# METROPOLITAN NASHVILLE-DAVIDSON COUNTY TRANSPORTATION LICENSING COMMISSION

### **Minutes**

# January 27, 2015

The Metropolitan Nashville-Davidson County Transportation Commission (TLC) met in regular session on this date at the Sonny West Conference Center in the Howard Building on the Fulton Campus. Present were Chairman Sal Hernandez, Vice Chairman Tom Turner and Commissioners Sam Patel, Rhonda Marko, Pat McNally, Ben Jordan and Curt Wallen (7). Present were Metro Legal Advisers Theresa Costonis and Tara Ladd as well as TLC staff members Lisa Steelman, Millie Carman and Billy Fields.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m. then led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a reading of the Notice of Appeal Statement which outlined the right of appeal for TLC decisions.

#### **Minutes**

Commissioner McNally with a second from Commissioner Patel moved to approve the minutes from the previous meeting.

ACTION:

Approved 5-0.

## Other Passenger Vehicles for Hire

Director Fields presented the following applications for Certificates of convenience and Necessity for Other Passenger Vehicles for Hire:

Crown Limo
Daniel's Limousine Service
Foulkes Transportation
GG Transportation
Icon Executive Transportation
ABC Express Limo
Carter Transportation

He said that ABC Express and Carter Transportation made application under the revised 6.74 (Other Passenger Vehicles for Hire or OPVH) section of the Metropolitan Code of Law. He explained any new applicant will be required fees based on the old 6.74 section until the TLC and the Metropolitan Council establishes the new fee structure. He also stated that no applicant would be given a certificate until all of the necessity documentation is in order.

Vice Chairman Turner, with a second from Commissioner Wallen, moved to approve the applications.

**ACTION:** 

5-0

Derrick Berry was present to request a permit to drive an OPVH. Director Fields explained Mr. Berry had a previous application deferred by the TLC and was required to appear. After some discussion, Commissioner Marko, with a second from Commissioner McNally moved to approve.

ACTION:

6-0

Robert L. Drain appeared to request a permit to drive an OPVH. Director Fields explained that Mr. Drain was approved for a permit, but failed to come to the office within a 30 day period. Since a Motor Vehicle Record (MVR) is only valid for 30 days by rule, he was required to present a current MVR. Director Fields explained that Mr. Drain became belligerent when asked to bring the new document was unprofessional and frightening at the TLC office. Mr. Drain spoke in his defense. After some discussion which included a statement from the chair affirming the need to be respectful of TLC staff, Commissioner Marko, with a second form Commissioner Jordan, moved to approve.

ACTION:

6-0

Anthony L. Peterman appeared to request a permit to drive an OPVH. Director Fields explained that Mr. Peterman had failed to fully disclose his background. Commissioner McNally, with a second from Commissioner Turner, moved to approve.

**ACTION:** 

6-0

## **TAXICAB**

Belay G. Badasso appeared to request a permit to operate a taxicab. Director Fields explained that he failed to fully disclose his background. Commissioner Marko, with a second from Commissioner Jordan, moved to approve.

ACTION:

Approved 6-0

Marwan A. Rohman appeared to request a permit to operate a taxicab. Director Fields explained that he failed to fully disclose his background. Commissioner Turner, with a second from Commissioner Wallen, moved to approve.

**ACTION:** 

Approved 6-0

Mosa S. Hindich appeared to request a permit to operate a taxicab. Director Fields explained that he failed to fully disclose his background. Commissioner Jordan, with a second from Commissioner Marko, moved to approve.

ACTION:

Approved 6-0

The Chair asked that the request for a company name change by Akal Transportation (d/b/a United Cab) to United Transportation be taken out of order After some discussion, Commissioner McNally, with a second from Commissioner Marko, moved to approve.

**ACTION:** 

Approved 6-0

# Annual Public Hearing on Certificates of Convenience and Necessity for Taxicabs

The Chair opened the public hearing for consideration of Certificates of Convenience and Necessity as well as requests for additional taxicab permits. He recognized elected officials to speak on behalf of the applicants who included Metropolitan Council members Davette Blalock, Scott Davis and Fabian Bedne.

The following individuals spoke:

Terry Clements
Doug Kreulen
Devan Bhatt
Robby Mann
Michael Solomon
Lyndsay Gamble
Doug Trimble
Mike Kaiser

Johnny White Michael Hoskins Godwin Poima Paul Soper Abraham Derbo Theo Morison Tanaka Vercher Bashir Gure Adulakadi Gure
Maurice Harris
Mehari Woldekin
Fasil Belihu
Jim Burrow
Sue Mann
Hasel Mohamed
Mezemir Wagaw

The Chair then recognized Metro Councilmember Erica Gilmore for comments.

Director Fields then read a letter from the Metropolitan Council Minority Caucus into the record and The Chair closed the public hearing at 4:19 p.m.

Director Fields and Ms. Costonis explained that the first action the TLC should take is to consider whether or not additional certificates or permits for taxicabs are needed. If the TLC decides more permits are necessary then the next action would be to determine how many additional vehicle permits were necessary.

Commissioner McNally, with a second from Commissioner Jordan, moved that based on the testimony offered during the public hearing that a finding could be made that additional certificates of public convenience and necessity were in order and needed.

**ACTION:** 

Approved 6-0

Ms. Costonis read the appropriate sections from the Metropolitan Code of Law pertaining to Taxicab Certificates of Convenience and Necessity and assigning additional taxicab operating permits.

Commissioner McNally, with a second from Commissioner Patel, moved to not approve the application for TaxiCab Pro.

**ACTION:** 

Approved 6-0

Commissioner McNally, with a second from Commissioner Marko, moved to grant Tennessee National a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity and grant them 20 permits.

**ACTION:** 

Approved 6-0

Commissioner Jordan, with a second from Commissioner Marko, moved to grant 115 permits to NashVegas.

**ACTION:** 

Approved 5-1

Commissioner McNally, with a second from Commissioner Jordan, moved to grant 19 permits to Magic Taxi.

**ACTION:** 

Approved 6-0

Commissioners Jordan moved to grant 2 permits to TennCab. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Commissioner McNally, with a second from Commissioner Patel, moved to grant 15 permits each to Pink Cab, TennCab and United Cab.

Action:

Approved 6-0.

Commissioner McNally, with a second from Commissioner Jordan, moved to award 0 (zero) permits to Volunteer Taxi.

**ACTION:** 

Approved 6-0

Director-Executive Secretary's note: The total of permitted vehicles is now 1324 exclusive of ADA compliant vehicles.

The new total of assigned taxicab permits is now:

American Music City Taxi	95	TennCab	85
Checker Cab	130	Tennessee National	20
Green Cab	55	United Cab	105
Kwik Cab	50	Volunteer Cab	80
Magic Taxi	54	Yellow Cab	165
NashVegas	150		÷
Pink Cab	50	TOTAL	1324
TaxiUSA	285		

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:06 p.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Billy Fields

Interim Director/Executive Secretary

Sal Hernandez

Chairman