

# Transportation Commission Meeting Minutes

## County of Hawai'i

### September 29, 2021

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 10:15 a.m.

#### II. ROLL CALL

Present: Michael O'Loughlin, Chair  
John Walker, Vice Chair  
James Lee, Benjamin Agdeppa, James Weatherford, Kristy Cruz, Commissioners

Staff: John Andoh, Interim Mass Transit Administrator  
Mayor Mitchell D. Roth  
Lee Lord Ph.D., Managing Director  
J Yoshimoto, Assistant Corporation Counsel

Absent: None

A quorum was declared present.

#### III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Lee moved that agenda be approved, seconded the motion by Commissioner. Walker. No further discussion, moved to approve, it carried unanimously, 6 Ayes. Agenda approved.

#### IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JUNE 10, 2021

Commissioner Lee moved that agenda be approved, seconded the motion by Commissioner. Walker. No further discussion, moved to approve, it carried unanimously, 6 Ayes. Agenda approved.

#### V. PUBLIC STATEMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

Chairman O'Loughlin opened the public statement period. Seeing no individuals present who wished to speak, Chairman O'Loughlin closed the Public Statement period.

#### VI. NEW BUSINESS

##### A. Review taxicab application for NEW Certificate of Public Convenience & Necessity to operate in the County of Hawai'i

1. Mario Labiano dba Daniel's Taxi, PO Box 385, Keaau, HI 96749 (1)  
Commissioner Walker moved to approve new application, seconded by Chairman O'Loughlin. Application approved. 6 ayes.
2. Richard Namnama dba Jerich Taxi, 73-1368 Kaiminani Drive, Kailua, Kona HI 96749(1)  
Commissioner Walker moved to approve new application, seconded by Commissioner Lee. Application approved. 6 ayes
3. Joanne Louise Soriano dba Xyleanne's Taxi, 68-3555 Kupunahine St., Waikoloa, HI 96738 (1)  
Commissioner Walker moved to approve new application, seconded by Chairman O'Loughlin. Application approved. 6 ayes.

##### B. Hearing on revocation of the following Certificate of Public Conveniences due to the 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 002 Frank Vesperas dba Alaka'i Taxi & Tours
2. CH 027 Virgilio Afan dba Pinay Taxi
3. CH 109 Alexander Kapela dba White Taxi
4. CH 198 Emerito Cabanas dba DaKine Taxi
5. CH 279 Akira Arai dba Juel Taxi
6. CH 288, CH 292, CH 294, CH 371, CH 372 Anagor, LLC dba AM PM Taxi
7. CH 408 Leo Sadoy dba Leo's Taxi
8. CH 425 Orlando Palafox dba O&M Taxi & Tours
9. CH 444 Charlene Sherwood dba Char's Taxi Shuttle
10. CH 466 Ray Cabaccang dba R&M Taxi
11. CH 471 Gilbert Delacruz dba Mister D's Taxi
12. CH 481 Remigio Dumayag dba R&A Taxi
13. CH 485 Jaynard Simpliciano dba AMS Taxi
14. CH 541 Patricia Mayfield dba Big Island Express
15. CH 551 Ace 1 Taxi LLC
16. CH586 Shelby Roberts dba Rainbow Taxi
17. CH 557, CH 558 Mary Jo Victorino and Roy Kunishige dba Kwiki Taxi LLC

Chairman O'Loughlin asked if a motion could be made regarding revocation of all licenses at once since they are not present. Assistant Corporation Counsel Yoshimoto stated that was fine.

Commissioner Walker moved to revoke their licenses, seconded by Chairman O'Loughlin. Application approved. 6 ayes.

#### **VII. DISCUSSION OF TRANSIT AND MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION**

Interim Administrator Andoh presented this item and discussed the actions of the Transit and Multi-Modal Transportation Master Plan implementation and entertained questions from the Commissioners.

Chairman O'Loughlin asked about the bus maintenance and inventory.

Commissioner Kimo committed on parts and the County's procurement process.

Commissioner Walker asked questions about the Kona Baseyard, expanding the Hilo Baseyard and communication between the Mass Transit Agency and the Transportation Commission.

Managing Director Lord stated the Administrator is doing a good job.

#### **VIII. DISCUSSION OF PERFORMANCE MEASURES RELATED TO HELE-ON SERVICE**

Interim Administrator Andoh presented this item and asked the Commissioners if they had any questions.

Chairman O'Loughlin asked about taxicab companies and marketing airport service as well as the various transportation modes that are on island.

#### **IX. DISCUSSION OF AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTER 18**

Interim Administrator Andoh presented this item and asked the Commissioners if they had any questions. There was none.

#### **X. MASS TRANSIT ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Interim Administrator Andoh presented this item and asked the Commissioners if they had any questions on his report which is summarized below:

- Implemented new transit service changes from the Transit and Multi-Modal Transportation Master Plan on September 5, 2021
- Reclassifying County Transportation Specialist into a Transit Program Manager
- Formed partnership with Department of Education to purchase bus passes for students
- Started discussions with UH-Hilo and UH-Hawai'i Community College regarding a U-Pass Program

- Started credit card sales online, at Mass Transit Agency and Mo'ohau Bus Terminal
- Redid specifications for bus replacements
- Started process to purchase electric buses in partnership with counties of Maui and Kaua'i
- Cleaned up Mo'ohau Bus Terminal and installed new fans, bulletin boards
- Finalizing GTFS to allow for trip planning on Google, Bing, and Apple Maps
- Started process to implement mobile ticketing in partnership with Token Transit
- Launched a new Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and You Tube page
- Reorganizing the website and securing a new vendor for a new website that is ADA compliant
- Developed a new Hele-On and Hele-On Kako'o logo
- Finalizing paint scheme for transit buses
- Developing a new bus stop sign for entire island
- Completed settlement agreement with Department of Justice
- Providing transit and paratransit management training to staff
- Integrated Kona Trolley into Hele-On
- Working on the development of an app for Hele-On passengers in partnership with Moovit.
- Integrating HIBike into Hele-On
- Developing a new partnership with Lyft and Uber for vaccine transportation and shared ride transportation
- Streamlined fares by suspending baggage fares pending amendments to Chapter 18
- Engaging the Transportation Commission
- Working with HDOT to finalize grants and get them implemented for expending funds
- Working on bringing the hydrogen buses to Kailua-Kona
- Took possession of three paratransit vans
- Development of new paratransit and eligibility assessment contractor request for proposals
- Continued work to bring buses back into service
- Working on inventorying parts and reclassifying automotive mechanics to transit vehicle mechanics.

Chairman O'Loughlin asked about app and credit card acceptance.

#### **XI. COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS**

Chairman O'Loughlin stated he was pleased with the direction of the Mass Transit Agency and appreciative of their involvement in being able to assist. The other commissioners each echoed their comments on this matter.

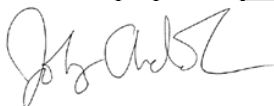
#### **XII. NEXT MEETING – DECEMBER 2021**

Interim Administrator Andoh announced the next meeting will be in December.

#### **XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Walker moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Chairman O'Loughlin. Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Minutes prepared by:



John Andoh, Interim Mass Transit Administrator