

Metropolitan Taxicab Commission

November 17, 2010 @ 10:00 am
Commission Headquarters, 2628 Delmar, Hearings Room

Members present: Commissioners: Hamilton, Bennett via conference call, McNutt, Rudawsky, Satz, and Gidey
Members absent: Commissioners: Reeves, Tucci, and Asfaw
Legal Department: Attorney, Timothy J. Ahrenhoersterbaeumer, Esq.

MINUTES

The Meeting was called to order by, Chairman Hamilton. The roll was called by Marianne Mathis. Commissioner Hamilton moved to approve the minutes of the October 22nd meeting which was seconded by Commissioner McNutt and with no discussion a vote was called for and the minutes were approved unanimously. Chairman Hamilton then asked for the next meeting date to be set at later time due to the absence of some of the members of the Board from the meeting. The December meeting for 2010 was subsequently cancelled due to scheduling conflicts that made a quorum unavailable.

NEW BUSINESS

The first item on the agenda was the ratification of the annual performance review of Director, Ronald R. Klein. Chairman Hamilton made the motion to approve the decision taken by the board between meetings to approve the Director's compensation and performance review. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rudawsky and approved unanimously. Chairman Hamilton also thanked Commissioner Bennett for his work in overseeing and administering the review process.

The board then authorized the Director to negotiate the renewal of the Commission's contract for services performed by Central Parking Systems under approval of the Airport Authority to monitor, report and collect data and fees for access to Lambert International Airport by Taxicabs. The motion to do so was made by Chairman Hamilton, seconded by Commissioner Satz and with the roll and vote taken, the motion was approved unanimously.

The next order of business was approval of the following revisions to the Vehicles for Hire Code; at section 213 Code Compliance and Financial Obligations, at section 214 Validation of CCN, at sections 301.A, B, C Vehicle Permit Requirements, at sections 302.B, C, D Application for Vehicle Permit, at sections 306.B,C Vehicle Permits-Terms, Expiration and Renewal, at section 506 Leases and Advertising. These revisions were approved unanimously after individual roll calls and votes by each section.

Chairman Hamilton then introduced new CCN applications for consideration by the board and Director Klein announced his recommendation for the approval of applications submitted by Transportation Plus, LLC and MO's Medical Transportation, LLC and the probationary approval (six months) of the application submitted by Star Medical Transport, LLC.

Chairman Hamilton then made the motion to approve the application of Transportation Plus, LLC, the motion was seconded by Commissioner Rudawsky and with a roll call and vote the motion was approved unanimously.

Chairman Hamilton then made the motion to grant probationary approval of the application for CCN of Star Medical Transport, LLC as recommended by Director Klein, subject to final approval by the board

after the six month probationary period. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Satz and with a roll call and vote the measure passed unanimously.

Chairman Hamilton then made a motion to approve the CCN application of MO's Medical Transportation, LLC as recommended by the Director; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Satz and with the roll called and votes taken the motion was unanimously approved.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Director reported that the process undertaken by the Commission to require all licensed drivers in the system to submit to fingerprinting for both state and federal criminal background checks pursuant to Missouri Revised Statute §67.1819, has been completed for all existing drivers. All new drivers will also be required to comply with this provision upon application to enter the system.

The second item discussed was the ratification of the audit contract for the 2010 fiscal year. Director Klein having been asked by Vice-Chairman of Finance, Thomas W. Reeves to present a recommendation in his absence stated that having overseen the bid process, Mr. Reeve's recommendation is to award the contract to the firm, Nichols, Ziemann, Ahmed & Co., PC. Chairman Hamilton then made a motion to authorize Director Klein to enter into and execute a contract with the firm to conduct the audit as required by State Statute. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McNutt and with the roll and vote the motion was passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

None

OLD BUSINESS

Chairman Hamilton made a motion to replace the previously submitted and approved agreement with the firm Bardgett & Associates, to represent the Commission's interest in the up-coming legislative session with an agreement that calls for a fee of \$22,000.00 per session for a three year period beginning in 2011 to be paid annually. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McNutt and with a roll and vote the motion was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Rose Harmon a driver for the Wilson Cab Company, asked about church vans that had been operated during the recent COGIC conference alleging that some of the drivers of the vehicles had accepted payment for taking attendees to various locations in the city during the event. Ms. Harmon also asked the board to consider modifying the code to allow for the use of earpiece devices or hands-free phone accessories. The Director and the board addressed both questions stating that payment made to persons operating the church vans was prohibited and would be subject to enforcement action in the future and that the prohibition of cell phones and accessories while passengers are present is prohibited and the board elected not to modify the code at this time with respect to cell phone use.

Kevin Hartstock a driver for the ABC – Checker Cab Company raised a number of concerns dealing with competition from various classes of service including Airport Taxicabs, Golf carts, Trolley buses, the COGIC church vans as well as concerns about accessibility at Lambert Airport and the required hospitality training sessions. He was encouraged by the board to attend the meetings with more frequency and to bring his concerns to the Director for clarification and assistance.

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

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting by Commissioner Hamilton, seconded by Commissioner McNutt.

Minutes were interpreted from an audio recording of the meeting by Doug Scherer.