

**METROPOLITAN NASHVILLE-DAVIDSON COUNTY
TRANSPORTATION LICENSING COMMISSION**

Minutes of

April 27, 2004

The Metropolitan Nashville-Davidson County Transportation Licensing Commission (the "Commission") met in regular session on this date at the Metropolitan Nashville General Sessions Judicial Complex in Metro Center. The Commissioners present were Chair Cynthia Odle, Commissioners Carey Rogers, Holly Sharp and James Utley (4). Also attending were Laura Kidwell from Metro Legal, Commission staff members Larry Ennis and Lisa Steelman, and Brian McQuiston, Director-Executive Secretary to the Commission.

Chair Cynthia Odle called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of the March 16, 2004 meeting were unanimously approved.

PUBLIC HEARING

Chair Cynthia Odle informed attendees that the meeting would be a public hearing, and introduced Brian McQuiston, the new Director of the Transportation Licensing Commission.

WRECKER ISSUES

Wrecker Rates Discussion: Mr. Michael McGovern, general counsel to the newly-formed Davidson County Zone Towing Association (DCZTA) presented information on the association, and introduced Mr. Mike Martin, DCZTA President. Mr. McGovern briefed the Commission on increased costs affecting towing companies, and requested that the Commission approve specific rate increases towing companies may charge to customers. **Chair Cynthia Odle** noted that the Commission had approved increases to some wrecker rates in October 2002, but the wrecker ordinance had not been amended. Mr. McGovern informed the Commission that the rate increases proposed by the DCZTA were in addition to those increases approved in 2002. Director Brian McQuiston informed Commissioners that the staff was also reviewing fees charged to emergency wrecker service companies for licenses, with an aim to increase and restructure fees according to zone. **Commissioner Holly Sharp** moved to include both the proposed rate increases and the license fee changes into an amendment to the wrecker ordinance. **Commissioner Carey Rogers** seconded the motion, and the motion was approved by the Commission (3-0), with **Commissioner James Utley** abstaining.

Chapman Zone Partnership: Mr. Robert Chitwood, owner of Chapman's Wrecker Service, appeared before the Commission with his manager, Mr. John Graham, to request approval to change his company from a sole proprietorship, making Mr. Graham a full partner. **Commissioner Holly Sharp** moved to approve the request. **Commissioner Carey Rogers** seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved by the Commission.

A. B. Collier Consolidation with Guess: Mr. Scott Heinrich, owner of A. B. Collier Wrecker Service, and Mr. Kelly Guess, owner of Guess Wrecker Service, appeared before the Commission to request approval for the transfer of emergency wrecker zone 10, licensed to Guess Wrecker Service, to Mr. Heinrich; and to consolidate the territory of zone 10 into zone 5, licensed to A. B. Collier Wrecker Service. Mr. Guess clarified that zone 10 had been unprofitable, and that he desired to sell his business. Mr. Heinrich explained that zone 5 bordered on zone 10, and that his current dispatch location was adequate to serve the larger territory. **Chair Cynthia Odle** asked for public comment; there were no objections. **Commissioner Holly Sharp** moved to approve the request. **Commissioner James Utley** seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved by the Commission.

TAXICAB ISSUES

Diamond Cab Request for Additional Permits: Following up on an issue raised at the March 16, 2004 Commission meeting, Mr. Roy Gillespie, owner of Diamond Taxi Company, appeared before the Commission. To come into compliance with the minimum permit requirement of the taxi ordinance, Mr. Gillespie had submitted an application to add eleven taxi permits by November 2004. Metro Legal advisor Laura Kidwell explained that, because there was no specific "grandfather clause" in the ordinance, a minimum of fifteen vehicles would be required for all taxi companies on renewal. **Chair Cynthia Odle** noted that Kennedy Brothers Cab Company also had fewer than fifteen vehicles, and that the Commission would expect that company to meet the minimum requirement as well. She asked Mr. Gillespie if his dispatch operation would be adequate to service the additional vehicles; he assured that it would. **Commissioner James Utley** moved to approve Mr. Gillespie's application. **Commissioner Holly Sharp** seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved by the Commission.

London Cabs of Nashville: Following up on another issue raised at the March 16, 2004 Commission meeting, Mr. David Preston of London Cabs of Nashville appeared before the Commission. **Chair Cynthia Odle** reminded the Commission that a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity had been granted to London Cabs of Nashville at the March 16 meeting, contingent upon several issues being addressed. Mr. Preston provided update information on those issues. Because all issues had not yet been resolved, **Chair Cynthia Odle** noted that no action would be required by the Commission at this meeting, and invited Mr. Preston to reappear at the next Commission meeting.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Brian E. McQuiston
Director-Executive Secretary

Cynthia M. Odle
Chair