

Transportation Commission
County of Hawaii

September 29, 2008 Meeting Minutes

Attendance:

Commissioners – Robert Ward, Amos Meyers, Liz Hultman-Salfen, Doug Espejo, Benjamin Watai, John Fernandez, Billie Keawekane

Absent and excused – Kate Ahia, Miles Miyasato

Staff – Tom Brown – County of Hawaii Mass Transit Agency

- I. Call to order – The meeting was called to order at 10:00am by Vice Chair Bob Ward.
- II. Roll Call – a quorum was established.
- III. Approval of Minutes – Motion by Commissioner Fernandez, second by Commissioner Watai. Motion carried.
- IV. Public Statements on Agenda Items – None
- V. Old Business
 - A. Jesse Gacula, dba Islandwide Taxi, P.O. Box 1124, Keaau, Hawaii 96749 – application for a new taxi license (deferred twice previously as he was not present)

Mr. Gacula submitted a letter stating he no longer needs the licenses due to a downturn in the taxi business.
- VI. New Business
 - A. Review taxicab applications for NEW Certificate(s) of Public Convenience and Necessity to Operate in the County of Hawaii
 1. Milyn Isidro, Emerlinda Isidro, and Jonathan Isidro, dba Golden Taxi, 75-235 Pumehana Street, Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96740

Applied for three licenses. Motion to approve by Commissioner Hultman-Salfen, second by Commissioner Keawekane. Motion carried.

2. Hermingildo Rafol, 73-1182 Kaiminani Drive, Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96740

Applied for one license. Mr. Rafol did not appear at the meeting. Motion to defer the application until Mr. Rafol can attend in person by Commissioner Espejo, second by Commissioner Meyers. Motion carried.

B. Hearing on revocation of the following Certificate(s) of Public Convenience due to discontinuance by the carrier of the business of transporting passengers as a common carrier of passengers operating upon and using the public highways for a period of thirty consecutive days or more or failure to renew his/her taxicab license for the year.

1. CH 032 - Marina Taxi – Mr. Wilfred Claravall appeared at the meeting and stated he no longer needs the licenses due to decreasing business. Motion to revoke by Commissioner Keawekane, second by Commissioner Watai. Motion carried.

2. CH 089 – Marina Taxi – Mr. Wilfred Claravall appeared at the meeting and stated he no longer needs the licenses due to decreasing business. Motion to revoke by Commissioner Keawekane, second by Commissioner Watai. Motion carried.

3. CH 043 – Resorts Shuttle LLC – Mr. Raymond Foat, owner, submitted a letter stating he will no longer operate his taxi. Motion to revoke by Commissioner Fernandez, second by Commissioner Keawekane. Motion carried.

4. CH 052 – Alpha Star Taxi – Motion to revoke by Commissioner Fernandez, second by Commissioner Meyers. Motion carried.

5. CH 060 – Wil’s Taxi – Motion to revoke by Commissioner Fernandez, second by Commissioner Watai.

6. CH 065 – F & M Taxi – Motion to revoke by Commissioner Keawekane, second by Commissioner Fernandez. Motion carried.

7. CH 169 – A & R Taxi – Motion to revoke by Commissioner Keawekane, second by Commissioner Meyers. Motion carried.

8. CH 202 – Paul’s Taxi – Motion to revoke by Commissioner Hultman-Salfen, second by Commissioner Fernandez. Motion carried.

9. CHG 240 – A-1 Taxi – Motion to revoke by Commissioner Meyers, second by Commissioner Keawekane. Motion carried.

10. CH 243 – Mario’s Taxi & Tours LLC – Motion to revoke by Commissioner Fernandez, second by Commissioner Keawekane. Motion carried.

11. CH 260 – Good Choice Taxi - Motion to revoke by Commissioner Fernandez, second by Commissioner Meyers. Motion carried.

12. CH 261 – Good Choice Taxi - Motion to revoke by Commissioner Fernandez, second by Commissioner Meyers. Motion carried.

13. CH 272 – Miranda’s Taxi – Motion to revoke by Commissioner Fernandez, second by Commissioner Keawekane. Motion carried.

14. CH 278 – Iseya Taxi – Motion to revoke by Commissioner Espejo, second by Commissioner Watai. Motion carried.

15. CH 295 – Mailei Taxi – Motion to revoke by Commissioner Fernandez, second by Commissioner Meyers. Motion Carried.

16. CH 317 – Mailei Taxi – Motion to revoke by Commissioner Fernandez, second by Commissioner Meyers. Motion Carried.

17. CH 311 – Franco’s Taxi – Motion to revoke by Commissioner Meyers, second by Commissioner Fernandez, Motion carried.

18. CH 346 – D’Jay’s Taxi – Motion to revoke by Commissioner Keawekane, second by Commissioner Espejo. Motion carried.

19. CH 354 – J & L Taxi – Motion to revoke by Commissioner Fernandez, second by Commissioner Meyers. Motion carried.

VIII. Taxi Investigations – Transit Administrator Tom Brown reported the transit agency has received several complaints that some taxis are soliciting passengers and blocking the bus parking area at Mooheau Bus Terminal. A motion to have the violators appear at the next commission meeting was made by Chairman Ward, second by Commissioner Keawekane. Motion carried.

IX. Transit Administrator’s Report – Transit Administrator Tom Brown reported on the following:

- Bus ridership – ridership continues to increase due to the free bus service provided and rising fuel prices. Ridership for the period July-August, 2008 is 45 percent higher than the same period in 2007.

- Bus Bids – Currently, two 33 passenger accessible buses are under construction in Kansas. In addition, the transit agency has prepared specifications and will go out to bid to purchase five – 45 passenger coach buses, and an additional two – 33 passenger buses.
- Vehicle Location System – Transit agency is going to bid for a vehicle location system to provide faster identification of where buses are on their routes.
- Taxi Meter Fare Change – The ordinance passed first reading at the Finance Committee and is now headed to the full Council. Ordinance will increase the rate for 1/8 mile of travel and one minute of waiting time from 30 cents to 40 cents.
- Bus Service
 - Intra Kona route changes – the transit agency has plans to increase service by 2 runs on weekdays.
 - Saturday service – by January, 2009, the transit agency plans to increase Saturday bus service for all routes serving the island.

X. Executive Session – none held

XI. Next meeting – members will be contacted for date and time of next meeting.

XII. Adjournment – meeting was adjourned at 11:40a.m.