

Metropolitan Taxicab Commission

December 15, 2009 @ 10:00 am
Commission Headquarters, 2628 Delmar, Hearings Room

Members present: Commissioners; Haile, Hamilton, McNutt, Rudawsky, Satz and Tucci
Members absent: Commissioners; Bennett, Reeves
(One seat on the Commission remains vacant.)

Legal Department: Counselor Thomas W. McCarthy

MINUTES

Chairman Hamilton called the meeting to order; the roll was called by Director Klein and Mr. Hamilton accepted a motion by Commissioner Tucci to approve the minutes of the October 27th meeting which was seconded by Commissioner McNutt and there being no discussion a vote was called for and the motion was approved unanimously. Chairman Hamilton then asked for a date to be set for the January 2010 meeting and the Board selected January 28th at 10:00am.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Director was asked by Commissioner Hamilton to introduce the CCN Hearings on the agenda and Director Klein stated that there were two companies seeking authority by application to the Commission to obtain a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity, the first being Walden Brothers Transportation which sought authority to operate within the district under the Non-Emergency Medical Transportation Class. He stated that he and the staff had reviewed the application and that he recommended its approval.

Chairman Hamilton then asked for any public comments either in favor of, or against the approval from those in attendance, and with no comments offered, entertained a motion by Commissioner Satz to approve the application which was seconded by Commissioner Tucci. There was no further discussion and the motion to approve was passed unanimously.

The next application considered was for a merger between the Express Airport Taxis, LLC and the Airport Taxi Company Incorporated. Director Klein stated that he and the Commission's General Counsel had been in discussions with the firms' legal counsel; Mr. Sumner, who had prepared all of the necessary documentation which was requested by the Commission and was present to answer any questions regarding the merger. He further stated that it was therefore the recommendation of the staff to approve the issuance of the new CCN.

Mr. Sumner then addressed the Commission stating that the company resulting from the merger would be St. Louis Airport Taxi LLC and that the LLC had been formed, that the agreement had been signed that would complete the merge immediately upon Commission approval. Chairman Hamilton then asked if any members had questions and Commissioner Satz inquired about the color scheme proposed as to if a single color for the vehicle was planned and was informed there was a new unifying scheme to be employed.

Mr. Hamilton then asked if anyone in attendance had questions or desired to speak either for against the proposal and with no further questions or comments entertained a motion from Commissioner Tucci to approve which was seconded by Commissioner Satz and the merger was approved unanimously. Chairman Hamilton then asked the Director to continue with his report. The Director reported that all fleet renewal inspections for 2009 had been completed. He then reported that he and Commissioner

Tucci had met with members of the CVC regarding a program to provide hospitality training for MTC licensed drivers. Mr. Klein then introduced a member of the CVC who was present and who provided a brief overview of the training and Commissioner Tucci commented on the program as well.

Mr. Hamilton then reported on the code revision project and stated that the Commission would post the proposed code revisions on the Commission's website and would be holding at least two meetings for the purpose of soliciting industry and public comment on the draft for presentation to the Commission at its January meeting for action. He further asked that all questions or comments presented to the Commission be made in writing so that a proper accounting could be made of the input.

TREASURER'S REPORT

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Robert Brown, President of Express Medical Transporters addressed the Commission stating that the efforts of the Commission to create a more professional culture for the industry within St. Louis City and St. Louis County had not gone unnoticed and that those efforts are fully supported by EMT.

He reported that his company for the year 2009 had spent over five thousand dollars on a City of St. Louis business license, over twenty-seven thousand dollars in earnings taxes to the City and more than thirty-five thousand dollars in personal property taxes to the State of Missouri. He commented that in the current code there was no requirement to be a Missouri Company and suggested that this encourages companies to come from outside of the City and County as well as the State of Missouri to do business in the district unfairly. There were then comments made by Chairman Hamilton, General Counsel McCarthy and Director Klein with regard to plans to address this concern.

After a brief discussion of the Revised Code Draft version 8.3, Commissioner McNutt moved to adopt the draft for the purpose of publication and public comment. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tucci and without further discussion the motion was passed unanimously. Commission General Counsel, McCarthy then led the Board through a section by section summary of the draft.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

Pursuant to Missouri Statute 620.021, an Executive Session may be held to discuss legal, confidential or privileged matters under §610.021(1), RSMo 1988 Supp.; leasing, purchase or sale of real estate under §610.021(2); personnel actions under §610.021(3); discussions regarding negotiations with employee groups under §610.021(9); personnel records or applications under §610.021(13); or records under §610.021(14) which are otherwise protected from disclosure by law; or confidential or privileged communications with the District's auditor, including auditor work products under §610.021(17).

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Hamilton then stated that there being no further business on the agenda he would entertain a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Commissioner McNutt and seconded by Commissioner Haile the motion was approved unanimously and the Commission adjourned.

*Minutes were interpreted from a transcript by D. Scherer.
Transcript by A. Hammond*