

**NEW YORK CITY**  
**TAXI AND LIMOUSINE COMMISSION**

**Minutes of Commission Meeting**

**March 13, 2008**

Present:

Matthew W. Daus, *Commissioner/Chair*

Elias Arout, *Commissioner*

Harry Giannoulis, *Commissioner*

Edward Gonzales, *Commissioner*

Lauvienska Polanco, *Commissioner*

Charles Fraser, *General Counsel*

1. The Chair called the meeting to order and reported the following:
  - The Chair reported that the Mayor held a press conference on February 27, 2008 regarding plans for cleaner, more fuel-efficient black cars. The TLC will propose rulemaking to require vehicle retirement after six years for black cars. In addition, as of January 1, 2009 all new black cars are required to have a minimum city rating of 25 miles per gallon, and beginning January 1, 2010, a minimum city rating of 30 miles per gallon. The rules are similar to those recently adopted for yellow taxis. The Chair stated that there will be a public hearing on these proposed rules at the next Commission meeting. (Tr. pp. 3-5)
  - The Chair reported that TLC's Driver Recognition Ceremony will be held on March 27, 2008 at the Top of the Rock. Scheduled speakers include Ben Bailey of Cash Cab fame, and actor Tom Wopat. (Tr. pp. 5-6)
  - The Chair reported on Operation Secret Rider, an initiative to enhance customer service for taxi riders. The compliance rate remains at 91 percent. A total of 2,444 tests were conducted resulting in a total of 330 summonses issued. (Tr. p. 6)
  - The Chair reported on the Taxi of Tomorrow project. The TLC issued a Request for Information (RFI) requesting information from potential manufacturers in terms of what they believe they can do to build the Taxi of Tomorrow and what interest there is out there by various manufacturers. The due date for final responses is April 21, 2008. So far, the TLC has had 173 downloads of the RFI from our website. (Tr. pp. 6-7)

- The Chair reported on the upcoming taxicab medallion sale. The Chair stated that the TLC's website will soon include a medallion sale information section. The auction will be for 86 corporate accessible medallions, to be sold in 43 lots of two medallions each. There will also be one independent accessible medallion auctioned as well as two independent alternative fuel medallions; these three medallions were left over from the previous auction. A seminar on the upcoming auction will be held at our Woodside facility on April 15, 2008 and a second seminar will be held at our Rector Street facility on April 22, 2008. In addition, a technical workshop whereby TLC staff will answer questions and advise on filling out paperwork will be held at Rector Street on April 25, 2008. Bid collection will be from 9:00 A.M. through 12:00 P.M., starting on Monday, April 28, continuing on Tuesday the 29<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday the 30<sup>th</sup>, and ending on Thursday, May 1<sup>st</sup>. The bid opening will take place on Friday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>. More specific details will be provided in the near future. (Tr. pp. 7-8)
- The Chair reported on the last medallion auction. The Chair was pleased to report that 60 of the 63 medallions auctioned have closed. The majority of the auctioned taxis are on the road. (Tr. pp. 8-9)
- The Chair reported on the Taxi Technology Customer Service Enhancements. 10,000 of the over 13,000 taxis that are on the road have installed the credit card and taxi technology equipment. The data continues to prove that the credit card tips are averaging 20 percent. (Tr. p. 9)
- The Chair reported on the Accessible Dispatch program. The contract was executed and forwarded to New York City Comptroller's Office for approval and registration, which can take up to thirty days. TLC is in the process of researching potential training providers in order to train drivers how to use accessible equipment in the taxis. TLC also has a section on the website dealing exclusively with the accessible dispatch system. And, an agreement has been reached with the Port Authority on the "shorties" for the accessible taxis at the airports. (Tr. pp. 9-10)
- The Chair reported that the TLC and the industry is in favor of anti-hustling legislation. Staff went to Albany to speak with legislators regarding the bill, which would stiffen penalties for the ongoing problem of unlicensed operators unlawfully soliciting at airports. The Chair expects the Senate Transportation Committee to vote on the bill this week. (Tr. pp. 10-11)
- The Chair reported that what was once known as March Madness at our Long Island City facility has now become March Mildness. License renewals can be done by appointment and there is a drop box location that is staffed. (Tr. pp. 11-12)

- The Chair reported on the status of Autovan’s pilot project for the rear-entry wheelchair accessible Toyota Sienna. Autovan promised to provide crash test and other data that is essential for our review. The Chair hopes to have a recommendation regarding the outcome of the pilot at the next Commission meeting. (Tr. pp. 12-14)
  - The Chair announced that a separate public hearing on the lease cap will be held on March 18, 2008. TLC is required to have a lease cap hearing every two years. The Chair directed those who are interested in testifying or providing written comments to look at the list of questions posted on TLC’s website. (Tr. pp. 14-16)
2. A motion was made by Commissioner Arout to adopt the minutes of the February 14, 2008 Commission meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Giannoulis, and it was passed 5-0. (Tr. p. 16)
  3. Georgia Steele-Radway, Base Licensing Supervisor, presented the following base station license applications for consideration:

**The following bases were recommended for approval:**

**NEW (1)**

GoGreenride, Inc. B02244

**RENEWAL APPLICATIONS (12)**

#1 Mexicaly Car Services Corp.	B02080
Bushwick Car Service, Inc.	B00693
DMD, Inc.	B00957
Globe Car Service, Inc.	B01625
Har-Sinay Car & Limo Service, Inc.	B01635
Ivette Car Service	B01465
J.T. Trans. Co., Inc.	B01445
Metropolitan Multiplex Car Service Corp.	B02004
Monaco Limo & Car Services, Inc.	B01741
Sun Fat Tat Exp. Corp.	B00997
Ultra Radio Dispatch Service, Inc.	B01145

**RENEWAL & OWNERSHIP CHANGE (3)**

Always On Time Car Service Corp.	B01475
Pratt Car Service	B01479
Samia Car Service	B01918

**OWNERSHIP CHANGE & NAME CHANGE (1)**

Carlton & Carlton Car Service, Inc., name to be changed to Dyre	B01793
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Avenue Car Services, Inc.

**The following bases were recommended for denial**

**DENIALS (2):**

New Relampago Car Service Corp.

B01487

Oceana Car & Limo

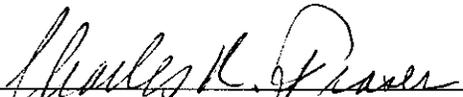
B02245

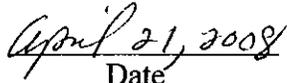
(Tr. pp. 16-20).

4. A motion was made by Commissioner Arout to approve all of the base station license applications that were recommended for approval. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Giannoulis and it was passed 5-0. (Tr. p. 18).
5. A motion was made by Commissioner Arout to deny the base station license applications that were recommended for denial if they do not comply with requirements within thirty days. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Giannoulis and it was passed 5-0. (Tr. p. 20).
6. Mark Olson and Trent Kittleman of TATC Consulting and David Klahr, Chief of Staff for the First Deputy Commissioner's Office, delivered a presentation on the Rules Revision project. (Tr. pp. 20-75).
7. Commissioner Arout made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded, and it passed 5-0. (Tr. p. 75)

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:05 a.m.

Minutes as approved by the Taxi & Limousine Commission on  
April 17, 2008.

  
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Deputy Commissioner for Legal Affairs / General Counsel

  
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Date