



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY
TAXICAB AUTHORITY**

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 16, 2024, BOARD MEETING

1. Call to Order

Chairman Dan Reaser called the meeting to order on Wednesday, October 16, 2024, at 9:30 a.m., at the location of the Nevada State Business Center, 3300 West Sahara Avenue, Suite 400, Nevada Room, Las Vegas, Nevada 89102.

Present from the Nevada Taxicab Authority Board

Chairman Dan. R. Reaser
Vice Chairman Donald Soderberg
Member Rusty Graf
Joseph Ostunio, Deputy Attorney General

Not Present

Member J.D. Decker

Present from the Taxicab Authority

Todd Park, Administrator
Lona Webb, Attorney

Chairman Reaser stated that there was a quorum.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

Administrator Park led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

B. Compliance with Open Meeting Law

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

2. Public Comment

No public comment. Item closed.

3. Action Item: Approve Board Meeting Minutes from September 18, 2024, Board Meeting

No changes, additions, or corrections requested by any Board Member.

Motion passed and minutes approved. Item closed.

4. Industry Discussion (For Discussion Only)

No industry discussion. Item closed.

5. Continued Public Hearing—Nevada Taxicab Authority Board initiated proposed future special events surcharge to modify taxi rates for services provided during special events, and proposed designation of special events. (For Discussion and Possible Action)

The Board met to discuss extra fees for taxi services during special events and to define what counts as a special event. The Administrator praised the industry's willingness to collaborate on improving these proposals and suggested taking time to consider all options. He mentioned that the taxi industry is eager to work together.

Vice Chairman Soderberg asked whether complaints about the surcharge from the last F1 event came from visitors or residents. Administrator Park said all complaints are treated the same.

The Board approved a one-time surcharge for the upcoming F1 event but is still working on broader rules for other events. This meeting aimed to gather more feedback before finalizing those rules.

The Administrator asked Curtis Mell to present some key statistics, but there were technical issues with the recording equipment, which paused the meeting briefly. Curtis spoke at length the high-level data of visitor volume and all daily trips of taxis. He also included the comparisons of the 2023 and 2024 EDC events.

The Administrator highlighted the need for more taxi drivers, especially for events at the Sphere, and suggested that surcharges could be limited to specific events to avoid affecting regular riders. A zone pricing system, where fares vary based on the zones crossed, was also proposed.

Member Graf raised concerns about access issues at the Sphere, noting that it struggles with crowd management compared to other venues. The Board will continue to gather feedback and hold more meetings to improve the proposals and address logistical issues.

No further discussion. The item is closed.

6. Review and consideration of extension for good cause pursuant to NAC 706.982(3) to 120 days to issue an Advisory Opinion, regarding the Nevada Administrative Code 706.980 Application for Relief by members of the Livery Operator’s Association of Las Vegas (“LOA”). (For Discussion and Possible Action)

Chairman Reaser discussed the extension for good cause under NAC 706.982(3) to 120 days for the issuance of an advisory opinion. We granted this advisory opinion last month. According to our regulation, the opinion must be issued within 60 days unless good cause for an extension is identified. The 60-day period will expire before our November meeting, so compliance with the regulation and I am recommending that we find good cause for the additional time to complete the opinion within the time periods that are set forth in our regulation.

Vice Chairman Soderberg made the motion for the extension, Member Graf seconded.
Motion passed and approved.

7. Staff Report (For Discussion Only)

A. Administrators Report

- Average trip numbers have increased.
- Increase in monthly trips.
- Medallions have remained stable, with decals currently at 1,705.
- Vehicle inspections have been consistent, with over 3,100 cabs inspected.

B. Enforcement/Compliance Report

Nothing to report.

C. Stats

- Citations have increased, while impounds have decreased due to staffing shortages in the enforcement section.
- There were 97 violations resolved, with 89 occurring before hearings.
- The number of accidents reported was 263, and lost property issues remain significant, with 134 items reported.
- The board acknowledged the efforts of dispatchers in tracking lost items, emphasizing their dedication compared to regular dispatch centers.

Member Graf stated on the dispatch events last month there were one complaint call and three email complaints about UPT services. Cab drivers can help in this situation by reporting any issues they see to dispatch, which makes it easier. If drivers notice something suspicious, they can give the dispatcher the license plate number where it can be investigated without sending the team out on the street.

Desiree Dante, representing Lucky Western and Nellis Cab, mentioned that drivers are frustrated. They often report issues in downtown, where fake taxi signs are being used. Despite having videos and pictures, dispatch tells them there's nothing that can be done. Desiree emailed some evidence to the Administrator, but the drivers feel helpless when they see illegal activity happening right in front of them.

The Administrator acknowledged that there are actions we can take, and each complaint should be assigned to an Investigator. He emphasized that just because someone is reported doesn't mean they are doing something illegal; we need enough evidence to act. He apologized for any confusion and said he would check on the complaints to ensure they're being handled properly.

The Administrator noted that dispatchers feel frustrated too, especially when officers aren't available to respond immediately. He agreed that Downtown is a major issue, as well as the Strip. To address this, they are starting a bike program to help officers get around more easily. They're working on getting the bikes ready for use soon.

D. Legal Counsel

Nothing to report.

E. Future Agenda Items

Nothing to report.

8. Public Comment

No public comments. Item closed.

9. Adjournment (Action)

Chairman Reaser moved for adjournment.
Members in favor of adjournment. Motion passes.

By the Authority,

Dan R. Reaser, Chairman
Nevada Taxicab Authority Board

Dated: November 20, 2024
Las Vegas, Nevada