



STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY
TAXICAB AUTHORITY

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BRUCE BRESLOW
Director

TOM ELY, CAPTAIN
Interim Administrator

ILEANA DROBKIN
Chairman

VACANT
Vice Chairman

Members

VACANT

DENNIS NOLAN

DEAN COLLINS

BRUCE AGUILERA, ESQ.

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

January 29, 2015

The Board Meeting and Public Hearing of the State of Nevada Taxicab Authority was held on Thursday, January 29, 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 Dennis Nolan, Member Dean Collins and Member Bruce Aguilera. Others present: Captain Tom Ely, Interim Administrator, Ryan Sunga, 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.

1. Call to Order.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:40 A.M.

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Member Nolan.

3. Compliance with Open Meeting Law.

Interim Administrator Tom Ely stated that we are in compliance with the Open Meeting Law.

4. Public Comment.

Jay Nady, A Cab, gave the Board handouts regarding 5 tickets that were given his drivers by one of our investigators. DAG Christine Guerri-Nyhus told him that the Board could not be privy to that information.

No other public comment.

5. Approval of the December 15, 2014 Board Meeting Minutes.

Motion: To approve the December 15, 2014 Board Meeting Minutes with a change on page 2
By: Member Aguilera
Seconded: Member Collins
Vote: Passed unanimously

6. Discussion with Maria Soto, Traffic Manager for LVCVA, regarding recent taxicab service.

Ms. Soto was not in attendance. She will address the conventions at the February 26th Board Meeting.

7. Discussion with Freddie Kirtley, Assistant Director, Landside Operations, McCarran International Airport.

No one was in attendance.

8. Discussion with Jeff White, Security Manager, Sands Expo, regarding recent taxicab service.

Mr. White spoke regarding CES and SHOT Show stating that they were both very successful shows. He stated that for CES there was an abundance of cabs and he had to put more of his people on the cab line. He said the wait times were either none or 5 minutes during the day, but as the day went on there were less cabs available and by 5:00 PM there were no cabs at all. Because of that, they had to divert people to shuttles.

With regard to the SHOT Show, he said during the day there was a 10-minute wait, but later in the afternoon it was longer. By 5:00 cabs became available; there was then an hour wait. He thanked the supervisors from Frias and YCS for their help. He also stated with the collaboration between him and Marie Soto at LVCVA, things are working out much better.

Member Aguilera asked if other places had a problem during CES and Chair Drobkin said she had been in contact with some places and that the first day always has the most problems. Mr. White said cabs were diverted from LVCVA to help them out. The Chair stated that there were issues due because some roads were shut down. Member Aguilera asked if there was any plan to fix the problem of the hour wait.

Member Nolan stated that when companies are requesting additional medallions, he would like reports from staff about these issues and asked if that was possible. He feels that is very important information to help the Board make their decisions. He wants objective information from the industry, LVCVA and the Sands.

Mr. White said when the cabs were available, they were filling 6-8 cabs at a time which helped keep the long lines moving.



9. Discussion and Possible Decision regarding geo-restricted cabs being able to pick up at the Vdara due to their address.

Kelly Kuzik stated staff wants to withdraw this item. He has had a discussion with the Administrator and Chief and wants to do further research before making a presentation.

10. Discussion and Possible Decision Requesting the Clarification of the Geographically-Restricted Medallions Operating Parameters for the MGM Signature (North & South); Vdara Hotel & Spa Las Vegas; Elara, Hilton Grand Vacations; Wet Republic Ultra Pool; Town Square Las Vegas; McCarran Rent-A-Car Center; Atlantic Aviation (formerly Las Vegas Executive Air Terminal; and Mandalay Bay Convention Center.

This item will be put on the February Agenda.

Motion: Table this agenda item for February 26th Agenda
By: Chair Drobkin
Seconded: Member Collins
Vote: Passed unanimously

11. Discussion and Possible Decision regarding the New "Geo 2" Medallion Northern Geographic Boundary.

This item will also be put on the February Agenda.

Motion: Table this agenda item for February 26th Agenda
By: Chair Drobkin
Seconded: Member Collins
Vote: Passed unanimously

12. Discussion and Possible Decision regarding the Requirement of One Wheelchair Accessible Medallion to Carry Two Wheelchairs simultaneously.

John Hickman, Frias, spoke regarding the Annual Review of Medallions that was discussed at the December Meeting with regard to the one wheelchair accessible medallion to accommodate 2 wheelchairs. He explained that not too many companies make a van big enough to accommodate 2 wheelchairs and if they do, it is very expensive to do. Therefore, it was requested in December to table it until today and he asked that the Board remove that requirement.

Kelly Kuzik stated that he had researched this and the 1994 Order only states that the companies must have wheelchair accessible vehicles – nothing about how many wheelchairs it should accommodate.

Chair Drobkin allowed intervenors.

Intervenors were Nellis Cab, Lucky Cab, Deluxe Cab, Whittlesea Blue/Henderson Taxi, Desert Cab, Frias Transportation, YCS, A Cab, ITPE Union and Western Cab.



No intervenors chose to speak. Chair asked for a motion.

Motion: Because there is no requirement for handicap vehicles to
accommodate 2 wheelchairs, restriction is removed
By: Member Aguilera
Seconded: Member Nolan
Vote: Passed unanimously

13. Discussion and Possible Decision regarding the clarification of Boulder Cab, d/b/a Deluxe Taxicab Service's Handicap Medallions to go Countywide except for Downtown and the Strip.

Rick Flaven from Deluxe Taxicab Service asked to have his handicap restrictions changed so that he can drop off and pick up countywide, excluding the Strip and downtown.

Staff, after conferring with Chief Investigator, stated they had no opposition to the change.

Chair asked for intervenors.

Intervenors were Nellis Cab, Lucky Cab, Deluxe Cab, Whittlesea Blue/Henderson Taxi, Desert Cab, Frias Transportation, YCS, A Cab, ITPE Union and Western Cab.

Lucky and ITPE Union had no comment. All other intervenors agreed to remove the restriction. Jay Nady, A Cab, stated that his issue is that Deluxe made a deal and now wants it changed. He feels he should have the same deal.

The Chair asked Flaven if he just wanted to raise the restrictions and he said yes he wants to be able to drop off and bring back. The Chair said she had no problem with that.

Motion: Accept staff's recommendation to allow Deluxe Cab's Handicap
Service Medallions to go countywide excluding the Strip and
downtown.
By: Member Collins
Seconded: Chair Drobkin
Vote: Passed unanimously

14. Discussion and Possible Decision regarding the possible issue of a temporary allocation of medallions for the 2015 M.A.G.I.C. Convention to be held at the LVCVA and the Mandalay Bay Convention Center from Tuesday, February 17, 2015 through Thursday, February 19, 2015 with an anticipated 83,000 attendees.

Kelly Kuzik commented that an allocation was given last year for the M.A.G.I.C.'s Spring Show. He asked the Board to take into consideration the allocation of medallions that were given at the Annual Review of Medallions in December. He stated that there are 103 new medallions on the road countywide and with the weekend medallions, there are only 72 hours of no additional medallions. Companies are asking for 6 and 6 overlapping, he said, but he does not have any information to support that. He will compile the productivity information as soon as it is available.



The Chair commented that Mandalay Bay is also having a convention with 10,000 additional people. Member Nolan asked if there is any data regarding last year's performance with regard to wait lines or anything else. Kelly commented that productivity is available after the show and new stats will be collected. He advised the board that new forms have been created for the companies to let staff know more than just productivity, but right now, he does not have anything on that from last year. Member Nolan stated that would help the Board make better decisions. Kelly said he does put comments on his worksheet for the board. The Chair commented that none of the numbers tell the wait time at the venues or if people had a bad experience. She said she gets calls about how long it took to get a cab. She said that the venues do have that information. Kelly said he would contact the venues for that information.

Member Collins asked if that information is available and Kelly said he gets some information from the enforcement staff due to the bike patrol that goes out to the conventions.

The Chair allowed interventions.

Intervenors were Nellis Cab, Lucky Cab, Deluxe Cab, Whittlesea Blue/Henderson Taxi, Desert Cab, Frias Transportation, YCS, A Cab, ITPE Union and Western Cab.

Yellow/Checker/Star Cab Companies opposed any allocation for this event, as does ITPE Union. Even though YCS opposed an allocation, they supported the industry.

Other intervenors agreed with the following –

Monday, February 16 – 6 medallions – 12 PM – 2 AM – any 12 hours

Tuesday, February 17 and Wednesday, February 18 – 6 medallions – 7 AM – 7 PM and 6 medallions – 12 PM – 2 AM – any 12 hours

Thursday, February 19 – 6 medallions – 7 AM – 7 PM

After much discussion regarding the additional medallions given at the Annual Review of Medallions in December not having anything to do with special events, the Board made a motion.

Motion:	Allocation 3 medallions for times listed by the industry
By:	Member Nolan
Seconded:	Member Aguilera
Vote:	Passed unanimously

15. Discussion and Possible Decision regarding the 2015 Regulation Review including the identification of regulations to be revised and the procedures to be used.

DAG Christine Guerri-Nyhus explained that every 10 years agencies have to do a review of their regulations. She is not aware of what the TA did the last time. She asked the TA Staff and Board to make recommendations if they feel a regulation needs to be changed. Any changes that the Board may suggest will then be given to Barbara Webb, Legal Secretary/Recording Secretary, to compile and give to Staff for review. There will then be a Workshop for discussion, then brought to the Board for their decision. There will then be another Workshop to decide



what gets presented to the Legislative Counsel Bureau. They will review them, give their input, then it comes back for an Adoption Hearing.

Motion: To go forward with the 2015 Regulation Review as outlined by
DAG Christine Guerri-Nyhus
By: Member Collins
Seconded: Member Aguilera
Vote: Passed unanimously

16. Discussion and Possible Decision regarding the Application of Certificate Holders Yellow/Checker/Star Cab Companies, Whittlesea Blue/Henderson Taxi and Desert Cab Company to Adjust, Alter or Change the Rates, Charges or Fares for Electronic Hailing Services.

A Joinder was filed late by John Mowbray, attorney for Frias Transportation, regarding this agenda item. DAG Guerri-Nyhus told the Board that a motion was needed for acceptance of the Joinder.

Motion: To accept the Joinder filed on behalf of Frias Transportation
By: Member Collins
Seconded: Member Nolan
Vote: Passed unanimously

Mark Trafton, attorney for Whittlesea Blue/Henderson Taxi and Marc Gordon, attorney for Yellow/Checker/Star Cab Companies came before the Board to explain why they filed this joint application. They went on to discuss the No Show fee of \$10 and the \$3.00 e-hailing fee. They stated that they wanted to make sure this e-hailing fee would never be more than \$3.00 due to other companies that may approach the Taxicab Authority and the Board. There was much discussion regarding when the No Show fee will be applied, how it is applied.

Neal Tomlinson and Keven Ellison of Ride Genie explained the process and showed a visual display of how the process works and how easy the process is. It is all done on your phone by text. The text explains to the consumer about the all the fees and if they agree they continue to hire a ride. They explained how this is a huge benefit for downtown where there are many happy users. They also explained that a percentage of the fee for a No Show goes to the driver.

Member Nolan's concern is that not everyone will take the time to read everything and wondered it could be made more prominent and Keven Ellison agreed they would work on that.

Marc Gordon explained that they are in the process of negotiating a lower e-hailing fee of \$1.75 and again stated that they do not want it to exceed \$3.00. Mr. Ellison explained that the customer will get a receipt at the end of the ride and can include a tip at that time if they so chose.

Interim Administrator Tom Ely asked the gentlemen if there was a Ride Share meeting prior to this meeting. Chair Drobkin explained to them what Captain Ely was talking about, the meeting between



these gentlemen and herself at her place of business the day before. She explained that it was with DAG Guercci-Nyhus' approval. Captain Ely explained that he has never seen this except for their demonstration at the December Meeting that the previous demonstration of this was seen by his predecessor. DAG Guercci-Nyhus explained that the Chair is allowed to be briefed on an agenda item as long as the information was not relayed to the other board members.

The Chair asked for intervenors. There were no comments from the intervenors.

Member Nolan, as part of his motion, commented that the Board had erred on the side of being cautious over the past 2 years. Before the motion was completed, Member Collins asked if there was any feedback from the Union or the drivers. Mr. Ellison stated they started training some of the drivers and they were very receptive as the technology is very easy. Member Aguilera asked how they were going to get it out there to the public and was told that there is a marketing plan ready to launch to everyone. The Board is very excited about this as it will help the outlying areas to get better service. Mr. Ellison went on to explain that the consumer will have a choice of what type of car/limo they would like. The Board agreed that it is taking the industry to another level.

Motion: To accept or approve the application as provided on agenda item
16 with the fees as requested
By: Member Nolan
Seconded: Member Aguilera
Vote: Passed unanimously

The Chair, at this point, acknowledged the passing of Steve Lanett, a driver who came to most of the meetings and had a lot of input from a driver's point of view. She said he will be missed and sent the Board's condolences to his family.

17. Staff Report

Administrator's Report – Interim Administrator Captain Tom Ely wanted it put on the record that Agenda Item 11 was not being heard by the Board. It was the issue that came up in December at the Annual Review of Medallions about new Geo 2 medallions and their territory of service. He commented that nothing had been filed by the companies requesting this medallion prior to the December meeting, nothing was presented to the Taxicab Authority prior to the meeting, the boundaries were not as clear as they should have been and he wanted to go over the explanation of the boundaries for clarification today and the Chair did not allow that to be done.

DAG Guercci-Nyhus advised that she had advised the Board at the time that an application was not necessary. Captain Ely commented that no information had come before him prior to the meeting which is the protocol to discuss items at the meeting.

Stats for December, 2014 – Kelly Kuzik said that trips and revenue were up 4-1/2% and everything else was a push. Member Nolan brought up again that he wants to see what the wait times will be during M.A.G.I.C. and Kelly said he would do his best to find that out.



Future agenda items – Captain Ely stated that the Geo 2 medallions will be discussed and the next meeting.

DAG Guerri-Nyhus asked that from now on that the Minutes be more condensed and to the point per the Open Meeting Law.

18. Driver Appeal - Samuel Fekete rescheduled from November - TA # 19926

The Board listened to Mr. Fekete. He stated that there were mistakes in the transcript, the information was wrong. He feels his ticket was not fair. He stated that he went on Dean Martin Drive because there was a lot of traffic on the Strip and even though this way was longer it was quicker.

After much discussion as to which way is better or whether it's shorter or longer, he was in violation of the NRS 706.8846(3) - Take a longer route to the passenger's destination than is necessary, unless specifically requested so to do by the passenger.

DAG Sunga gave his presentation with regard to long hauling and that the Taxicab Authority has been accused of not addressing it. Mr. Fekete had picked up 2 people at the Excalibur who happened to be 2 undercover investigators working to crack down on long hauling and he proceeded to long haul them.

Motion: Uphold the appeal on it being unreasonable based upon time; the statutes states a longer route which could be either time or geo
By: Member Nolan
Seconded: Chair Drobkin
Vote: Passed unanimously to overturn the judge's decision

A discussion went on about changes the NRS because when it went into effect time and distance were the same, now it is not.

19. Report of Legal Counsel

DAG Ryan Sunga stated that he had nothing to report at this time.

20. Public Comment

Jay Nay, A Cab, commented that regarding agenda item 16, maybe the credit card fee should be part of the motion to be more clear.

No further public comments.

21. Adjournment

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



Meeting adjourned at 12:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Barbara A. Webb
Barbara A. Webb, Recording Secretary

02-02-2015
Date

Approved by: Ileana Drobkin
Ileana Drobkin, Chairman

02-26-15
Date

Tom Ely
Tom Ely, Captain, Interim Administrator

2-9-15
Date

