



STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY
TAXICAB AUTHORITY
1785 E. Sahara Avenue, Suite 200
Las Vegas Nevada 89104
Telephone (702) 668-4000 • Fax (702) 668-4001
<http://taxi.state.nv.us>

TERRY JOHNSON
Director
CHARLES D. HARVEY
Administrator
ILEANA DROBKIN
Chairman
VACANT
Vice Chairman
Members
JOSHUA C. MILLER
JOSEPH P. HARDY, JR., ESQ.
DENNIS NOLAN
DEAN COLLINS

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

September 24, 2012

The Board Meeting and Public Hearing of the State of Nevada Taxicab Authority was held on Monday, September 24, 2012. The meeting was held at Cashman Theatre, 850 North Las Vegas Boulevard, Las Vegas, Nevada 89101. The meeting began at 9:26 A.M.

Present were: Chairman Ileana Drobkin, Member Josh Miller, Member Joe Hardy, Member Dennis Nolan and Member Dean Collins. Others present: Charles D. Harvey, Administrator, Legal Counsel, Deputy Attorney General Ryan Sunga; Ruben Aquino, Chief Investigator and Recording Secretary, Barbara A. Webb.

1. Call to Order.

Meeting was called to order at 9:26 AM.

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Member Miller.

3. Compliance with Open Meeting Law.

Administrator Charles D. Harvey said yes, we are in compliance with the Open Meeting Law.

4. Public Comment.

Kevin Wilson, driver for Checker, said he was happy no one asked for extra medallions because he feels the ones allocated in August still have not been absorbed. He commented that last year when economic experts were brought in to testify, they predicted an economic boom, but it never happened, instead, he said, we are in a downward trend. He feels that the annual review of medallions should not be revisited per the request of Frias because it should only be once a year.

Jay Nady, A Cab owner, gave a handout to the Board regarding articles from the Review-Journal from several years ago. He also had information regarding the TA being commissioned and information back to 1969 with the full history of the Taxicab Authority from 1969. These are available at the Taxicab Authority offices.

Ruthie Jones, ITPE Union, stated she has a lot of sympathy for the drivers because they are unable to make any money and when they don't meet book, they lose their jobs. She stated that the Board has to take the drivers into consideration when deciding whether more medallions are needed because they have their obligations to family and need to make more money. She asked the Board not to entertain additional medallions.

George Zeigner, A NLV driver, talked about Terminal 3 at McCarran Airport and what a serious issue there is with traffic and people not being familiar with it which causes many near accidents.

Public Comment closed.

- *5. Approval of the September 24, 2012 Board Meeting Minutes. (for possible action)

Motion: Approve September 24, 2012 Board Meeting Minutes
By: Joseph Hardy, Member
Seconded: Dean Collins, Member
Vote: Passed unanimously

- 6. Discussion with Steve Patterson, Traffic Manager for LVCVA regarding recent taxicab service.

Chairman Drobkin thanked him for all the work LVCVA did to allow us to use Cashman Theatre. He stated that service for the last couple of shows was excellent. He said the construction show is opening today through Wednesday with an anticipated attendance of 49,000 – 50,000 attendees. Also, Mr. Olympia competition will be at The Orleans with attendance expected at 30,000. They will have shuttle buses to move people around. This Thursday the Bike Fest is expected Thursday through Sunday; SEMA is coming October 29th through November 3rd and because of the way they set up their equipment, there will be no parking at LVCVA. They are expecting a larger crowd than the 100,000 attendees last year.

The Chair asked about pre-registration and he said it was very strong.

- 7. Discussion with Harry Waters, Assistant Director of Aviation for Landside Operations at McCarran Airport.

No one in attendance.

- *8. Discussion and Possible Decision regarding A Cab, LLC's Petition for Declaratory Order requesting interpretation of NRS 706.8824 and NRS 706.88245, with attention to the word "equally." (for possible action)

Prior to the Board Meeting, Esther Rodriguez, Esq., attorney for A Cab, LLC, withdrew this item.

- *9. Discussion and Possible Decision regarding the Annual Review of Medallions. (for possible action)

Brock Croy made his presentation stating that after analyzing all issues and numbers, the fleets are at their optimum, if not in excess, therefore, feels that additional medallions are not needed at this time and that service has been very good.

Chair Drobkin allowed interventions.

Interveners were Desert Cab, Nellis Cab, Lucky Cab, Yellow/ Checker/Star Cab Companies, A Cab, LLC, Ace Cab, Inc. Union Cab Co., A NLV Cab Company, Vegas-Western Cab Company, Virgin Valley Cab Company and ITPE Union.

George Balaban, Desert Cab, stated that no additional medallions were needed at this time due to the allocation given in August, 2011. He said that certain times and days are busier, Friday and Saturday are busy due to football. He commented that Tuesday mornings are slow, but other



times cabs are necessary. He said that they are fine tuning what they have rather than ask for additional medallions.

Jamie Pino of Nellis Cab, Desiree Dante of Lucky Cab, Yellow/Checker/Star Cab Companies, John Hickman of Frias Management Company, Stephanie Edelman of USW all support Desert Cab.

Richard Segerblom, ITPEU, said that no medallions are needed and minimum wage should be investigated. He stated that revenue has increased, but consideration should be given to the \$3.00 credit card charge.

Member Nolan stated that one of the issues the legislative auditors talked to him about was the \$3.00 credit card charge and he asked the Administrator is he has heard anything from them and the Administrator said not as yet. He said that it has to be looked at objectively.

Chair Drobkin asked for a motion.

Motion: Annual Review of Medallions – no additional medallions
By: Dennis Nolan has no recommendation and that is his motion
Seconded: Member Hardy
Vote: No additional medallions at this time – passed unanimously

Chair Drobkin commented she was looking forward to a 5-10 year plan.

10. Discussion and Possible Decision regarding the Annual Review of Rates. (for possible action)

Brock Croy stated after making his comparisons, he doesn't feel a rate increase is necessary at this time.

Chair Drobkin allowed interventions.

Intervenors were Desert Cab, Nellis Cab, Lucky Cab, Yellow/Checker/Star Cab Companies, A Cab, LLC, Ace Cab, Inc. Union Cab Co., A NLV Cab Company, Vegas-Western Cab Company, Virgin Valley Cab Company, United Steelworkers Union and ITPE Union.

George Balaban, Desert Cab, stated that he doesn't feel there's a need to a rate increase at this time. He said that fuel is the only thing that fluctuates and feels the fuel surcharge should be addressed at some point. He said he is comfortable with the way things are now.

Jamie Pino of Nellis Cab and Bill Shranko of YCS agree with George Balaban. Jay Nady of A Cab passed.

Stephanie Edelman, United Steelworkers Union, stated that she felt the fuel surcharge should be considered in a month or so.

Richard Segerblom, ITPE Union, supports USW and feels an increase in the fuel surcharge would help the drivers.

No other intervenors commented. Per their interventions, no one requested a rate increase.

Chair Drobkin asked for a motion.



Motion: Annual Review of Rates – Keep rate as is
By: Member Hardy
Seconded: Member Collins
Vote: Passed unanimously – no increase

11. Public Comment

Steve Lanett, Whittlesea Blue driver, stated to the job that they did a great job by not allocating any additional medallions. He praised Administrator Harvey, Chief Aquino and the investigators for the job they have been doing and stated he was happy to see activity regarding their appearance at the airport on Sunday and at the hotels. He stated that long hauling is not going away for a while. He complimented Brock Croy on his job during his years at the Taxicab Authority. He also commented on the traffic flow on the boulevard a while ago because of traffic lanes being closed and customers being inconvenienced. He feels that there should be more coordination with the City when construction is going on so that tourists are not inconvenienced.

Kevin Wilson spoke directly to the Administrator regarding the long haul issue stating that the only 5 people in town that should control it is the Board and it should be on the agenda to be addressed because it is such a serious issue. He feels the Board would have the most effect.

Julie Holdson spoke, but her comments were inaudible. She did comment that she has put the Board on notice.

Jamie Pino of Nellis Cab commented that the long haul issue is being taken care of as best they can with Barbara Webb sending the complaints to the companies to be addressed. He commented that Administrator Harvey and his staff are doing a tremendous job with the long hauling issue. He commented that sometimes the drivers have to long haul, but if his drivers don't have a legitimate reason, it is taken care of.

Public Comment was closed.

12. Staff Report

Administrator's Report – I have now been in the position of Administrator for one and a half years. During this period the Taxicab Authority experienced a fair amount of change, and I can report that the agency continues to move forward in a positive direction. Throughout the course of the year, many employees stepped forward, accepting greater challenges, different roles and increased responsibility in our organization. With the collective efforts of my staff, we have implemented many new initiatives and improvements. Recently, the Compliance/Enforcement Division ramped up enforcement activities. Investigators wrote an unprecedented number of citations producing commendable results particularly in the areas of long hauling and gypsy cab operations. Many members of our team have answered the call. Whether it was covering for staffing shortages, providing protective details for Board Meetings, or participating in recruitment efforts, they have played an active role in our success and the future of this agency. It is that kind of flexibility and dedication that will help this agency grow to its full potential, and I want to commend all of our staff for their willingness to step up.

I now yield the remainder of my time back to the Board.

Chair Drobkin stated that the Board wanted to take a few minutes to thank several people. On behalf of the Board, she commended the investigators for stepping up their efforts with regard to



long hauling and all other violations. The Board applauds their dedication to the Agency and appreciates their service.

They also want to thank the TA staff for their tireless efforts in keeping the Agency running. The Chair commented how difficult she could imagine it was when there was the massive computer malfunction.

She said a special thank you to Barbara Webb for her continued dedication to the Agency and her assistance to the Board.

She commented that both Administrator Harvey and Chief Aquino have both been tremendous leaders and both have exceeded hers and the Board's wildest expectations and stated how grateful they all are.

She presented some "exciting" information to everyone with regard to meetings that she, Administrator Harvey and Chief Aquino have had with City Engineers and other departments regarding staging areas and the lack thereof downtown. She said that with the leadership of Mayor Carolyn Goodman and their combined efforts, the City will be able to increase spaces for passenger pick up by 97% and she said "we aren't finished yet". There will be more details at future meetings.

She announced that Brock Croy is retiring after 7-1/2 years with the Taxicab Authority. She and the Board thanked him for his years of service and wished him luck on future endeavors as well as a very happy and healthy retirement. She told him he would be greatly missed.

Stats for August, 2012 – Kelly Kuzik made his presentation stating the LCB's audit was ongoing and told the companies that any information that they request that is confidential will not be released to anyone and anything that the companies provide them with is also confidential. He stated that the new website is up and running and he is working on getting as much TA history on the website as he can.

11. Report of Legal Counsel

DAG Ryan Sunga stated the Déjà vu went before Judge Herden and the Judge is sending it back to the Taxicab Authority to be heard again. He said diverting to be checked by the TA which may or may not change anything. The DAG said an Order from the Judge should be coming soon.

With regard to Handicab, they filed a motion to extend time to file their brief.

12. Adjournment

Motion:	Adjourn
By:	Member Hardy
Seconded:	Member Miller
Voted:	Passed unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 10:25 A.M.



Respectfully submitted by:

Barbara A. Webb, Recording Secretary

Date

Approved by:

Ileana Drobkin, Chairman

Date

Charles D. Harvey, Administrator

Date

