

Metropolitan Taxicab Commission

**November 28, 2006 @ 10:00 am
100 North Tucker Boulevard**

Members present: Chairman Hamilton, Commissioners Banahan, McNutt, Reeves, Rudawsky,
Members absent: Commissioners Bennett and Satz. Commissioner Harris's seat is vacant since his passing. Commissioner Shiferaw seat is vacant due to his resignation.
MTC staff: Barker, Deering, Hinton, Hammond, Scherer, and Tully.
Legal Department: Counselor McCarthy and Ray

Chairman Hamilton called the meeting to order at 10:08 AM.

MINUTES

Chairman Hamilton requested the Commission pause in its deliberations in memory of Commissioner James Harris. Commissioner Harris recently passed away after a long illness.

Approval was requested for the minutes of the September 26, 2006 Metropolitan Taxicab Commission meetings. A motion was made to approve the minutes by Mr. Rudawsky, seconded by Mr. McNutt. The motion passed unanimously.

The Commissioners scheduled the next Commission meeting for December 11, 2006 at 10:00 AM at 100 North Tucker Boulevard in the Auditorium.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Pursuant to RSMo 610.021, Chairmen Hamilton entertained a motion to recess to executive session. A motion was made by Mr. Reeves, seconded by Mr. McNutt. The motion passed unanimously and the Commission recessed to an Executive Session at 10:10 am. At 10:27 am, the Commission reconvened for the public meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

The Commission recognized Mr. Salia Kamara efforts in the return of a passenger's lost property. Mr. Michael Sorkin, a columnist for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, recognized Mr. Kamara in one of his articles for his efforts in returning a lost cell phone. The driver was presented with a Certificate of Recognition from the Commission.

Chairman Hamilton recognized Mr. Ted LaBoube from the Properties Division of Lambert-St. Louis International Airport®. Mr. LaBoube spoke on behalf of the Airport's request to change the marking on Airport taxicabs. The airport would like to move the \$3.00 airport user fee from the rear fender of the vehicles to the door containing the rate information. It was determined that no complaints were filed regarding the matter. The matter was discussed. Chairman Hamilton tabled the issue until the next public meeting pending feedback, a mock up of the intended markings, and the gathering of additional information.

A motion to authorize a contract with Nichols, Zieman, Ahmed, and Company was made to conduct the 2006 annual audit. The motion was made by Mr. McNutt and seconded by Mr. Banahan. The motion authorizing Treasurer Reeves to contract with the auditor on behalf of the Commission was unanimously approved.

Upon request from Mr. Rudawsky, the Director presented a concern of CCN holders who own multiple cab companies. Consideration for a 2nd license at a reduced rate was requested for drivers who wish to operate vehicles owned by the same parent company. Discussion ensued. The idea of combining the company names on a single license was proposed. Further discussion ensued. The matter was tabled by the Chairman. The Chairman requested a specific proposal solving the issue be presented at a future meeting.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Tully began his report by introducing the two CORO fellows, Mr. Andrew McIntire and Mr. Aaron Jennings.

Director Tully pointed out the monthly statistics were provided in the Commissioner's packets. He pointed out the increase in airport user fee revenue and the correlation with the Cardinals' successful post-season. He reported on the enforcement activities during the Cardinals' post-season and our collaboration with outside agencies.

The Missouri Department of Probation and Parole recently advised the Director of the conviction of several individuals who were caught submitting forged medical examinations when applying for MTC licenses.

Additionally, the Director and the enforcement staff voluntarily submitted to drug tests. All came back with negative results.

He reported the premium sedan class renewals were completed by November 1st. Furthermore, the Director's roundtable discussions are still being held even with minimal attendance.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Reeves reported on the Commission's finances. After referring to the balance sheet and income statement of October 31, 2006, he reported we are showing a strong cash position and we are on budget. Revenue is strong and expenses are high, but the Commission is on budget. Year to date shows a net of \$46,000. Mr. Reeves, the Director, and the bookkeeper will present a 2007 budget at the January meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Director Tully followed-up on the questions from the August meeting regarding taxi stands in Clayton. After contacting both the Clayton City Manager and Chief of Police, he was told they are not seeking to sell or lease any additional stands. Chairman Hamilton reiterated the state statute establishing the fact the municipalities have control of their cab stands and curb rights.

Chairman Hamilton motioned to adopt Exhibit A (the attached code changes and rules violations) while simultaneously repealing the respective existing provisions of the code that mirror these changes, effective December 1st, 2006; with direction to counsel to make any necessary changes that they deem necessary to carry out the Commission's interest.

The changes reflect the clarification of the penalties and consequences for violation of provisions of the Vehicle for Hire Code. Furthermore, they replace the administrative penalties with a graduated point system that provides a mechanism for enforcement and appeal. The changes will be posted as well as sent to all CCN holders.

Mr. Banahan seconded the Chairman's motion. The motion passed unanimously and the changes are effective as of December 1, 2006.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Valerie Murray, Attorney for Silver Star Sedan. Ms. Murray requested approval for the transfer of ownership of the premium sedan business and the four vehicles within the company. Employees of the company formed an LLC and would like the Commission to recognize the transfer of ownership within the company.

Chairman Hamilton opened old business to entertain a motion from Mr. McCarthy on his behalf. Mr. McCarthy proposed the motion to approve the transfer of ownership since all conditions of the transfer have been met. Chairman Hamilton motioned with a second from Mr. Rudawsky. The motion passed unanimously and the transfer was approved.

ADJOURNMENT

With no additional business, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Banahan and seconded by Mr. Rudawsky. The motion to adjourn was passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:56 am.

*The meeting recording was transcribed by A. Hammond.
Minutes were interpreted from the transcript by D. Barker.*