

Metropolitan Taxicab Commission
August 31, 2021 @ 10:00 am
Commission Headquarters, 2628 Delmar, Via Zoom

Members present: Chairman: McNutt, Commissioners: Osho, Asfaw, Rudawsky, and Vianello
Absent: Commissioner Satz

Legal Department: Chuck Billings

AGENDA & MINUTES

- The Meeting was called to order by Chairman McNutt at 10:04 AM and the roll was called by Director Ronald Klein: Commissioner Satz-Absent, Commissioner Asfaw-present, Commissioner Osho-present, Commissioner Rudawsky-present, Commissioner Vianello-present and Chairman McNutt – present. A quorum being found the meeting began.
- Chairman McNutt called for a motion to approve the August 31, 2021, agenda. The motion was moved by Commissioner Rudawsky and second by Commissioner Vianello, a vote was taken, and the agenda approved; Commissioner Osho-yes, Commissioner Rudawsky-yes, Commissioner Asfaw-yes, Commissioner Vianello-yes, and Chairman McNutt-yes,
- Following the approval of the agenda, Chairmen McNutt called for a motion to adopt the July 21, 2021, meeting minutes. Commissioner Asfaw made a motion to have the minutes adopted it was second by Commissioner Osho, the previous roll call was used, and the minutes was adopted.
- The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday September 29, 2021, at 10 AM via Zoom
- **NEW BUSINESS**
Director Klein brought up that we have had some drivers failing drug test due to Marijuana and they are asking about Medical Marijuana cards. Director Klein explained that if your high you will flunk a sobriety test and if you have an ailment that requires a Medical Marijuana card you should not be driving. Commissioner Rudawsky asked if MODOT accepts the medical Marijuana card? The answer was no. Chairman McNutt said that Uber and Lyft don't test for it and New York does not test for it however, he does not see how the Commission can change it. Commissioner Vianello said that Marijuana stays in your system longer than alcohol or pain pills so you could fail a drug test for something you did a week prior. Chuck Billings said that MODOT has a sliding scale for Marijuana. Commissioner Osho said there needs to be more research done on this issue. Commissioner Rudawsky agreed to the further investigation. Director Klein said that he would talk to one of the Sergeants with the St. Louis Police Department to get some guidance. Chairman McNutt said as owners he is not willing to put his business on the line. Director Klein said he would report on the issue next month.
- Director Klein said Micro transit Funding, there will be some grant money made to the taxi companies for Micro Transit, he explained that it was for end point transportation so if you take Metrolink to one of the stations and you live past walking distance they will get you a ride to and from your home or wherever you are going. Director Klein said that he knows that the Taxi companies will be able to apply for that grant. Metro is outsourcing the program to another state right now. The commission is not eligible for the program. If we have local companies interested

in the program, we need to let Bistate know that to keep money here. Director Klein aid Via is a New Jersey based company, and they are driving around St. Louisans, Commissioner Rudawsky agreed he said his main issue is the shortage of the drivers. Chairman McNutt asked if St. Louis Airport taxi is having issues getting drivers and Commissioner Osho said he has enough but yes, they are having issues. Commissioner Vianello said that he would reach out to the County for another county Commissioner.

ADJOURNMENT

- With no need for an Executive session and no more on the agenda, Chairman McNutt moved to adjourn the meeting and it was second by Commissioner Osho without any objection the
- meeting ended at 10:48 AM.; Commissioner Osho-yes, Commissioner Rudawsky-yes, Commissioner Asfaw-yes, Commissioner Vianello-yes, and Chairman McNutt-yes,

Minutes were interpreted from an audio recording of the meeting by Sandy Page

