



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY
TAXICAB AUTHORITY**

MINUTES OF THE MAY 15, 2024, BOARD MEETING

1. Call to Order

Chairman Dan Reaser called the meeting to order on Wednesday, May 15, 2024, at 9:30 a.m., at the location of the Nevada State Business Center, 3300 West Sahara Avenue, Suite 440, Red Rock Room, Las Vegas, Nevada 89102.

Present from the Nevada Taxicab Authority Board

Chairman Dan Reaser
Vice Chairman Donald Soderberg
Member Rusty Graf
Member J.D. Decker

Present from the Taxicab Authority

Todd Park, Interim Administrator
Lona Webb, Attorney
Todd Weiss, Deputy Attorney General

A. Pledge of Allegiance

Vice Chairman Soderberg led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Compliance with Open Meeting Law

Secretary Gail Gaison-Tyler stated the meeting was in compliance with the Open Meeting Law.

2. **Public Comment**

Members of the public must identify themselves for the record and are then invited to use three minutes to comment on items on the meeting agenda or on items not contained therein. Comments shall be directed to the Board and presented in a professional demeanor and not in a threatening, profane, vulgar, or abusive manner. *The Board may limit repetitive comments to balance time constraints. *

NRS 203.090 Disturbing meeting. Every person who, without the authority of law, shall willfully disturb an assembly or meeting not unlawful in its character shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.
No public comments. Item closed.

3. **Action Item: Approve Board Meeting Minutes from May 15, 2024, Board Meeting**

No changes, additions, or corrections requested by any Board Member. Chairman Reaser moved to approve the minutes.

Motion passed and minutes approved. Item closed.

4. **Industry Discussion (For Discussion Only)**

No industry discussion. Item closed.

5. **Interview of Applicants for the Taxicab Administrator Position (For Discussion and Possible Action)**

Interviews were conducted for Christopher J. Comstock and Todd A. Park. Shaymond Michelson failed to appear for the interview.

6. **Board deliberation and selection of applicants to be submitted to the Director of Business and Industry pursuant to NRS 706.882(1) (For Discussion and Possible Action)**

Vice Chairman Soderberg shared his perspective on the agency's issues, noting that being a member doesn't always provide a complete understanding of internal problems. He mentioned that some issues that arose over the past year were unknown to him but have shown improvement under the current Interim Administrator's management. He proposed two possible actions: sending Mr. Park's name alone to the Director or ranking the candidates with Mr. Park as the top choice and Mr. Comstock as the second. Soderberg concluded by stating his belief that the current situation is quite positive.

Member Decker emphasized the agency's complexity, reflecting on his experience as a former Interim Administrator. He highlighted the importance of having administrative experience over a background solely in transportation or law enforcement. He acknowledged the strong performance of the current acting Administrator and stressed the importance of genuine care for the agency. Member Decker expressed confidence in Mr. Parks' abilities and excellent communication skills, noting that his outreach efforts are commendable and how he has reached out to others, a quality not everyone possesses. He concluded that people often don't recognize the weight of this responsibility and the importance of humility and that is why I feel Mr. Park would be my candidate for the position.

Member Graf discussed the unpredictable nature of the legislative process, sharing personal experiences and noting that specific outcomes can never be guaranteed. This highlighted the need for a candidate adept at navigating such challenges.

Chairman Reaser addressed the evaluation of candidates, acknowledging that no candidate is perfect. The board examined the strengths and weaknesses of each. A key discussion point was the learning curve associated with the role. While it was acknowledged that the role involves learning, it is not entirely on-the-job training. Mr. Park's response to a crucial question demonstrated a deep understanding and potential for success. He expressed a commitment to remain with the agency if the leadership was passionate, which resonated with the board. The board valued Mr. Park's experience with a sister agency, providing him with a holistic view of transportation services, crucial for a role in a complex environment like the entertainment capital of the world.

Concerns were raised about Mr. Comstock, who had previously expressed a desire to leave leadership roles to become an investigator, a decision he later regretted. This raised doubts about his readiness for the high-stress position of Administrator, with some board members feeling he might be better suited for a deputy administrator role.

The statutory requirement to submit a list of three candidates posed a challenge, especially since one candidate did not attend the interview. To comply with the statute, the board agreed to submit three names, despite reservations. These reservations would be documented for the Director's consideration. A motion was made to rank the candidates in order of preference: Applicant Park, Applicant Comstock, and Applicant Michaelson. This approach aimed to fulfill the statutory requirement while clearly communicating the board's preferences and concerns. The board emphasized the importance of character, commitment, and relevant experience in the selection process. They agreed to forward the ranked list of three candidates to the Director, ensuring that all statutory obligations were met.

7. Staff Report (*For Discussion Only*)

A. Administrator's Report

Administrator Park informed the Board that interviews were conducted the past 4 days for the enforcement positions. Candidates will be moving on to a physical agility test which will take place next week.

B. Enforcement/Compliance Report

Nothing to report.

C. Stats

- Monthly trips 1,140,244
- Employee revenue trips \$20.47
- Lease revenue trips \$20.79
- Cabs in service 3,013

D. Legal Counsel

Nothing to report.

E. Future Agenda Items

Chairman Reaser stated there will no board meeting in June due to two members of the board being absent so there will be no quorum and the support staff will be on leave.

8. Public Comment

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9. Adjournment (Action)

Chairman Reaser moved to adjourn Vice Chairman Soderberg seconded motion.
Motion passed. Item closed.

By the Authority,



Dan Reaser, Chairman
Nevada Taxicab Authority

Dated: July 17, 2024
Las Vegas, Nevada