 20 medallions from 7 AM – 7 PM and 20 medallions from 6 PM – 6 AM (any 12-hour period); and on Sunday, January 1st, 2012, 7 medallions from 7 AM – 7 PM and 7 medallions from 12 PM – 2 AM (any 12-hour period).



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Stephanie Edelman, USW, she stated she looked at last year's allocation. With additional weekend medallions given in August, plus the 24/7 medallions that were issued, they are only asking for Saturday, December 31st, 3 medallions from 7 AM – 7 PM and 5 medallions, 6 PM – 6 AM and then Sunday, January 1st, 2012, 2 medallions from 7 AM – 7 PM.

John Hickman, COO, Frias, although their intervention asked for 20 medallions, he feels 10 would be enough as follows: 10 medallions on Friday, December 30th from 7 AM – 7 PM and 10 medallions from 12 Noon – 2 AM (any 12-hour period); Saturday, December 31st, 10 medallions from 7 AM – 7 PM and 10 medallions from 6 PM – 6 AM (any 12-hour period); and on Sunday, January 1st, 2012, 7 medallions from 7 AM – 7 PM and 7 medallions from 12 PM – 2 AM (any 12-hour period).

Jamie Pino, Nellis, Jamie Pino, Nellis, Cheryl Knapp, Whittlesea Blue/Henderson Taxi, Bill Shranko, YCS, stated if there are too many cabs on the road, they will remove them, Marilyn Moran, Western Cab, Jay Nady, A Cab, stated he can only put out about 7 cabs, Desiree Dante, Lucky Cab, all support Desert's request on everything.

Richard Segerbloom, ITPE Union, does not support any allocation because of the permanent allocation given in August. He asked the Board to deny or cut back what the companies are requesting.

Motion: 10/10 – Friday and Saturday and 5 - Sunday
By: Member Hardy
Second: Member Miller
Vote: Passed unanimously

***11. Discussion and Possible Decision regarding the temporary allocation of medallions for the 2012 International Consumer Electronics Show (CES) which runs concurrently with the Photo Marketing Show from Tuesday, January 10, 2012 through Friday, January 13, 2012 (for possible action).**

Intervenors were Desert Cab, United Steelworkers Union, Frias Holding Companies, Nellis Cab Company, Whittlesea Blue/Henderson Taxi, Yellow/Checker/Star Cab Companies, Western Cab Company, A Cab, LLC, Lucky Cab Company and ITPE Union.

George Balaban, Desert Cab, is asking for 17 medallions on Monday, January 9th from 12 PM – 2 AM (any 12-hour period); Tuesday January 10th and Wednesday, January 11th, 17 medallions from 7 AM – 7PM and 17 medallions, 12 PM – 2 AM (any 12-hour period) and Thursday, January 12th, 17 medallions from 7 AM – 7 PM. He feels the recent permanent allocation should handle Thursday night.

Stephanie Edelman, USW, stated that CES is a very busy time and feels additional medallions are needed. She is asking for 10 medallions Tuesday, January 10th and Wednesday, January 11th, from 7 AM – 7 PM and 10 medallions from 12 PM – 2 AM (any 12-hour period); Thursday, January 12th, 10 medallions from 7 AM – 7 PM. She doesn't feel any medallions are needed on Friday, January 13th.

John Hickman, COO, Frias, Jamie Pino, Nellis, Cheryl Knapp, Whittlesea Blue/Henderson Taxi, Bill Shranko, YCS, stated if there are too many cabs on the road, they will remove them, Marilyn Moran, Western Cab, Jay Nady, A Cab, stated he can only put out about 7 cabs, Desiree Dante, Lucky Cab, all support Desert's request on everything.



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Richard Segerbloom, ITPE Union, does not support any allocation because of the permanent allocation given in August. He asked the Board to deny or cut back what the companies are requesting.

Agenda Item 11 – CES/Photo Marketing Show

Motion: 17/17 as proposed by industry, beginning 9th, ending 12th
By: Member Miller
Second: Member Hardy
Vote: Passed unanimously

***12. Discussion and Possible Decision regarding the temporary allocation of medallions for the Shooting, Hunting and Outdoor Trade Show (SHOT Show) and Adult Entertainment Expo run concurrently from Tuesday, January 17, 2012 through Saturday, January 21, 2012 (for possible action).**

Intervenors were Desert Cab, United Steelworkers Union, Frias Holding Companies, Nellis Cab Company, Whittlesea Blue/Henderson Taxi, Yellow/Checker/Star Cab Companies, Western Cab Company, A Cab, LLC, Lucky Cab Company and ITPE Union.

George Balaban, Desert Cab, is requesting 5 medallions, Wednesday, January 18th, from 7 AM – 7 PM and 5 medallions, 12 PM – 2 AM (any 12-hour period) and Thursday, January 19th, 5 medallions from 7 AM – 7 PM. He feels the recent permanent allocation with handle the weekend.

Member Miller asked him if the CES show is different than last year where they left on a Wednesday this year and a Monday this year and Mr. Balaban said yes, days were moved.

Member Hardy asked why he is asking for twice as many medallions for New Year's Eve than he did for the previous 3 years with a new allocation just given in August. Mr. Balaban explained that we are coming out of a recession and it is on a weekend plus 2011 is the best year ever. He feels if business warrants it, put the cabs out there.

Member Nolan asked him if there are too many cabs outs, would he pull some off the road? Mr. Balaban said yes, but he doesn't see it being a problem.

Member Hardy asked him to address the comment made earlier about SEMA convention being serviced adequately without an allocation. Mr. Balaban stated that the averages were fantastic during that week, but there was 35-45 minute wait. He doesn't feel there were enough cabs. He stated that the industry had talked and all felt it wasn't a good idea to come in and ask for additional medallions when they just had gotten the allocation. He stated the industry feels they made a mistake by not asking, but the industry was afraid the Board would question why. He said they provided service, but not the service they should have provided.

Administrator Harvey stated that the Staff had provided an analysis to the Board of their research.

Stephanie Edelman, USW, feels no allocation is needed for these shows.



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John Hickman, COO, Frias, Jamie Pino, Nellis, Cheryl Knapp, Whittlesea Blue/Henderson Taxi, Bill Shranko, YCS, stated if there are too many cabs on the road, they will remove them, Marilyn Moran, Western Cab, Jay Nady, A Cab, stated he can only put out about 7 cabs, Desiree Dante, Lucky Cab, all support Desert's request on everything.

Richard Segerbloom, ITPE Union, does not support any allocation because of the permanent allocation given in August. He asked the Board to deny or cut back what the companies are requesting.

Motion: Allocate per industry request
By: Member Miller
Second: Chair Drobkin
Member Hardy and Member Nolan do not support an allocation due to recent permanent allocation
Vote: 2:2 - Motion dies

No further motion was made on this item.

***13. Discussion and Possible Decision regarding the temporary allocation of medallions for the 2012 World of Concrete which runs concurrently with the Surfaces Show from Monday, January 23, 2012 through Saturday, January 28, 2012 (for possible action).**

George Balaban, Desert Cab, per his intervention, is asking for 5 medallions on Tuesday, January 24th and Wednesday, January 25th, from 7 AM – 7 PM and 5 medallions, 12 PM – 2 AM (any 12-hour period); Thursday, January 26th, 5 medallions from 7 AM – 7 PM.

Stephanie Edelman, USW, feels no allocation is needed for these shows.

John Hickman, COO, Frias, Jamie Pino, Nellis, Cheryl Knapp, Whittlesea Blue/Henderson Taxi, Bill Shranko, YCS, stated if there are too many cabs on the road, they will remove them, Marilyn Moran, Western Cab, Jay Nady, A Cab, stated he can only put out about 7 cabs, Desiree Dante, Lucky Cab, all support Desert's request on everything.

Richard Segerbloom, ITPE Union, does not support any allocation because of the permanent allocation given in August. He asked the Board to deny or cut back what the companies are requesting.

Motion: Allocate per industry request
By: Member Miller
Second: Chairman Drobkin
Vote: Passed unanimously

14. Staff Report

Kelly Kuzik made his presentation on behalf of staff explaining the new format for Staff Analysis and asked the Board if they approved and they all did. Member Hardy would like the days along with the dates. Member Miller asked if a box can be added at the bottom for Board notes to jog their memory when making a decision intervenor notes regarding previous allocations and LVCVA, i.e., key fact on CES and wait times, etc. notes.



Kelly stated that he had noted things on this form. He said things can be added at a later date. He wanted to make a one page informational sheet for the board, but will add things in the future. He said a summary sheet would be helpful.

He commented that New Year's Eve is on a Saturday this year which it hasn't for a while and won't be for a while and this is something he will track for next year's numbers. Cabs are needed for the outskirts of the City because the Strip is closed for so many hours. Regarding CES, he agrees with the request of the companies. SHOT Show, he explained, comes every other year and agrees with requests. World of Concrete is mostly at LVCVA with 50,000 and 25,00 will be at Mandalay Bay and he will be in contact with both entities and says it is less than in the past.

Member Nolan asked if anyone checks with the hotels to check on occupancy for all of these events. Kelly said yes and checks the price of the rooms as well.

Member Nolan asked that the Board receive data back from the shows.

Staff Report –

Administrator Harvey informed the Board that this past month the Governor had appointed a new Board Member – Dean Collins.

He also informed the Board that over the last couple of months staff has been pursuing the long haul issue as well as the gypsy cab issue which Chief Aquino will address.

Chief Aquino stated the NTA and the TA have been working together regarding gypsy cabs and has been quite successful. He stated that there are 20-30 companies operating these cabs and they are run by an Asian organization in the Spring Mountain area. They have dispatch, drivers and cars. He stated that he and Chief Michael Bradford of NTA have been working together. The TA had already brought in two drivers, confiscated their cars and fined them.

Regarding the long haul issue, Chief Aquino stated that this is a continuing operation that is being done constantly, but unless the passenger wants to sign an affidavit, the TA's hands are tied.

Administrator Harvey mentioned that there were 16 vehicle inspections done in Laughlin and Mesquite.

15. Report of Legal Counsel.

DAG Scott Davis said the application for Handicab went to the next level and their petition was denied at the District Court which they appealed to the Nevada Supreme Court and is pending. The case is assigned to a settlement program and program before the Supreme Court who will try to work out a resolution. There will be a settlement conference in January of 2012. The Déjà vu case is pending before the District Court. The review of allocations at the end of the year is pending before the NTA, the briefing is ongoing and a hearing has not yet been scheduled before the NTA. The process of amending NAC 706 to change the address continues. The workshop will take place this afternoon and proceed further and hopefully will come before the Board for a decision to adopt the regulation at the next meeting.

The Chair asked if a new address had to be put in the regulations when the Taxicab Authority moves to a new location. The DAG said it is not required but it is up to the Board.



13. Public Comment

Steve Lanett commented about the market share. He said there will be 2600 people coming to Vegas to decide if they will bring shows to Las Vegas. He commented he hopes they will be shown the Strip not the tunnel and the highway which may discourage them from coming.

Rod Johnson commended the Administrator and the Chief on what they are doing. He said that the drivers are not completely at fault. He said with regard to allocations, he said the Board did a really good job except for the 17 medallions for CES.

14. Adjournment

Motion: Adjourn
By: Member Hardy
Second: Chair Drobkin
Vote: Passed unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 A.M.

Respectfully submitted by:

Barbara A. Webb, Recording Secretary **Date**

Approved by:

Ileana Drobkin, Chairman **Date**

Charles D. Harvey, Administrator **Date**

