

Metropolitan Taxicab Commission

**January 10, 2011 @ 10:00 am
Commission Headquarters, 2628 Delmar, Hearings Room**

Members present: Commissioners: Hamilton, Asfaw, Bennett, McNutt, Reeves, Rudawsky, Satz, and Gidey
Members absent: Commissioners: Tucci,
Legal Department: None Present.

MINUTES

The Meeting was called to order by, Chairman Hamilton and the roll was called by Director Klein. Commissioner Hamilton accepted a motion to approve the minutes of the November 17th, 2010 meeting by Commissioner Reeves, the motion was seconded by Commissioner McNutt and with no discussion the vote was called for by roll and the motion was approved unanimously. The board then selected Friday, February 11th, 2011 for the next board meeting to be held at 9:00am in the hearings room at Commission Headquarters.

NEW BUSINESS

The first item on the agenda was the approval of a resolution authorizing the officers to open an account for Commission use with the People's National Bank. The Motion was made by Commissioner McNutt and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Reeves and with the roll called and votes taken the motion was unanimously approved.

The second item was a CCN hearing for All Care Transport, Inc. to authorize the company to provide transportation services under the Non-Emergency Medical Transportation class. The Director stated that he recommended that the application be approved and a motion was made by Commissioner Rudawsky to approve which was seconded by Commissioner Hamilton. The roll was called and the measure was approved unanimously.

The Director then proposed a reduction and modification of provisions in the Vehicles for Hire Code at section 401 -Driver Licensing – Qualifications - Hearing on Denial of License dealing with late renewal of a Commission issued driver license to read as follows;

401. G. A fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per license will be assessed for failure to renew a MTC driver license prior to expiration. A fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00) per license will be assessed to renew a license more than ten (10) days after expiration. The Director will determine the penalty under his rules promulgated, for the renewal of any license more than thirty (30) days after expiration. Licenses may be renewed up to sixty (60) days in advance of expiration.

The code prior to this change had called for \$50.00 penalty regardless of the period of expiration. A motion was made by Commissioner Reeves to approve which was seconded by Commissioner Satz, a roll call and vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

The Director then proposed a correction of the Vehicles for Hire Code at Chapter 3 – VEHICLE LICENSE REQUIREMENTS as follows under section 306 Vehicle Permits - Term, Expiration and Renewal;

6. All carriage and alternative transportation vehicle permits shall expire on the thirty-first (31st) day of October of each year and shall be renewed annually prior to such expiration date.

The code had incorrectly stated that the period expired at the end of May. The motion to approve this change was made by Commissioner Hamilton, seconded by Commissioner McNutt and with the roll call vote the motion was unanimously approved.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Director reported that the agenda item regarding Muna Cab Co. and Missouri Cab, LLC would be tabled since a representative from the Commission's legal department was not available to attend the meeting. He also stated that in response to a meeting he had with Mr. Wilson, the owner of Wilson Taxi Company he wanted to express Mr. Wilson's concern and objection to the recent prohibition of the growth policy and procedures for Taxicab permits. The Director clarified that while the so-called 'automatic' growth allowance with its 10% of fleet feature was indeed rescinded, CCN holders may apply for additional permits on an individual basis before the board.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Commissioner Reeves then discussed the December figures as well as a review of the year ending December 31st, 2010. He stated that while the month of December from a revenue and expense standpoint showed a negative result of \$16,433.00, the year overall ended positively at \$125,210.00 and that the cash positions and net worth were healthy. He also introduced the budget for 2011, and reminded the Commission that the annual budget is a tool to be used by the board to manage its affairs and that the Commission always faces unknown expenditures and events. There was a brief discussion regarding figures dealing with inspection fees and adjustments made, as well as some timing issues. He then introduced a motion to approve the 2011 budget which was seconded by Commissioner Hamilton and with the roll called the motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Satz stated that he had been contacted by two taxicab companies for follow up discussions regarding the COGIC Convention recently hosted by St. Louis with regard to issues stemming from persons operating vehicles used to transport conventioners who allegedly had charged those persons for the trips taken. He asked the Director if he had further meetings with City Officials regarding the matter. The Director stated that he had spoken with Ms. Ratcliff of the Convention and Visitors Commission who is taking the appropriate steps to inform COGIC organizers that these activities will not be allowed going forward and also with Mr. Williams, the City's Treasurer who is also seeking changes with regard to the matter and future COGIC events.

Commissioner Rudawsky asked that the Commission's lobbyist be tasked with seeking changes either to State Statute or through the Missouri State Highway Patrol regarding burdensome duplication involved in applicant fingerprinting and criminal history screening requirements. Director Klein stated that he would report back at the next meeting regarding any conversations with the Highway Patrol regarding a possible solution to the problem.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Michael Austin, owner of Three Wheel Taxi, LLC, a bicycle rickshaw operator, voiced his concern with recent code revisions which call for annual renewal of vehicle permits in the alternative transportation class as opposed to a bi-annual permit period as had previously been in place. The Director stated the change to the requirement was intended to bring uniformity to the system since all other classes are renewed annually and that he would look into Mr. Austin's specific situation and respond with any necessary adjustments pertaining to his fees if they are appropriate.

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 §X610.021(17).

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Commission a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Hamilton, seconded by Commissioner Satz and with no further discussion the vote was taken by roll and the motion was unanimously approved.

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