

NEW YORK CITY
TAXI AND LIMOUSINE COMMISSION

Minutes of Commission Meeting

December 11, 2007

Present:

Matthew W. Daus, *Commissioner/Chair*
Elias Arout, *Commissioner*
Noach Dear, *Commissioner*
Harry Giannoulis, *Commissioner*
Edward Gonzales, *Commissioner*
Jeffrey Kay, *Commissioner*
Lauvienska Polanco, *Commissioner*
Howard Vargas, *Commissioner*
Iris Weinshall, *Commissioner*
Charles Fraser, *General Counsel*

1. The Chair called the meeting to order and reported the following:
 - The Chair reported that three of the fourteen Access-A-Ride contractors are on strike. TLC is working with the Mayor's Office of Emergency Management and the Metropolitan Transportation Authority to lend a helping hand. The Chair reported that the for-hire vehicle industry may be getting increased phone calls for service for people who are disabled and usually use Access-A-Ride. It is the Chair's understanding that the passengers will pay the for-hire car service the full fare and then seek reimbursement from the MTA. (Tr. pp. 4-5)
 - The Chair reported on the recent sales from the medallion auction. Some of the medallion sales have already closed, and two accessible taxis from the sale are already on the road. (Tr. p. 5)
 - The Chair reported on the taxicab technology service enhancement project. Rollout continues to proceed, with 52 percent of all taxicabs equipped with the new technology. One of the four vendors, Taxi Technology Corp., has filed for bankruptcy. There are 2,245 affected medallion owners; they have until the inspection cycle of February 1, 2008 through April 30, 2008 to comply. The Chair also reported that it has come to his attention that taxi drivers are claiming to passengers that the credit card equipment does not work in order to force passengers to pay in cash. In one instance personally involving the Chair, the driver said that the Chair had pressed the "cash"

button, when in fact the driver had manipulated the switch from the front seat. One of the vendors has since corrected this problem. The Chair warned owners and drivers that this is bad business and that they are not allowed to prohibit a passenger from using a credit card to pay for the fare. (Tr. pp. 5-9)

- The Chair reported that the Commission will get back to its schedule of having Commission meetings on the second Thursday of every month. The next scheduled meeting will be held on Thursday, January 10, 2008. (Tr. p. 9)
 - The Chair reported on the Accessible Dispatch program. The internal draft of TLC's contract with Executive Transportation Group was completed and Law Department approval is expected shortly. (Tr. pp. 9-10)
 - The Chair congratulated Commissioner Dear on his election to the Civil Court of the City of New York, and presented him with a plaque in appreciation of his serving on the Commission for six years. Commissioner Dear thanked the Chair and the Commissioners. (Tr. pp. 10-19)
2. A motion was made by Commissioner Arout to adopt the minutes of the November 13, 2007 Commission meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Polanco, and it was passed 9-0. (Tr. p. 19)
 3. Georgia Steele-Radway, Base Licensing Supervisor, presented the following base station license applications for consideration:

The following bases were recommended for approval:

NEW (2)

James A. Leasing	B02197
New Fat, Inc.	B02229

RENEWAL APPLICATIONS (14)

Caprice Car Service Corp.	B01265
Fanny Radio Dispatcher Service, Inc.	B01433
Harlem Transportation Corp.	B00919
Highland Car Service, Inc.	B01313
Island-wide Car & Limo Service, Inc.	B01960
Lindenbaum Supply Co., Inc. d/b/a Court Express Car & Limo Svc	B01451
New Laconia Radio Dispatcher, Inc.	B01233
NY88 Express Corp.	B01984
Omega Car Service, Inc.	B00833
Premium Radio Dispatch & Multi Svc	B01777
Riverside Radio Dispatcher	B00937
Spring Creek Management	B01081

U.C. Columbus Radio Dispatch, Inc.	B01397
Webster Car Service, Inc.	B00911

RENEWAL & RELOCATION (1)

Queens Lincoln Car & Limo	B01589
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RENEWAL & OWNERSHIP CHANGE (1)

Clifton Boulevard Car Service	B00229
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RELOCATION & OWNERSHIP CHANGE (2)

Huang Hou Car Service, Inc.	B02111
Mega Mex, Inc.	B02163

RELOCATION, OWNERSHIP CHANGE & NAME CHANGE (1)

1010 Luxury Cars (To be changed to Van Wyck Express Car Service, Inc.	B02189
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RELOCATION (2)

One Call Car & Limo Service	B02089
Gun Hill Car Service	B00728

The following bases were recommended for denial:

DENIALS (6):

Bay Ridge Luxury Cars, Inc.	B02221
Merengue Limo & Car Service	B01437
Monaco Limo & Car Service, Inc.	B01741
State Car & Limo Service	B01982
The Central Radio Dispatch, Inc.	B01739
VHC, Inc.	B01629

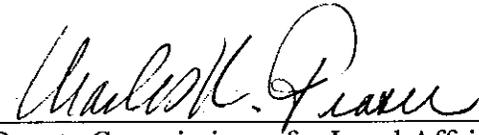
(Tr. pp. 11-12).

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 Polanco and it was passed 9-0. (Tr. pp. 19-20).
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 Dear and it was passed 9-0. (Tr. p. 20).

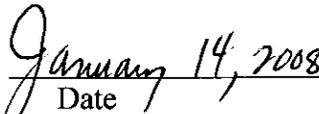
6. A public hearing was conducted on the proposed minimum miles per gallon requirements for taxicabs rules. The following individuals testified at the hearing: David Yassky, Member of the City Council of New York; Kate Sinding, representing the Natural Resources Defense Council; Vincent Sapone, representing the League of Mutual Taxi Owners; Joseph Giannetto, representing the Metropolitan Taxicab Board of Trade; Gabriel Ciccone, CEO of Fuelpup.com; Tom Hayden, representing Metro King Motors; Mel Peffers, representing the Environmental Defense Fund; Bart Chezar, representing the New York City chapter of the Sierra Club; Eddie Burgess, representing the Environmental Defense Fund; William Decandido, representing Tadger International; Mike Cecere, representing Clean Energy; Jason Rosenzweig, representing Linden Maintenance Corp.; Michael Levine, representing Ronart Leasing Taxi Garage; Bill Lindauer; Victor Ciofallo, representing Anne Service Corporation; David Pollack, representing Committee for Taxi Safety; Peter Schenkman, Assistant Commissioner for Safety and Emissions. The Commissioners discussed holding a public hearing in May, 2008 to discuss the availability of vehicles which satisfy the standards of the proposed rule and to review the implementation of the rule. A motion was made by the Chairman to approve the rules. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Arout, and passed 9-0. (Tr. pp. 21-105)
7. A motion was made by the Chairman to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Giannoulis seconded the motion and it passed 9-0. (Tr. p. 105).

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:40 a.m.

Minutes as approved by the Taxi & Limousine Commission on
January 10, 2008.



Deputy Commissioner for Legal Affairs / General Counsel


Date