

**PRIVATE FOR-HIRE TRANSPORTATION BOARD OF REVIEW
MINUTES – July 13, 2005**

A. Call to Order: 1:33 p.m. by Chairman Gaylord.

B. Roll Call / Sign-In

1. Roll Call: Ayres P; Corona P; Fox A;
Gaylord P; Hamilton P; Holm P; Huddleston A;
Lentz P; Miles P; Thomas P.

Butch Miller attended on behalf of Driver Representative Bert Fox. Darcy Thornes attended as the Port's designee in Dawn Huddleston's absence.

2. Others / Audience: The list of other attendees is available from the Bureau of Licenses.

C. Approval of Agenda: The amended agenda was approved as distributed.

D. Approval of Previous Minutes: The minutes of the June 15 meeting were approved as distributed.

E. Supervisor's Report

1. Camera update

John Hamilton reported that unforeseen delays by the camera provider made it impossible to meet the July 1 deadline for installation of cameras in all cabs. The companies have done a good job of installing the cameras that they have received, however. John reported that all of Green Cab's cameras are installed (48), New Rose City has finished 10, Portland has done 19, and Broadway and Radio have done about 75% of theirs.

2. Seat Belt Law / Senate Bill 367

John reported that the Bill has been signed by the governor and becomes effective January 1, 2006. It will affect all segments of the private for hire transportation industry (drivers and passengers), with the exception of taxi *drivers* who will be exempt because of other kinds of safety concerns (needing to flee to avoid attack by a passenger). John noted that passengers over 16 years are responsible for their own seatbelt use, but drivers are responsible for passengers under the age of 16. He recommended vehicle signage that would notify passengers of the law, to take some of the burden off the drivers. Darcy Thornes mentioned that the Port will post the law on their website to alert visitors to the requirement.

3. Communicating complaints to Supervisor

John asked that complaints be submitted in writing, for improved tracking. A complaint form will be distributed to companies and available on the Bureau's website. Carol asked that a link to the complaint form be sent to all Board members.

F. Old Business

1. Ordinance for rate increase – Hamilton

The ordinance will go into effect on July 22, 2005. The \$2.00/mile rate is an optional maximum.

2. Review of fuel surcharge – Hamilton

(Memo re recommendation to change the fuel surcharge to a \$1/trip flat rate distributed to Board.) John explained that his recommendation came from a desire to prevent companies from having to adjust

taximeters twice, once for the rate increase and then for the fuel surcharge. Raye Miles said that the both Standing Committees gave the topic a lot of consideration when a fuel surcharge was originally proposed. They determined that having the fuel surcharge incorporated into a meter would reduce the potential for conflict between passengers and drivers, and would not be an inequitable burden on the short trips. She added that meters could be reprogrammed for about \$10/cab, vs. the quoted \$22/cab cost for recalibration. Raye made a motion to continue the surcharge. Ramon Corona seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Butch Miller made a motion to raise the minimum town car rate between downtown and the airport to a minimum of \$48, to maintain the current proportion between taxi rates and town car rates. No one seconded the motion, but the topic will be on the August agenda and was referred to the Standing Committees for their consideration.

Regarding changing to a flat rate surcharge, Gary McFarlane of Green Cab said he would like the Driver Standing Committee to have an opportunity to discuss the issue. Carol Lentz made a motion to refer the proposal to the Standing Committees for input. Ramon seconded the motion. The motion passed; Nancy Thomas voted against it.

Later in the meeting Nancy Thomas made a motion to continue the fuel surcharge at \$.10/mile. Butch Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed. John Hamilton will distribute updated rate and fuel surcharge information to the industry.

3. Draft Revisions to PCC 7.20 “Private For Hire Transportation”

a. Issues: Prioritized list

b. Progress Report from Standing Committees – Raye Miles and Bert Fox

c. Ordinance eliminating temporary taxi and LPT driver’s permits – Hamilton

d. Executive Sedans without LPT plates – Bert Fox

Butch Miller said that he has photos of town cars operated by a company that do not have City plates. Chairman Gaylord encouraged him to submit the photos with a written complaint.

e. Shuttle Rates

G. New Business

1. Composition of the Board

Chairman Gaylord explained that the mayor’s office has instituted a new procedure for the appointment of citizens to City Boards. The procedure has not yet been finalized, so vacancies can not be filled yet. Carol wondered why it would be necessary to wait for the procedure to be implemented before her position could be filled, when Darcy Thornes had apparently been designated as the Port’s representative. Chairman Gaylord clarified that, presently, Darcy is the Port’s designee in Dawn’s absence and is not the permanent representative. POVA could also designate someone to attend in Carol’s stead until her term expires.

Carol expressed the belief that the Board should be chaired by one of the members, not the head of the Bureau that oversees the work done in the area in the Board’s purview. She further believed that the current set-up limits what goes on the agenda and what “falls off the table” and is a conflict of interest. Chairman Gaylord encouraged her to send a memo and said it would be forwarded to the appropriate parties.

Nancy Thomas suggested that “riding public” citizen representatives from different parts of the City might be useful additions to the Board. Chairman Gaylord encouraged her to send her suggestion in writing for further consideration.

Raye Miles commended Carol for her exemplary service on the Board.

2. Meeting locations for standing committees

Raye Miles made a motion to ask the City to find potential alternate locations for Driver Standing Committee meetings. Ramon seconded the motion, and offered to research places for their meetings. He asked for information about the number of likely attendees, desirable times and parts of town, and parking needs. The committee will not be obligated to use any facility that is suggested. The motion passed.

3. Driver permit changes

Bert Fox submitted a request to have the personal information disclosed on the driver permits (date of birth, height, weight, full name) removed to protect the driver from harassment and identity theft. A Code amendment will be needed to change the information printed on the permit.

Carol Lentz made a motion that, to eliminate (prevent) identity theft and preserve safety of the drivers of all for-hire transportation, the only information that has to be displayed inside a vehicle for driver identification is a photograph, last name, first initial, and permit number. Ramon Corona seconded the motion. The motion passed. Chairman Gaylord said that staff would work with the City Attorney on the issue.

H. Adjourn The meeting was adjourned at 2:42 p.m.