



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

May 19, 2015

The Board Meeting and Public Hearing of the State of Nevada Taxicab Authority was held on Tuesday, May 19, 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 10:02:51 A.M.

Present were: Chairman Ileana Drobkin, Member Dennis Nolan, 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 Guerci-Nyhus, Deputy Attorney General, Legal Counsel for the Board, Gary Mathews, Deputy Attorney General for the Taxicab Authority and Recording Secretary, Barbara A. Webb.

1. Call to Order.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:02:51 A.M.

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

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

Chair Drobkin commented on the summit that was held the week before that included executives from hotels and LVCVA and the presentations that were given. She said that solutions regarding issues on the Strip were discussed and they were sending their ideas to Governor Sandoval with hopes of implementing short term solutions.

3. Compliance with Open Meeting Law.

Acting Administrator Jennifer DeRose stated that we are in compliance with the Open Meeting Law.

4. Public Comment.

Member Aguilera thanked everyone for the change regarding the Geo 1s being able to pick up at the Vdara and what a difference it made.

Member Nolan spoke regarding Uber and the pending legislative proposals and the impact, complications and image it will have on Las Vegas. He wondered if anyone knew when it would be heard and asked if whoever had any information to please share it with the Board and if they could let the LCB know how the Board feels about it. He asked if the industry was able to give any update.

Bill Shranko, COO, YCS, stated that the Board's hands are tied. He said in the past the Board, as well as Kelly Kuzik, had gone before the Legislature. He feels that if the Board had gone up before the Legislature as a whole, it might have had some impact. He commented that Uber wants to have 15,000 cars with 2 shifts – 30,000 total.

Member Nolan asked when it would be discussed.

Cheryl Knapp of Whittlesea Blue/Henderson Taxi said it would be before the Ways and Means Committee for discussion today, if it is left on their agenda. She also commented that Brent Bell of Whittlesea was there.

Marilyn Moran of Western Cab commented that she does not understand why the Board hadn't done something sooner because Uber is definitely going to impact the city.

DAG Guerri-Nyhus said that it has been put on their agenda for discussion.

Chair Drobkin commented that the Board was told not to make any statements.

Marilyn Moran stated that a fact sheet should have been sent to the Governor before the end of the legislative session because the Board knows more than the legislative board about the impact Uber will have on Las Vegas.

Member Aguilera asked legal counsel if the Board can go individually before the legislature and legal counsel said, as a board; it would have been put on the legislature's agenda to be heard.

Member Nolan commented that the industry had not approached the board to put it on the agenda. He would like to know when the hearing is and can some of the board attend and testify.

There was a further discussion regarding Uber and the Public Utilities Commission, the impact of the infrastructure and what ramifications would there be. The DAG said one board member would be authorized to appear. Chair Drobkin commented that the impact needs to be addressed. The DAG said she would look into it.

Mr. Shranko commented that he didn't feel Uber shouldn't be here, but who is the regulatory body going to be. The Chair agreed.

Joel Wildden of YCS commented about Rock in Rio and wanted to give recognition regarding their cab set up as he felt it was the best he has seen.

Chair Drobkin commented that the industry did a great job.

No other public comment.

5. Approval of the April 30th, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes.

Minutes were not available at this time.



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

Maria Soto commented that the National Hardware Show was here from May 5th through May 7th and that there was a larger need for cabs the last 3 days of move in (before the show opened). On opening day there was a 30-minute wait time with 200-300 people waiting in line.

At the same time, NAPA with 18,000 attendees was at the Mandalay Bay which she felt was a contributing factor to the long wait at LVCVA. She said there were approximately 12,665 cabs that came through over the 4-day period at the North Halls.

Currently, RECon-International Council of Shopping Centers is in with approximately 35,000 attendees. She said this is a high end show with high expectations on service because they travel throughout the city and they use a lot of charter limos as well as a lot of cabs.

She's hoping that there will be better service at the close of the show. She thanked A Cab for the last minute push in service as well as the companies that send their road supervisors out to assist.

With regard to upcoming events – At Cashman Field the 51s have a Friday night game with fireworks and expecting 7,000 attendees. They will be redirecting traffic from I15 and 95 to exit at Washington to ease traffic on Las Vegas Boulevard.

The 23rd through the 25th they will roll in Basketball with Jam on It and Volleyball at the center in the south halls.

She mentioned that during the EDC, they also will have the International Esthetics and Beauty from June 20th through the 22nd, expecting 25,000 attendees. There will be a moderate need for cabs.

She thanked the industry, especially the drivers, for the service that they provide.

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

She thanked the companies' supervisors and the TA for their help. However, it was "drive through service" at both terminals and several wide periods without taxis at all. She said there were some issues getting taxis passed 6 PM through the end of the night on Thursday, Friday and Saturday night due to fight weekend, the Kentucky Derby and Cinco de Mayo. She commented that everyone was doing their best. She stated that for April 2015: 16 days above 10,000 trip. 8.5% increase year over year (April 14/April 15) Year to date: Jan 2015 to May 18th 2015 versus same time last year a 3% decrease.

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

Mr. White was not in attendance.

9. Discussion and presentation regarding the Electric Daisy Carnival 2015 by Michael Bates of Insomniac and Rick Nogues from Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department regarding planned Las Vegas Motor Speedway taxi routes and Speedway taxicab lot from which is being held from Friday, June 19th through Sunday, June 21st, dusk 'til dawn.

Michael Bates was unable to attend. In his place, Rick Nogues from LVMPD spoke regarding the upcoming event. He commented that last year's event was good; phone numbers are available so when there is a problem, they want to know about it and it will be fixed immediately. He also commented that



Mr. Bates had sent the map through Nellis Air Force Base and other paperwork to Barbara for distribution to the companies with the comment that it is not for the public just for the companies.

Chair Drobkin asked if our investigators will be out there and Chief Aquino commented it will be coordinated.

10. Discussion and Possible Decision regarding the temporary allocation of medallions for the 2015 Electric Daisy Carnival at the Las Vegas Motor Speedway from Friday, June 19th through Sunday, June 21st, dusk 'til dawn.

Kelly Kuzik gave his handout to the Board regarding the allocation given last year and what the industry was requesting this year. He said he agreed with the industry's request and commented that it is the same as last year.

Member Aguilera asked if he knew the cost for a ride from the Strip to the Las Vegas Motor Speedway and he said it depended on where on the Strip the ride starts.

Member Collins asked if he received any feedback from last year's event. Mr. Kuzik commented that there were not a lot of complaints and that at the end of the show the industry stepped up to be sure there were enough cabs available and there were no major problems.

Chair Drobkin asked Maria Soto, LVCVA, if there was another show at the same time as EDC and she said yes, the Esthetic Show with 25,000 expected.

The Chair allowed intervenors.

Intervenors were Nellis Cab Company, Whittlesea Blue/Henderson Taxi, A Cab LLC, Yellow/Checker/Star Cab Companies, Desert Cab Company, Lucky Cab Company, Ace Cab, LLC, A NLV Cab LLC, Union Cab LLC, Vegas-Western Cab LLC, and Virgin Valley Cab LLC – Frias Companies, Western Cab Company, ITPE Union and Deluxe Taxicab Service.

Intervenors spoke about their requests or non-requests with comments such as – 2013, the first year EDC was in Las Vegas the news showed people walking from LVMS due to not enough cabs or not wanting to wait for cabs which is why they increased their request for temporary medallions in 2014.

Chair Drobkin commented that the first year there was a lot of pandemonium on the Strip and she doesn't want people walking from LVMS to the Strip. She said it is the Board's duty to allocate enough temporary medallions, especially if the Union is supporting an allocation.

The following request was made by Desert, Nellis, Lucky, Frias and Whittlesea Blue/Henderson Taxi –

Friday, June 19th and Saturday, June 20th – 12 medallions – 12:00 PM – 2:00 AM – overlapping – any 12 hours and 12 medallions – 6:00 PM – 10:00 AM – any 12 hours.

Sunday, June 21st – 12 medallions – 12:00 PM – 2:00 AM – any 12 hours and 8 medallions – 6:00 PM – 10:00 AM – any 12 hours.

Yellow/Checker/Star, Western, ITPEU want to participate in discussion as does A Cab who supports the industry and Deluxe who supports any additional allocation.



After much discussion between intervenors and the Board, the following motion was made –

Motion: Friday, June 19th and Saturday, June 20th – 12 medallions –
12:00 PM – 2:00 AM – overlapping – any 12 hours *and*
12 medallions – 6:00 PM – 10:00 AM – any 12 hours
Sunday, June 21st – 12 medallions – 12:00 PM – 2:00 AM –
any 12 hours *and* 8 medallions – 6:00 PM – 10:00 AM – any 12 hours
By: Member Aguilera
Seconded: Member Collins
Vote: Passed unanimously

11. Staff Report

Stats – Kelly Kuzik said that due to he and Annette Watson doing audits, the stats are not ready at this time.

Chief Aquino commented that the internal report was given to the Board for April 15th through May 15th, 2015. He said that with the Mayweather-Pacquiao Fight and fight week which was April 30th through May 3rd, the projected number of visitors that would be in town for all the events that week, the industry had requested what they hope is enough medallions to handle that crowd. Hotel room capacity was near maximum, with every venue, restaurant, showroom, store, club, bar experienced an enormous amount of business. He said that the fight “pumped millions of dollars into Southern Nevada’s economy”.

Chief commented that there were over 1600 service calls – everyone was busy for the 5 days. He said that the MGM thanked the TA for their service on fight night and during the weigh in. He commented that the investigators had impounded a vehicle on April 30th that was in service in the west side of Las Vegas. He described it as looking like a taxicab but the name on it was “Universal Cab, Las Vegas”, it had a top hat with their cell number and name on it and a cab number. He said Metro had seen it and made the stop and called the TA. Investigator Rivers and Investigator Teti responded and made the impound. The owner had downloaded and printed a permit, had his own picture on it, put his iPad on his dash for a camera. Not only did the driver have regulatory charges against him, he had criminal charges of not having a valid driver’s license, operating an unregistered vehicle and no proof of accident liability insurance. He was cited to appear in Administrative Court and LVMPD cited him for criminal violations.

Jamie Pino asked if he was local and Chief said no.

During the same time, investigators conducted sting operations regarding long hauling, passenger refusals and rotation violations, as well as investigative/patrol duties. The investigative staff also took part in the 2nd Annual Southern Nevada Safety Coalition Traffic Safety Fair in April.

He also commented that the April statistics reveals an increase in most areas over March. With regard to recruitments, he said that most areas are fully staffed. The Compliance/Enforcement Investigator area is recruiting for 4 new investigators; interviews, physical fitness exams and oral boards were completed and he is waiting for background checks to come back.

On April 30th, Chief was interviewed by Channel 13 reporter Parker Collins regarding the big fight and any transportation issues that may occur, non-certified driver problems, and the temporary allocation that was given.



Chief also spoke regarding the special events team meeting with Rock in Rio promoters; LVMPD regarding the Electric Daisy Carnival and the Life is Beautiful concert promoter as well as with the industry regarding service, points of pick up and drop off and route maps for downtown as well, during these events.

Chief spoke also about his 2 investigators who completed their training to be certified field training officers. His staff now includes 6 FTOs who will train newly hired Compliance/Enforcement Investigators.

He has 4 investigators and support staff training with LVMPD in their "Instructor Development Certification Course" to be certified to train and instruct on any subject. They will be able to instruct new investigators, teach the Driver Awareness Programs and/or Drivers Safety Programs; teach at the local police academy and give presentations to local law enforcement agencies and the taxicab industry.

12. Report of Legal Counsel

DAG Christine Guerri-Nyhus stated that she had nothing to report at this time.

13. Public Comment

Jay Nay, A Cab, commented that new reporting requirements from the TA are taking his general manager 14 – 18 hours to complete and send documents to the TA. He feels that the information requested is of no benefit to anyone and wondered why it was requested if it is not being used.

DAG Guerri-Nyhus asked him to send it to Acting Administrator DeRose.

Member Collins asked Jamie Pino of Nellis Cab to come forward to speak regarding one of his cabdrivers who returned the case he found in the back seat of his cab.

Jamie said that the driver called it in and brought it in. It was a Samsung tablet in a case with \$5,000 in the case. Jamie said it is company policy that 2 people count the money, they did count \$5,000. Obviously, the owner was very happy and sent a very nice letter to Nellis which they shared with the TA. He commented that his company has very honest drivers.

Chair Drobkin said that she would like a to give a certificate to recognize and acknowledge the driver and drivers that go above and beyond. Mr. Pino agreed.

No further public comments.

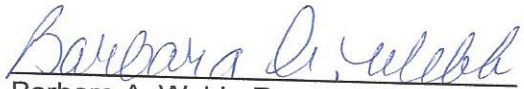
14. Adjournment

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

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 A.M.



Respectfully submitted by:


Barbara A. Webb, Recording Secretary

06-24-2015
Date

Approved by:


Ileana Drobkin, Chairman

06-30-15
Date


Jennifer DeRose, Acting Administrator

6/24/15
Date

