

Metropolitan Taxicab Commission

February 11, 2011 @ 9:00 am
Commission Headquarters, 2628 Delmar, Hearings Room

Members present: Commissioners: Hamilton, McNutt, Reeves, Rudawsky, Tucci and Gidey

Members absent: Commissioners: Bennett, Satz, and Asfaw

Legal Department: Tim Ahrenhoersterbaeumer

MINUTES

The Meeting was called to order by Chairman Reeves and the roll was called by Kim Dodd. Commissioner Reeves accepted a motion to approve the minutes of the January 10th, 2011 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 Monday, March 28th, 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 CCN hearing date for 1. A new taxi cab company Metro West Transport and 2. A CCN that was assigned for the Muna Cab Company. Director Klein requested an additional date for these hearings with a quorum of commissioners. The board then selected March 8th, 2011 at 9:00am for the CCN hearings.

The second item was the Vehicle for Hire Code Changes for Sections 501. K. 1. & 2. – Lettering and Signs Required – Taximeters – Correct Fares Charged to read as follows:

501. K. 1. Every vehicle for hire picking up passengers at Lambert St. Louis International Airport shall pay a fee of \$1.00 per trip to the MTC upon exiting the airport parking area. Violation of this section will be a Class III violation.

501. K. 2. All vehicles for hire picking up passengers at the airport must use a proximity card or similar device supplied by the MTC to exit the airport parking area and may not use a cash exit point unless the proximity card is not working. Using the cash line instead of the proximity card shall result in a ten dollar (\$10.00) administrative penalty per occurrence.

Commissioner Hamilton made a motion to adopt these revisions which was seconded by Commissioner Tucci. The roll was called and the measure was approved unanimously.

The third item was revisions of Vehicle for Hire Code for Sections 602.J and 602.K – Special Requirements for Airport Taxicabs as follows:

602. J. Drivers of airport taxicabs shall be required to utilize the MTC issued proximity card and system when picking up passengers to Lambert St. Louis International Airport and at all times when entering airport terminals. Failure to use the proximity card access system by any airport taxicab driver when accessing the airport will result in a ten dollar (\$10) administrative penalty per occurrence. A memorandum will be sent by registered mail to all CCN holders to inform them of this change.

602. K. Violation of this section 602 shall be a Class III violation unless otherwise specified.

Commissioner Hamilton made a motion to adopt the revisions which was seconded by Commissioner McNutt. The previous roll and vote was cited and the measure was approved unanimously.

The fourth item was revisions to vehicle for hire code Sections 603.J and 603.K - Special Requirements for On-Call Taxicabs as follows:

603. J. Drivers of on-call taxi cabs to be required to utilize the MTC issued proximity card and system when picking up passengers to Lambert St. Louis International Airport and at all time when entering airport terminals. Failure to use the proximity card access system by any on-call taxicab driver when accessing the airport will result in a ten dollar (\$10) administrative penalty occurrence.

603. K. Violation of this section 603 not falling under J, above, shall be a Class III violation unless otherwise specified.

Commissioner Hamilton made a motion to adopt the revisions which was seconded by Commissioner McNutt. The previous roll and vote was cited and the measure was approved unanimously.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Director reported with an update regarding Fingerprint Requirements. He stated that Mr. Bardgett is working with the Missouri State Highway Patrol to draft some corrective legislation to fix redundancy of the fingerprint issue and there is ongoing discussion about this matter and that further information is expected from Mr. Bardgett's office soon.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Commissioner Reeves then discussed the financial report for January. He stated the balance sheet for the commission continues to show a strong cash position and a good equity position. The bottom line for the income for the month of January shows a negative (-) \$7,998.09 however, he stated that this is \$7,000 better than what was budgeted. As a \$14,900.00 deficit had been projected.

Commissioner Reeves made a motion to renew the accountant's contract with David K. Adams authorizing the director to execute the agreement. Commissioner Reeves made the motion to approve Commissioner Hamilton seconded and with the roll call vote taken the motion passed unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Tucci asked about how the Hospitality Training for the drivers was going. The Director stated that we are almost completed with the on-call fleet training. Commissioner Tucci suggested that someone from the MTC should be there to answer questions. The Director stated someone from the MTC office has attended each session. Commissioner Rudawsky suggested that the taxicab drivers would like to see more interesting facts and tidbits about St. Louis and St. Louis landmarks and attractions so that will help them converse with their passengers.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dennis Shanayev, of Chesterfield Car Service, had questions regarding Driver Licensing – Qualifications Hearing on Denial of License code 401. C. 2. a. and b. he stated that 401. C. 2. a. is very specific and 401. C. 2. b. states any felony. Dennis Shanayev stated he would like clarification. The Director agreed and

stated that he sent it to General Counsel McCarthy for clarification, that a major concern is with the crimes against persons and that the matter is being looked into further.

Michael Austin, owner of Three Wheel Taxi, LLC, a bicycle rickshaw operator, voiced his concern again 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 that he was instructed to see when his fee was paid, this was paid in October 2009 the change was made in August 2009. This was after the code change was put in effect which does not require a refund. Commissioner Hamilton suggested that Michael Austin stay after the meeting and discuss this matter further with the Director.

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 McNutt and with no further discussion the previous roll and vote was called for and the motion was unanimously approved.

Minutes were interpreted from an audio recording of the meeting by Kim Dodd.