

**BOARD OF TAXICAB
COMMISSIONERS**

ANDRE COLAIACE
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VICE PRESIDENT

STEVEN WELIVE
MARY GALVAN ROSAS

AILANA AGUIRRE
ACTING COMMISSION EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

**CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA**



KAREN BASS
MAYOR

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

100 S. MAIN STREET, 10th FLOOR
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

Laura Rubio-Cornejo
GENERAL MANAGER

ITEM #3

**BOARD OF TAXICAB COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEETING**

MINUTES

**Thursday, March 21, 2024
10:00 AM**

CONVENED

The Board of Taxicab Commissioners convened a regular meeting on Thursday, March 21, 2024 at 10:02 AM in Los Angeles, CA.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

Item No. 1 – Welcome

President Colaiace called the meeting to order and welcomed all those present noting that those wishing to testify before the Board must fill out a speaker's form and give it to the Commission Executive Assistant. He informed the audience that if anyone is a registered lobbyist, City ordinance requires that it should be indicated on the speaker's form. He also reminded everyone that this session is being broadcast on Council Phone, to speak into the microphone and to silence cell phones.

Item No. 2 – Roll Call

Present: Commissioners Andre Colaiace, Steven Welliver, and Mary Galvan Rosas; Jarvis Murray (Taxicab Administrator); Michael Nagle and Kevin Dufner, Deputy City Attorneys (DCA).

Absent: Tomas Carranza, Assistant General Manager, and Vice President Eric Spiegelman.

Item No. 3 – Minutes

President Andre Colaiace moved, seconded Commissioner Steven Welliver to approve the Minutes of January 18, 2024. Unanimously APPROVED.

Item No. 4 – Communications

President Andre Colaiace asked Mr. Jarvis Murray if there was any commission business to report. Mr. Jarvis Murray said LADOT is working closely with the industry to work on the taxicab penalty structure and rules. Mr. Murray stated he had an in-person meeting about this and the process will take longer than they anticipated; our next in-person meeting will be April 5, 2024.

Mr. Murray reported they met with leaders in the industry, management from the taxi companies, and a member of Taxi Workers Alliance Los Angeles (TWALA), Leon Slomovic. Mr. Murray said they have been going over the taxicab rules and the penalty structures related to it, as well as rules that may no longer

apply to the industry. Mr. Murray said he will present this to the commission soon so that they may vote on any penalties and changes they make to the taxicab rules. Mr. Murray said they are working with the industry and asked the commission to be patient as they take time to get through those things.

President Andre Colaiace thanked Mr. Murray for engaging in that process.

Commissioner Mary Galvan Rosas asked Mr. Murray if there was some component in the taxicab appeal conversations, to offer assistance or a recovery path for taxicab drivers that have faced barriers; a path to help them get back to work. Mr. Murray said right now the focus is only on the rules.

President Andre Colaiace asked if anyone had further questions for Mr. Murray. No further questions were asked.

Item No. 5 – Commission Business

No commission business provided.

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL COMMENT

No comments provided.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Comments were taken.

Comments, questions, and answers were provided.

President Andre Colaiace asked that we agendaize LAWA's new policy regarding taxicabs at the airport for April's board meeting.

President Andre Colaiace moved, seconded by Commissioner Mary Galvan Rosas to go into Executive Session. Unanimously APPROVED.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Item No. 6 - Appeal of Razmik Kerobyan, Concerning the Department's October 18, 2023 Decision to Deny His Taxicab Driver Application, Pursuant to LAMC Section 71.08 (A), and Temporary Suspension of the Driver Taxicab Permit pursuant to Taxicab Rule Book section 800, Taxicab Rule 810(A).

Joe Richard II, Senior Transportation Investigator, informed the commission that Mr. Razmik Kerobyan was not present, and his Attorney, Neil Evans would no longer be representing Mr. Kerobyan.

Mr. Richard said the appellant for Item No. 8 was present and asked the commission if they would like to move onto Item No. 8 first. President Colaiace agreed to start with Item No. 8.

Commissioner Steven Welliver said the Appellant Kerobyan signed the agreement which states he understands that failure to appear would be considered a withdrawal and the commission could take action without him present.

Commissioner Steven Welliver suggested the commission consider the application withdrawn since this item has already been tabled.

Commissioner Steven Welliver moved, seconded by President Andre Colaiace to deny the appeal. Unanimously APPROVED.

Item No. 8 - Appeal of Motaz Alasad Elhasam, Concerning the Department's February 9, 2024, Decision to Deny His Taxicab Driver Application, Pursuant to Taxicab Rulebook Section 600, Rule 607

Joe Richard II, Senior Transportation Investigator, presented the report.

Appellant Motaz Alasad Elhasam was present and addressed the Board. He explained his disqualifying conviction history.

President Andre Colaiace stated that he was inclined to approve the appeal given that the time passed for the convictions and its nature.

President Andre Colaiace moved, seconded by Commissioner Mary Galvan Rosas to approve the appeal. Unanimously APPROVED.

Questions and answers provided.

- Commissioner Mary Galvan Rosas asked if there was a yearly check-in to ensure the taxi driver is still in good standing.
- President Colaiace said if anything happens there would be a CHP pull notice.
- Mr. Richard confirmed and said if anything happens they would receive a subsequent report.

Item No. 7 - Appeal of Steven Martinez, Concerning the Department's January 23, 2024, Decision to Deny his Taxicab Driver Application, Pursuant to Taxicab Rulebook Section 600, Rules 608 & 615

Mr. Richard informed the commission that he contacted the appellant Steven Martinez on March 11, 2024. Mr. Martinez said he would be present, but he is not present today.

President Colaiace moved to continue Item No. 7 to April's board meeting, seconded by Commissioner Steven Welliver. Unanimously APPROVED.

Deputy City Attorney Kevin Dufner reported for the record Item No. 6 was denied, Item. No. 7 was continued to the next meeting, and the appeal in Item No. 8 was granted.

President Andre Colaiace moved to get out of Executive Session, seconded by Commissioner Steven Welliver. Unanimously APPROVED.

President Andre Colaiace moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Mary Galvan Rosas. Unanimously APPROVED.

ADJOURNMENT – PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.7

With no further business before the Board of Taxicab Commissioners, Vice President Spiegelman moved, seconded by President Colaiace to adjourn the meeting. Unanimously APPROVED.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 AM

Approved: 4/18/2024
Board of Taxicab Commissioners

Ailan Aguiar

Commission Executive Assistant