

CAPTIONING  
JULY 19, 2016  
HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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>> VICTOR CRIST: GOOD MORNING, TAMPA BAY! WELCOME TO THE TUESDAY, JULY 19th, 2016, PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING. IF YOU COULD RISE FOR A PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION. [PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE]

>> VICTOR CRIST: O GREAT SUPREME BEING THAT'S CALLED BY MANY DIFFERENT NAMES, WE COME HERE TODAY TO ASK FOR YOUR DIVINE GUIDANCE, DEFINE INTELLIGENCE TO HELP US TO MAKE THE BEST DECISIONS POSSIBLE ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE ELECTED US TO SERVE IN THEIR CAPACITY HERE AT THE DAIS. WE PRAY FOR ALL OF OUR FIRST DEFENDERS THAT ARE ACROSS THE WORLD DEFENDING FREEDOM, AND FIGHTING TYRANNY. WE GIVE THANKS FOR ALL THE BLESSINGS THAT WE HAVE HERE AT HOME. AMEN. WELL, WE HAVE A PRETTY CLEAR AGENDA TODAY THAT WE OUGHT TO BE ABLE TO GET THROUGH PRETTY SWIFTLY. AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT I'VE BEEN TOLD BY STAFF. AND FOR ONCE I DON'T EXPECT A WHOLE LOT OF CONTROVERSY. AND I THINK AT THIS JUNCTURE, WE'RE GOING TO GO AHEAD AND DO THE SWEARING IN OF WITNESSES. BRETT?

>> [INAUDIBLE]

>> VICTOR CRIST: ALL RIGHT, MEMBERS, WE HAVE THE AGENDA THAT HAS BEEN SENT OUT TO ALL OF YOU. I UNDERSTAND THERE AREN'T CHANGES, ADDITIONS, O DELETIONS. ARE THERE ANY LAST MINUTE CHANGES, ADDITIONS, DELETIONS. SEEING NONE, IS THERE A MOTION? WE HAVE A MOTION. WE HAVE A SECOND. ALL IN FAVOR, AYE. THOSE OPPOSED? SHOW IT UNANIMOUS. AGENDA'S IN TACT. IN THE NEWS, KYLE.

>> GOOD MORNING, MR. CHAIR. THANK YOU, BEFORE I GET STARTED ON THIS I JUST LIKE TO MAKE MENTION TO THE BOARD. I'M GOING TO REQUEST THAT WE TAKE A FEW THINGS AND MOVE THEM UP ON THE AGENDA. THEY REQUIRE VOTING, AND A COUPLE OF THE BOARD MEMBERS HAVE TO LEAVE EARLY. SO THAT WAY WE CAN TAKE CARE OF BUSINESS BEFORE THEY HAVE TO LEAVE.

>> IS THERE --

>> VICTOR CRIST: IS THERE AN OBJECTION TO MOVING A FEW THINGS UP ON THE AGENDA? SEEING NONE, GO AHEAD AND MOVE.

>> THANK YOU. FIRST THING I WOULD LIKE TO DO IS JUMP DIRECTLY TO, I'D LIKE TO JUMP RIGHT TO THE ATTORNEY'S REPORTS BECAUSE THERE ARE A COUPLE THINGS ON THERE THAT NEED TO BE DISCUSSED IMMEDIATELY.

>> VICTOR CRIST: MR. OSTER, WE WILL OPEN THE DAY WITH YOU.

>> THANK YOU, MR. CHAIR. I HAVE FOUR ITEMS UNDER MY REPORT. THE FIRST ONE I JUST WANTED TO PROVIDE A STATUS ON. THE APPEAL OF CITATIONS ISSUED TO UBER AND AS YOU HAVE READ IN THE PAPER AND ARE AWARE, ORAL ARGUMENTS WERE HAD BEFORE THE SECOND DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL ON THE PENDING CITATION APPEAL. WE DO NOT HAVE AN ORDER BACK FROM THE COURT AT THIS POINT IN TIME. IT'S BEEN SEVERAL WEEKS, WHICH INDICATES TO ME THAT THEY PROBABLY WILL BE ISSUING A WRITTEN ORDER, AND IT MAY BE SEVERAL MONTHS BEFORE WE RECEIVE AN ORDER FROM THE COURT ON THAT WITH ANY KIND OF CONCLUSION SO I JUST WANTED TO PROVIDE A STATUS ABOUT THAT PARTICULAR PIECE OF LITIGATION. MOVING INTO PART B OF MY REPORT, I WANTED TO BRIEF YOU ON THE REMAINING PIECES OF MY LITIGATION INVOLVING THE TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANIES. OF COURSE WE HAVE OUR ONGOING APPEAL WITH LYFT. THAT MATTER HAD BEEN CONTINUED PENDING OUR SETTLEMENT DISCUSSIONS. AT SOME POINT WE WILL BE RECEIVING A LITIGATION ON IT ON THAT PIECES IF WE STILL HAVE NOT REACHED A RESOLUTION. THE OTHER CASE THAT REMAINS OPEN IS THE CASE THAT THE PTC FILED AGAINST UBER IN THE CIRCUIT COURT. AS YOU RECALL, THAT WAS THE CASE THAT WE HAD BEFORE JUDGE HUEY. THERE IS A PIECE OF THAT CASE THAT STILL REMAINS, AND THAT'S THE DECLARATORY ACTION PIECE. AND ALSO THERE WAS A PIECE THAT WE APPEALED, AND THAT PIECE WAS THE DENIAL OF THE PTC'S MOTION FOR TEMPORARY INJUNCTIVE RELIEF THAT JUDGE HUEY DENIED. WE APPEAL THAT TO THE SECOND DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL AND I HAVE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO BRIEF MOST OF YOU ON THAT PARTICULAR PIECE OF LITIGATION, AND IT WAS OUR BEST ADVICE THAT WE FOCUS OUR EFFORTS ON THE OTHER PIECES OF LITIGATION AND DISMISS THAT PARTICULAR APPEAL. BASED ON THE FEEDBACK THAT I RECEIVED, WE WENT AHEAD AND DISMISSED THAT APPEAL. WE HAD TO DO IT IN A CERTAIN PERIOD OF TIME, WHICH IS WHY WE HAD TO TAKE THAT ACTION BEFORE THIS COMMISSION MEETING. SO AT THIS TIME, I'D LIKE TO ASK THIS COMMISSION TO ENTERTAIN A MOTION TO RETROACTIVELY APPROVE DISMISSING THAT PARTICULAR APPEAL.

>> OKAY, WE HAVE A RECOMMENDATION FROM OUR ATTORNEY. IS THERE DISCUSSION? OKAY. I DON'T

SEE IT. SO WE HAVE A MOTION. WHO MADE THE MOTION? OKAY. COMMISSIONER HIGGINBOTHAM. WE HAVE A SECOND, COMMISSIONER HAGAN. IS THERE DISCUSSION? IS THERE DEBATE? SEEING NONE, ALL IN FAVOR, YEA. THOSE NAY? SHOW IT UNANIMOUS.

>> THANK YOU VERY MUCH. THE TWO REMAINING PIECES UNDER MY REPORT, ONE I WANTED TO PROVIDE A STATUS ON THE PETITION FOR EXPEDITED WRIT OF PROHIBITION. THAT WAS FILED BY THE TAMPA TAXI COALITION RED TOP CAB COMPANIES AGAINST COMMISSIONER CRIST AND THE PTC. THEY WANTED COMMISSIONER CRIST TO NOT PARTICIPATE IN A NUMBER OF TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANIES. THAT MATTER HAS BEEN FULLY BRIEFED BEFORE THE SECOND DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL AND I AM PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE SECOND DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL DISMISS THAT SUBMISSION WITHOUT PREJUDICE. SO UNLESS THERE IS SOME CONCLUSION AND THEY REFILE, I CONSIDER THIS TO BE A GOOD NEWS ITEM FOR THE COMMISSION. ARE THERE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THAT PIECE OF LITIGATION? THE LAST ITEM UNDER MY REPORT INVOLVES SEEKING SOME DIRECTION FROM THIS COMMISSION AS A FOLLOW-UP TO LAST MONTH'S MEETING. AT LAST MONTH'S MEETING, THERE WAS A MOTION MADE TO SUSPEND SETTLEMENT DISCUSSIONS WITH THE TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANIES, UBER AND LYFT UNTIL AFTER THE JUNE 22nd HEARING AND ANY KIND OF ORDER THAT MAY BE ISSUED BY THE SECOND DISTRICT COURT OF APPEALS. IN LIGHT OF THE FACT THAT IT LOOKS LIKE THAT MAY TAKE SEVERAL MONTHS TO COME THROUGH, WE ARE SEEKING SOME DIRECTION FROM THIS COMMISSION ABOUT WHETHER YOU WOULD LIKE TO US RESUME THOSE SETTLEMENT DISCUSSIONS.

>> VICTOR CRIST: COMMISSIONER HIGGINBOTHAM?

>> THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN. BASED ON THE SPAN OF TIME THAT IT MAY TAKE TO GET A RULING FROM THE COURTS, I'D LIKE TO MAKE A MOTION THAT WE REOPEN THE SETTLEMENT DISCUSSIONS.

>> VICTOR CRIST: I THINK THAT'S A VERY WISE MOVE. ANY DISCUSSION?

>> IF I MIGHT, I JUST WANT TO CLARIFY. SO IF WE ARE OPENING UP DISCUSSIONS NOTHING IS CAST IN STONE AND EVERYTHING COMES BEFORE THE FULL PTC, AM I CORRECT IN THAT?

>> THAT'S THE INTENT OF MY MOTION.

>> JUST OPEN FOR DISCUSSIONS.

THAT THERE BE NO FINAL DECISION, AND ANY FINAL DECISION WILL BE MADE HERE, YOU KNOW, IN PUBLIC WITH THE BOARD.

>> AND THOSE DISCUSSIONS WILL BE PRIMARILY THROUGH STAFF?

>> THROUGH STAFF.

>> OKAY. THANK YOU.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY, ANY OTHER DISCUSSION? OKAY. SEEING NONE, ALL THOSE IN FAVOR, AYE. THOSE OPPOSED? OKAY. SHOW WE HAVE ONE NAY. COUNCILMEMBER REDDICK.

>> THANK YOU VERY MUCH, COMMISSIONERS, AND THAT WOULD CONCLUDE MY REPORT.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY, MOTION TO ACCEPT THE ATTORNEY'S REPORT? WE HAVE A MOTION ASK A SECOND. ALL IN FAVOR, AYE. THOSE OPPOSED. SHOW IT UNANIMOUS. THANK YOU, MS. OSTER.

>> MR. CHAIR, IF I MAY, THE NEXT THING ON THE AGENDA THAT WE NEED TO ADDRESS WOULD BE THE FINANCIAL AUDIT WHICH IS ON PAGE 2. AS YOU'RE AWARE, EVERY FISCAL YEAR THE PTC IS AUDITED BY OUTSIDE FIRM OF CHERRY BEKAERT. CHERRY BEKAERT HAS SUBMITTED A TWO-PAGE SUMMARY OF THEIR FINDING WHICH IS INCLUDED IN YOUR BACKUP. THERE WERE NO MAJOR CONCERNS DISCOVERED. THERE WERE TWO JOURNAL ENTRIES THAT HAD TO BE CORRECTED DURING THE AUDITING PROCESS, WHICH WAS AN INTERNAL ISSUE FACED WITHIN THE CLERK'S OFFICE. THE ADJUSTMENTS WERE MADE FOLLOWING THE PROCEDURES OF STANDARDS UTILIZED IN THE GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES AND THERE WERE NO CONCERNS OF NATURE TO REPORT TO THIS COMMISSION. I WOULD NEED A MOTION TO ACCEPT THEIR FINANCIAL AUDIT.

>> SO MOVED.

>> SECOND.

>> VICTOR CRIST: ALL IN FAVOR, AYE. THOSE OPPOSED. SHOW IT UNANIMOUS. KYLE, WHEN YOU CAME ON BOARD HERE, YOU KNOW, WE HAD A LOT OF KNOTS TO UNWIND IN THIS AGENCY. YOU KNOW, SOME BEING PROCEDURAL, SOME BEING OPERATIONAL, SOME BEING FINANCIAL. AND YOU KNOW YOU HAVE DONE A STELLAR JOB IN UNTYING THOSE KNOTS AND NAVIGATING US THE CORRECT WAY THROUGH SOME VERY DIFFICULT WATERS. AND YOU KNOW, WE DIDN'T GET TO WHERE WE ARE TODAY JUST BY ACCIDENT. AND IT'S TAKEN DUE DILIGENCE AND HARD WORK AND GOOD INSIGHT. AND WE APPRECIATE YOU AND YOUR LEADERSHIP TEAM IN ENSURING THAT OUR I'S ARE DOTTED, OUR T'S ARE CROSSED.

>> THANK YOU FOR THAT. I LOOK AT IT AS A COMBINED EFFORT. WE HAVE A GREAT STAFF WORKING AT THE TPC. I THINK IT'S A COLLECTIVE EFFORT. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY. WHAT ARE THE OTHER ITEMS THAT YOU WANTED TO MOVE UP.

>> MOVING DOWN TO OLD BUSINESS, THE PROPOSAL FOR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SERVICE, BOTH CIVIL SERVICE AND HR ARE HERE. DANE IS MAKING HIS WAY TO THE FRONT RIGHT NOW, AND IF EVERYBODY WOULD LIKE TO COME FORWARD. AT THE LAST COMMISSION MEETING, YOU RECOMMENDED THAT REPRESENTATIVES FROM BOTH CIVIL SERVICE AND HR BE PRESENT IN ORDER TO DETERMINE WHICH ENTITY WOULD BE USED FOR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SEARCH, WHETHER IT WAS EITHER OR BOTH TO BE USED. THEY ARE HERE TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS AND BASICALLY OUTLINE WHAT IT IS THEY CAN DO AND

BOTH ENTITIES HAVE AGREED TO DO IT FOR A ZERO COST. BUT THEY'RE BOTH HERE TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS ABOUT THEIR PROCESS, AND MOVING FORWARD AND WHAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO --

>> VICTOR CRIST: REGARDLESS OF EITHER AGENCY WE ASK TO ASSIST US, I VIEW EITHER ROLE AS BASICALLY OUR STAFF IN THIS PROCESS IN, YOU KNOW, REACHING OUT AND FILING THE ADVERTISEMENTS IN ALL OF THE PROPER PERIODICALS AND/OR SITES THAT COULD POSSIBLY GET THE MESSAGE OUT THAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR AN INDIVIDUAL THAT WE WOULD DO A NATIONAL SEARCH. I KNOW WE DID THAT WITH THE REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL AND WE GOT INCREDIBLE RESPONSE AND RESULTS. I ENDED UP HIRING A GUY OUT OF BOSTON. THAT A SEARCH COMMITTEE BE APPOINTED, AND I HAD WANTED TO APPOINT YOU, DAVE, AS THE VICE CHAIR AND SINCE YOU HAVE AN AREA OF EXPERTISE IN HR, I ALSO WANTED TO APPOINT GUIDO, YOU, REPRESENTING THE CITY OF TAMPA, AND WHERE ALSO WANTED TO APPOINT THE NEW GUY FROM PLANT CITY.

>> HE SAYS YES.

>> VICTOR CRIST: BY VIRTUE OF DEFAULT, AND MYSELF AND SOMETHING NEW. KYLE, I WANTED YOU TO AND MS. OSTER TO SERVE ON THAT SEARCH COMMITTEE, NOT AS STAFF BUT AS PARTICIPANTS, BUT WITHOUT A VOTE. THAT YOU WOULD BE ABLE TO OPENLY PARTICIPATE IN THE DISCUSSIONS AND IN THE QUESTIONING. BUT NOT BE ABLE TO VOTE. WE DID THAT AT THE REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL, AND IT WAS TREMENDOUSLY SUCCESSFUL. I THOUGHT THAT THIS COMMITTEE'S ROLE WOULD BE TO NARROW DOWN THE 100 OR SO RESUMES THAT CAME IN DOWN TO A REASONABLE NUMBER OF MAYBE 20, AND THEN THE COMMITTEE COULD INTERVIEW THOSE 20 VIA TELEPHONE, AND THEN WE WOULD NARROW THAT DOWN TO A SMALLER GROUP, AND THEN NARROW THAT DOWN TO THREE FINALISTS AND THEN PUT TOGETHER TWO ADDITIONAL COMMITTEES. ONE MADE UP OF ALL OF YOU OUT IN THE AUDIENCE. WE WOULD PUT UP A COMMITTEE OF OUR STAKEHOLDERS, OF THE INDUSTRIES THAT WE REGULATE. SO THEY WOULD BE CAB COMPANIES, 4REU78 ZINE COMPANIES, RIDE SHARE COMPANIES, TOWING COMPANIES, AMBULANCE COMPANIES, SITTING AT THE TABLE INTERVIEWING THESE THREE AND PROVIDING THE SEARCH COMMITTEE WITH YOUR THOUGHTS ON THOSE THREE. ANOTHER COMMITTEE WOULD BE MADE UP OF THE STAFF OF THE PTC, AND THEY WOULD INTERVIEW THE THREE FINALISTS AND PROVIDE TO THE SEARCH COMMITTEE THEIR INSIGHT AS WELL, AND THEN THE SEARCH COMMITTEE WOULD MAKE A RECOMMENDATION TO THIS BOARD FOR THEIR CONSIDERATION, AND THE COMMENTS OF THOSE OTHER TWO COMMITTEES WOULD TRAVEL WITH THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE SEARCH COMMITTEE. SO AT THIS BOARD WOULD BE ABLE TO SEE ALL OF THE FACTS ON THE TABLE. BUT THAT'S HOW I KIND OF SAW THE PROCESS GOING. DAVE, YOU GOT EXPERTISE IN THIS. IF YOU COULD SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS, I WOULD APPRECIATE IT.

>> I THINK THAT'S FINE. MY RECOMMENDATION WOULD BE ONCE WE GET TO THE INDUSTRY COMMENTS AND STAFF COMMENTS, THAT KEEP THOSE COMMENTS ANONYMOUS IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT WE GET THE MOST DIRECT AND HONEST OPINIONS FROM PEOPLE THAT ARE DOING THE REVIEWING.

>> VICTOR CRIST: THEY WOULD COME AS A COMMITTEE, NOT AS AN INDIVIDUAL COMMENT.

>> THAT'S ALL I WOULD HAVE TO SAY.

>> VICTOR CRIST: IS THAT WHAT YOU WERE?

>> YEAH.

>> VICTOR CRIST: YEAH, I WOULD AGREE. BUT THIS PART, YOU KNOW, I SAW THIS WORK FOR THE FIRST TIME WITH THE REGIONAL PLANNING, AND IT WAS INCREDIBLE, AND THE GUY THAT WE FOUND YOU KNOW WAS INCREDIBLE. WE DIDN'T THINK WE WOULD GET SOMEBODY OF THAT CALIBER, AND WE DID. OKAY. ANY QUESTIONS?

>> I GUESS THE ONLY QUESTION IS ARE WE GOING TO BE DOING THIS AS A JOINT EFFORT BETWEEN CIVIL SERVICE AND HUMAN RESOURCES? PERHAPS WE COULD HAVE BOTH OF THEM COME UP AND KIND OF MAKE A 5-MINUTE SPIEL. I KNOW THEY ARE HAPPY TO WORK TOGETHER. MAYBE THAT'S THE WAY WE GO, BUT I THINK IT WOULD BE PRUDENT TO HEAR FROM THEM.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY, DANE?

>> [INAUDIBLE]

>> VICTOR CRIST: NOT NOW. MAYBE ROCK, PAPER SCISSORS.

>> SO I THINK NUMBER ONE, DANE PETERSON, HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY PUBLIC SERVICE DIRECTOR.

>> MANAGING DIRECTOR, HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY PR.

>> OUR OFFICES ARE JUST A COUPLE DOORS APART. WE ARE HAPPY TO WORK TOGETHER ON THIS. BE HAPPY TO WORK ONE OR THE OTHER AS WELL I'M SURE. YOU KNOW, FOR MY PART I'VE DONE SEVERAL SEARCHES THAT MANY OF YOU'VE BEEN INVOLVED IN. THEY HAVE BEEN VERY SUCCESSFUL, WHETHER IT'S THE DIRECTOR OF EPC, YOUR CURRENT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MR. COCKREAM, AND SEVERAL OTHERS IN THE COUNTY SO WE KNOW HOW TO DO, WE'VE DONE IT BEFORE HERE AND WE'RE HAPPY TO DO IT AGAIN BUT BEVERLY ALSO HAS A GOOD TRACK RECORD AS YOUR CHAIR HAS MENTIONED.

>> YEAH, I DID EXECUTIVE RECRUITMENT FOR PINELLAS COUNTY FOR 31 YEARS. WORKED WITH A REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL BECAUSE I GOT NOMINATED BY ONE OF THE PINELLAS BOARD MEMBERS. HE'S WAY TALLER THAN I AM. I'M HAPPY TO DO IT, BUT I KNOW DANE WILL DO A GOOD JOB, AND LIKE HE SAID, WE'RE JUST A COUPLE DOORS DOWN. WE'VE KNOWN EACH OTHER FOR A LONG TIME, AND WE CAN WORK WELL TOGETHER.

>> VICTOR CRIST: MEMBERS, IF I MAY OFFER UP A SUGGESTION. A LOT OF TIMES WHEN YOU ASK TWO

GROUPS TO WORK TOGETHER, YOU WANT TO ENSURE THAT THEY EACH HAVE ASSIGNMENTS SO THAT THEY'RE NOT STEPPED ON EACH OTHER'S TOES. AND THAT WE DON'T HAVE DUPLICATION. BOTH OF THESE TWO GROUPS HAVE THEIR AREAS OF EXPERTISE. MS. WALDRON'S EXPERTISE IS ACTUALLY OUT THERE REACHING OUT, GRABBING, AND BRINGING IN PEOPLE. SHE IS A RECRUITER. AND I WATCHED HER DO THAT IN A WAY THAT I'VE NEVER SEEN IT DONE BEFORE WHERE SHE ENGAGED THE BOARD. SHE TOOK OUR ENTIRE BOARD OF 60 PEOPLE AND GOT EACH ONE OF THEM ENGAGED IN THAT PROCESS BY INTERVIEWING US AND ENSURING THAT WHAT WE WERE LOOKING FOR WAS INCORPORATED ON AN INDIVIDUAL BASIS INTO WHAT YOU WERE SEARCHING FOR. AND I THINK FROM A RECRUITING STANDPOINT, YOU WOULD BE BEST UTILIZED AS THE ARM REACHING OUT AND GRABBING AND BRINGING THEM IN. DANE, YOU'RE GOOD AT MANAGING PEOPLE ONCE THEY'RE HERE, AND MAKING SURE THAT THEY'RE FOLLOWING THE GUIDANCE, FOLLOWING THE RULES THAT THEY UNDERSTAND WHAT'S GOING ON AND THAT YOU KNOW, OUR IS ARE DOTTED AND OUR T'S ARE CROSSED. ONCE ALL THOSE NAMES COME IN AND WE'VE GOT ALL THOSE RESUMES, I THINK YOU WOULD BE GOOD AND WELL SUITED TO GO THROUGH THEM AND WEED THEM OUT AND BRING TO US, YOU KNOW, THE FINAL BEST ONES FOR CONSIDERATION. AND THAT'S HOW I WOULD SEE THE TWO OF YOU WORKING TOGETHER.

>> WHAT I WOULD LIKE TO SUGGEST, IF THAT'S THE WAY YOU WANT TO DO IT, IS, WE GO WITH THE TAMPA BAY REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL AND I WOULD LIKE TO STRONGLY ENCOURAGE THIS COMMISSION TO DO THE SAME.

>> VICTOR CRIST: CAN YOU EXPLAIN THAT TO THIS BOARD AND HOW THAT WORKS?

>> THERE IS A TOOL THAT WAS DEVELOPED, HAS BEEN VALIDATED. THERE ARE ALL SORTS OF RESEARCH SUPPORTING AND SHOWING THAT IT IS A VALID AND RELIABLE TOOL: IT HELPS YOU PRIORITIZE WHAT LEADERSHIP CHARACTERISTICS YOU'RE LOOKING FOR IN YOUR NEXT DIRECTOR. AND IT HELPS US BUILD A PROFILE SUCH THAT WE KNOW WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR IT ALSO PROVIDES A WAY TO PROVIDE INTERVIEW QUESTIONS TO YOU TO GET AT THOSE COMPETENCIES THAT YOU THINK ARE IMPORTANT AND HELPS PROVIDE FOR DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES ONCE YOU HIRE SOMEONE NO ONE'S PERFECT. WE CAN ALL GET BETTER. AND A BASIS FOR PERFORMANCE REVIEW ONCE SOMEONE'S HERE. IT TAKES ABOUT 30, 45 MINUTES OF YOUR TIME.

>> IF I MAY. HAVE YOU GUYS WORKED TOGETHER ON ANYTHING BEFORE? [LAUGHTER]

>> YES, BUT NOTHING AS SORT OF DIRECT AS THIS.

>> IF I MAY, CHAIRMAN, IT SEEMS LIKE WE'RE LEANING TOWARDS NOT HURTING ANYBODY'S FEELINGS AND USING BOTH.

>> MY FEELINGS WOULD NOT BE HURT.

>> WHICH I'M FINE WITH. IF I MAY, PERHAPS IT MIGHT BE BEST IF YOU DO, THE TWO EXPERTS, WOULD GET TOGETHER MAYBE AND HAVE A FINAL PRESENTATION AS TO YOUR PLAN OF ACTION FOR US BY MAYBE THE NEXT MEETING.

>> VICTOR CRIST: THAT'S FINE. I WOULD CONCUR WITH THAT.

JUST AS LONG AS WE SET IT UP SO YOU'RE NOT STEPPING ON EACH OTHER'S TOES, YOU WOULD EACH HAVE RESPONSIBILITIES IN THIS PROCESS THAT YOU COULD BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR AND BE RESPONSIBLE FOR.

>> I'D GIVE ALL THE WORK TO DANE.

>> AND ALONG WITH THAT, MAYBE A TIMELINE AS TO WHEN THINGS --

>> AND THAT WAS A QUESTION I HAD IF YOU DON'T MIND, MR. CHAIRMAN. WHAT IS THE TIMELINE FOR THIS PROJECT?

>> VICTOR CRIST: BEVERLY, WE HAD DISCUSSED THE TIMELINE BEFORE.

>> THAT TIMELINE IS OUT OF DATE BECAUSE THE GOAL WAS THEN TO TRY AND HAVE SOMEBODY HERE BY OCTOBER, NOVEMBER. THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE.

>> WE SHOULD BE EXTENDING AN OFFER TO SOMEBODY BY THE END OF OCTOBER, GIVING THEM 30 TO 60 DAYS.

>> THAT PROBABLY WON'T HAPPEN. REALISTICALLY WORKING WITH THE BOARD, WEAVE GOT TO ADVERTISE TYPICALLY WITH THE NATIONAL RECRUITMENT YOU LOOK AT THREE TO FOUR WEEKS OF RECRUITMENT. THEN THE SEARCH COMMITTEE HAS TO HAVE A PUBLIC MEETING. WE HAVE TO GET EVERYBODY AVAILABLE AND ABLE TO SHOW UP TO HAVE THAT DISCUSSION AND NARROW THE FIELD. YOU ARE THEN TALKING ABOUT ANOTHER DAY OF AVAILABILITY FOR PEOPLE TO DO INTERVIEWS.

>> VICTOR CRIST: SO THEN EXTENDING AN OFFER BY OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 1st?

>> THAT WOULD BE HOPEFUL. IT PAY BE NOVEMBER 1st. IF THE COMMISSION IS WILLING TO HAVE A SECOND MEETING OR AT YOUR NOVEMBER MEETING. YOU COULD DECIDE.

>> PERHAPS YOU COULD COME TO US WITH TWO TIMELINES, ONE THAT'S EXPEDITED TO MEET THE CHAIRMAN'S GOAL OF NOVEMBER 1st, AND ONE IF YOU WERE LEFT TO YOUR OWN DEVICES.

>> VICTOR CRIST: LET'S SHOOT FOR NOVEMBER 1st BECAUSE THAT STARTS THE NEW FISCAL YEAR, AND ACTUALLY OCTOBER 1st DOES, BUT THAT STARTS THE NEW BOARD AND THE NEW CHAIR, AND THAT WAY WE CAN HAVE THE PROCESS MOVING FORWARD AND KYLE HAS GIVEN HIS NOTICE SUBJECT TO DECEMBER SO THAT GIVES I MEAN GENERALLY SOMEONE WANTS AT LEAST 30 DAYS OR MORE.

SIX WEEKS USUALLY IF THEY'RE COMING FROM OUT OF TOWN.

>> OR IF THEY'RE JUST EMPLOYED AND LOOKING TO, YOU WANT TO GIVE APPROPRIATE NOTICE TO YOUR CURRENT EMPLOYER.

>> AND I'M ASSUMING --

>> VICTOR CRIST: YES.

>> AND I AM ASSUMING LOOKING AT THE ATTORNEY, THIS COMMISSION WOULD HAVE TO VOTE ON WHO THEY SELECT AND THEN NEGOTIATIONS WOULD BEGIN AND THEN A CONTRACT.

>> YES, AND THEN A SUPERMAJORITY VOTE WOULD BE REQUIRED.

>> AND THEN A CONTRACT WOULD COME HERE FOR RATIFICATION AND APPROVAL.

>> YES, THAT'S CORRECT.

>> SO THAT'S TWO BOARD MEETINGS OR A BOARD MEETING AND A SPECIAL MEETING.

>> VICTOR CRIST: LET'S SHOOT FOR NOVEMBER 1st MAKING AN OFFER.

>> ONE MORE QUESTION TO THE ATTORNEY.

CAN WE PUT A WORKSHOP TOGETHER WITH SOME OF THE SPECIAL MEETINGS? THAT ARE HELD? THERE ARE PUBLIC HEARINGS AND OTHER GATHERINGS OF THIS GROUP? CAN WE TAKE A SEGMENT OF THOSE?

>> I THINK WE COULD PROBABLY WORK SOMETHING OUT TO GIVE YOU SOME TIME TO DO WHAT YOU NEED TO DO.

>> THAT JUST MAKES THE TIMELINE WORK BETTER AS OPPOSED TO HAVING TO RELY EVERY MONTH, ONCE A MONTH.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY, WE GOOD? DANE?

>> LOOKING FORWARD TO IT. LET'S GET GOING.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY. MEMBERS. IS THERE A MOTION? OKAY WE HAVE A MOTION THAT WE MOVE FORWARD WITH BOTH ORGANIZATIONS TO BRING BACK THE PLAN ON HOW THEY WILL WORK TOGETHER TO ASSIST US. AS THEIR SECOND, WE HAVE A SECOND, WHICH IS DAVE. ANY DISCUSSION, SEEING NONE? ALL IN FAVOR? ALL THOSE OPPOSED? UNANIMOUS.

>> NEXT IS FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE MEET UP. PROCEDURAL INQUIRY. WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF MRS. SPEENA, HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS DIGITAL MEDIA SERVICES, WE WERE ABLE TO REVIEW THE TWO RFPs SUBMITTED FOR A PUBLIC RELATIONS CONTRACT WITH THIS COMMISSION. THE PROCESS WAS OVERSEEN BY HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY'S PROCUREMENT SECTION THANKS TO SABRINA KIMBLE. AND ALL ESTABLISHED PROCEDURES AND PROCESSES WERE FOLLOWED.

THE RFP REVIEW COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS B2 COMMUNICATION AS THE PREFERRED VENDOR FOR THIS CONTRACT. WE WOULD NEED A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE REVIEW COMMITTEE AND ENABLE THE CHAIR TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THIS BOARD.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY, ANY DISCUSSION? IS THERE A MOTION? WE HAVE A MOTION AND A SECOND. ALL IN FAVOR, AYE. THOSE OPPOSED? SHOW IT UNANIMOUS.

>> THANK YOU VERY MUCH. I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE MENTION THAT THE DIRECTOR UPSTAIRS OF PUBLIC RELATIONS AND MEDIA SOLUTIONS WAS EXTREMELY HELPFUL IN GETTING THIS DONE AND THERE WAS A 2.5-HOUR SCORING PROCESS WHERE EVERY, BOTH RFPs WERE GONE THROUGH LINE BY LINE.

VERY, VERY METICULOUS SO THEY DID A GREAT JOB IN THIS. MR. KYLE PARKS IS PRESENT. MR. PARKS DID STEP FORWARD FOR JUST A MOMENT, PLEASE.

>> I WANTED TO THANK THE BOARD FOR GIVING US AN OPPORTUNITY TO WORK WITH YOU ALL. WE'VE REALLY ENJOYED IT AND FOR US IT'S BEEN, I THINK WE'VE PAID SOME REALLY GOOD PROGRESS IN TERMS OF TRYING TO EXPAND THE CONVERSATION ABOUT WHAT THE PTC DOES BEYOND SOME OF THE ISSUES IN THE NEWS EVERY DAY AND ESPECIALLY SOME REAL GOOD SUCCESS ON OUR END AS FAR AS HELPING TO LET MORE PEOPLE KNOW THAT YOU COULD HELP PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN WRONGFULLY TOWED, PEOPLE WHO MIGHT HAVE CONCERNS ABOUT ROGUE DRIVERS, AND ONE THING I WANTED TO MENTION TO THE BOARD, WE RECENTLY WON A STATEWIDE PUBLIC RELATIONS AWARD FROM THE PUBLIC RELATIONS SOCIETY OF AMERICA FOR OUR WORK WITH THE PTC TALKING ABOUT CHANGING SOME OF THE CONVERSATIONS ABOUT THAT. SO WE WERE VERY PROUD TO WIN THAT AND VERY PLEASED TO CONTINUE TO WORK WITH YOU ALL.

>> VICTOR CRIST: KYLE, YOU HAD DONE AN EXCEPTIONAL JOB. I HAD NOT KNOWN YOU UNTIL YOU HAD COME TO WORK WITH US HERE. I THINK KYLE COCKREAM MET YOU AT A CHAMBER FUNCTION OR SOMETHING AND CAME BACK AND TOLD ME ABOUT THIS OUTSTANDING GUY HE MET, AND WANTED ME TO MEET AND TALK WITH YOU AND I WAS IMPRESSED WITH WHAT YOU HAD TO SAY AND I WAS EVEN MORE IMPRESSED WITH WHAT YOU WERE ABLE TO DO WITH THIS. I DON'T THINK A LOT OF FOLKS IN THIS ROOM OR AT THIS BOARD REALIZE THE EXTENT OF THE WORK THAT YOU HAVE DONE BEHIND THE SCENES THROUGH YOUR NETWORK OF CONTACTS AND RELATIONSHIPS. THAT YOU HAVE ACTUALLY HELPED TURN THE MESSAGES AROUND AND CHANGE THE ATTITUDES OF A LOT OF THE MEDIA THAT ARE OUT THERE, WHETHER IT BE PRINT, BROADCAST, OR ELECTRONIC. YOU'VE HELPED THEM BETTER UNDERSTAND THE ISSUES AND BETTER UNDERSTAND THE POSITION OF THIS BOARD AND WHAT WE DO AND WHY WE DO IT. AND I SAW THAT CLEARLY WHEN YOU KNOW YOU WENT WITH ME TO SEVERAL OF THE EDITORIAL MEETINGS, WATCHING THE RELATIONSHIP THAT YOU HAVE WITH THEM AND LISTENING TO WHAT THEIR CONCERNS WERE AND HOW THEY HAD CHANGED FAVORABLY OVER TIME BECAUSE THEY BETTER UNDERSTOOD WHAT WE WERE DOING AND WHY WE WERE DOING IT. AND I THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE.

>> VICTOR CRIST: I RECOMMENDED YOU TO QUITE A FEW OTHERS, SO YOU MIGHT BE GETTING SOME PHONE CALLS.

>> I'M OKAY WITH THAT. THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU. NEXT THING IS NEW BUSINESS, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PERFORMANCE EVALUATION. MY ANNUAL PERFORMANCE EVALUATION WAS DISTRIBUTED TO THE COMMISSION MEMBERS ON JUNE 23rd IN ACCORDANCE WITH MY EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT AND THE RULES. I WANTED TO THANK ALL OF THE COMMISSION MEMBERS FOR THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT, AND I WOULD JUST LIKE TO SAY I'M VERY HUMBLLED BY THE KIND WORDS NOTED IN MY EVALUATION. SO I WANTED TO THANK ALL OF YOU FOR THAT. AND MR. CHAIR, THE TOTAL. THERE WOULD NEED TO BE A MOTION. THERE WOULD NEED TO BE MADE TO ACCEPT THE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION.

>> VICTOR CRIST: DO YOU HAVE THE TOTAL NUMBER BECAUSE I DON'T SEE IT HERE?

>> YES, SIR, OUT OF A POSSIBLE 5.0, THE TOTAL SCORE WAS A 4.70 OUT OF ALL CATEGORIES.

>> VICTOR CRIST: THAT WAS UP FROM YOUR LAST REVIEW, WASN'T IT?

>> YES, SIR.

>> VICTOR CRIST: THAT'S PRETTY DOG GONE GOOD. WE HAVE A MOTION TO APPROVE, UNLESS WE HAVE A SECOND? WE HAVE A SECOND. ALL IN FAVOR? THOSE OPPOSED? UNANIMOUS. WE LOVE YOU TOO.

>> THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY, THAT IS MOVING EVERYTHING UP.

>> JUST ONE LAST THING, WHICH WOULD BE THE REQUEST FOR VARIANCE OR WAIVER WHICH SUN COAST LIMOUSINE IS REQUESTING A WAIVER TO BE ABLE TO PERMIT A 2005 LINCOLN TOWN CAR WITH 509,000 MILES. THIS WAIVER HAS COME BEFORE YOU IN THE PAST, AND HAS BEEN, WE RECOMMENDED DENIAL. IT WAS DENIED BY THIS COMMISSION. HOWEVER, SUNCOAST LIMOUSINE DOES HAVE THE AVAILABILITY TO COME BEFORE YOU IN APPEAL, WHICH THEY HAVE REQUESTED. THEY HAVE FILED A WAIVER TO APPEAL YOUR DENIAL. YOUR INITIAL DENIAL.

>> VICTOR CRIST: HAVE YOU AND/OR YOUR STAFF INSPECTED THIS WEEK VEHICLE?

>> YES, WE HAVE, AND THIS CAR HAS SEEN BETTER DAYS.

>> VICTOR CRIST: ALL RIGHT. IS THERE A MOTION? IS THERE DISCUSSION? WHAT'S THE WILL OF THE BOARD? GUIDO?

>> I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A MOTION TO DENY THE APPEAL OF THE APPLICATION.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY, DO WE HAVE A SECOND? WE HAVE A SECOND, COMMISSIONER HIGGINBOTHAM. ANY DISCUSSION? SEEING NONE, ALL IN FAVOR? THOSE OPPOSED? UNANIMOUS.

>> THANK YOU, SIR. GOING BACK TO THE AGENDA, IN THE NEWS. WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF B2 COMMUNICATIONS, WE HAVE RECENTLY PUT THIS IN THE KIOSK AT THE BAGGAGE CLAIM AREA. THIS PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT IS CLEARLY FOR THE RIDING PUBLIC. THERE ARE ABOUT A MILLION PEOPLE A MONTH WHO COME TO THE BAGGAGE CLAIM AREA AT TAMPA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, AND I WOULD LIKE TO MENTION THAT OVERWHELMINGLY, WE HAVE A LOT OF ISSUES THERE AT THE AIRPORT WITH NON-TNC RELATED FOLKS THAT ARE TRYING TO GIVE PEOPLE TRANSPORTATION. THEY'RE NOT UBER. THEY'RE NOT LYFT. THEY'RE NOT WINGS THEY ARE NOT SIDE CAR. BUT THEY ARE MOM AND POP UNLICENSED UNINSURED UNINSPECTED OFF EVERYBODY'S RADAR AND THEY'RE CONSISTENTLY ON CRAIG'S LIST AND DIFFERENT MEDIA TRYING TO GET PEOPLE TO USE THEM, SO WE'RE JUST TRYING TO WARN THE PUBLIC THAT, YOU KNOW, PEOPLE NEED TO BE VETTED. IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT TNCs OUT THERE. WE'VE ISSUED OVER 50 CEASE AND DESIST LETTER SINCE JANUARY.

>> VICTOR CRIST: KYLE, HAVING WORKED IN PR I AM SURE KYLE PARKS WOULD SAY THE SAME THING. LET'S NOT REFER TO THEM AS MOM AND POPS. THAT'S THE WRONG IMAGE OF WHAT WE'RE DEALING WITH. LET'S REFER TO THEM AS WHAT THEY REALLY ARE, AND THAT'S ROGUES AND GYPSIES.

>> VERY WELL.

>> VICTOR CRIST: ALL RIGHT.

>> TO TREAT THE ROGUES AND GYPSIES. SO I WANTED TO BRING THIS TO YOUR ATTENTION. THE OTHER THING IS AN ARTICLE THAT THAT WAS PRINTED IN THE TAMPA BAY BUSINESS JOURNAL AND THIS IS WHERE IT WAS CLEARLY IDENTIFIED THAT THESE ROGUES AND GYPSIES ARE AS MUCH A PART OF WHAT WE DO IN ENFORCING THE RULES AGAINST THEM AS ANYBODY ELSE SO I WANTED TO BRING THIS TO YOUR ATTENTION. IT IS A MUCH BIGGER PICTURE OFTENTIMES. THE CONVERSATION GETS MIERED DOWN IN TNCs, BUT THERE IS A MUCH LARGER PICTURE AT STAKE HERE, SO THANK YOU.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY. SO WE'RE TRYING TO ENSURE THE PUBLIC HAS A SAFE RIDE. TRYING TO MAKE SURE THAT THE ROGUES AND GYPSIES ARE SHUT DOWN. AND THAT ONLY LEGITIMATE OPERATORS WHO HAVE BEEN INSPECTED AND ARE ENSURED AND HAVE BEEN APPROVED ARE OPERATING IN OUR JURISDICTION.

>> YES, SIR, I MEAN, THERE ARE DOZENS OF CITY AROUND THIS COUNTRY UNFORTUNATELY WHERE THEY'VE HAD SOME TRAGIC AND HORRIFIC INCIDENTS FROM UNREGULATED AND UNVETTED SERVICES AND THESE ROGUE AND GYPSY, WE JUST DON'T NEED THAT HERE AND WE NEED TO DO EVERYTHING, MY OPINION IS WE NEED TO DO EVERYTHING WE CAN TO PREVENT THAT FROM HAPPENING IN OUR CITY.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY.

>> SO THANK YOU. THE NEXT THING ON THE AGENDA WOULD BE AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION.

>> VICTOR CRIST: ALL RIGHT, YOU GOT US THROUGH A LOT OF MATERIAL VERY QUICKLY.

WE APPRECIATE THAT.

>> YES, SIR.

>> VICTOR CRIST: ALL RIGHT, THIS PORTION OF OUR MEETING, WE ARE GOING TO GO AHEAD AND ALLOCATE UP TO 45 MINUTES, THREE MINUTES PER SPEAKER.

WE ASK THAT YOU STAY ON POINT OF ISSUES GERMANE TO OUR AGENDA AND THAT YOU BE RESPECTFUL OF THE MEMBERS IN THIS ROOM, OUR AUDIENCE IN YOUR PRESENTATION, AND WE'RE GOING TO GO AHEAD AND TAKE THEM IN THE ORDER THAT THEY WERE GIVEN TO ME AND WE'RE GOING TO START OFF WITH A BANG WITH SETH MILLS.

>> THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN. MY NAME IS SETH MILLS, 100 NORTH TAMPA STREET. I WANTED TO RISE AND REALLY THANK THE BOARD FOR A NUMBER OF THINGS. I KNOW YOU'VE BEEN DEALING WITH DIFFICULT ISSUES.

THE LAST ITEM ON YOUR AGENDA DEALING WITH ROGUE AND GYPSY DRIVERS, AND THE SAFETY OF THE TRAVELING PUBLIC IS FOREMOST.

I THINK IN EVERYONE'S MIND IN TERMS OF THE INDUSTRY IN TERMS OF THIS BOARD, AND I APPLAUD YOU. EACH OF YOU AT SOME POINT INCLUDING THE CHAIRMAN WHO I'VE HAD MY DIFFERENCES WITH OVER TIME HAVE I BELIEVE EXPRESSED AT SOME POINT DURING THE PAST FEW MONTHS THE IMPORTANCE OF PROTECTING THE TRAVELING PUBLIC, AND I THINK THAT IS IN FACT FOREMOST. AS THE CHAIRMAN JUST STATED, YOU KNOW, MAKE SURE WE HAVE A SAFE RIDE BY A VETTED DRIVER AND INSPECTED VEHICLE THAT IS PROPERLY INSURED, THERE IS NOTHING MORE IMPORTANT THAN THAT. AS HE HAS ALSO SAID RECENTLY, THE ISSUE OF PROTECTING THE PUBLIC IS ALWAYS NUMBER ONE AND PARAMOUNT.

IT IS IN FACT A SAFETY, HEALTH, AND WELFARE ISSUE FOR THIS COMMUNITY, AND YOU ARE THE ONLY ONES WHO CAN PROTECT IT. I WILL NOTE FOR THE RECORD AS MY CARD MENTIONED THAT THE WRIT OF PROHIBITION THAT YOUR COUNSEL SPOKE ABOUT EARLIER TODAY WAS IN FACT DENIED AND SHE WAS CORRECT IN SAYING IT WAS DENIED WITHOUT PREJUDICE. AND WHILE THAT WAS DENIED WITHOUT PREJUDICE, AND A COURT UPHELD COMMISSIONER CRIST'S RULING WITH REGARD TO THAT, THE FACT IS THAT IT WAS DENIED WITHOUT PREJUDICE MEANS IT CAN BE REASSERTED IF THE APPLICANT THINKS IT'S NECESSARY. WE HOPE IT DOESN'T COME TO THAT. HAVE ENJOYED A BETTER TONE AND A BETTER RELATIONSHIP WITH THE COMMISSIONER I THINK, THE CHAIRMAN, IN THE LAST FEW MEETINGS, AND I APPRECIATE THAT AND I HOPE TO PARTICIPATE IN THAT AS WELL. THANK YOU.

>> VICTOR CRIST: SETH, YOU'RE A GOOD LAWYER. YOU WORK HARD FOR YOUR CLIENT. YOU'RE NOT AFRAID TO FIGHT AND I RESPECT THAT. WE MAY NOT ALWAYS AGREE, AND THAT'S OKAY. AND WE MAY EVEN FIGHT, AND QUITE FRANKLY, THAT'S FUN. I ENJOY BEING CHALLENGED, AND I ENJOY A GOOD FIGHT. AND I ENJOY IT BETTER WHEN I WHOOP MY OPPONENT'S ASS. SO, YOU KNOW, IT'S ALL GOOD. IT'S OKAY. YOU KNOW. THE RESPECT IS STILL THERE, AND I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU. YES, SIR? ALL RIGHT. LOUIE MINARDI.

>> GOOD MORNING, EVERYONE. LOUIE MINARDI, YELLOW CAB COMPANY. JUST WANT TO MAKE A QUICK STATEMENT AS FAR AS THE TNC RULES WE'VE BEEN WORKING ON AND THE FACT THAT THEY'VE MADE A MOTION TODAY AGAIN TO MAYBE RESUME DISCUSSION WITH THE TOAs AND THINGS LIKE THAT, THAT THERE'S NOT A CONFLICT WITH THE RULES THAT WE'RE WORKING ON FOR THE COMPANIES THAT YOU WANT TO WORK WITH WITHIN YOUR FRAMEWORK THAT WE DON'T GET BOGGED DOWN AGAIN IN TWO DIFFERENT TALKS OR NEGOTIATIONS AND SECONDLY, I JUST WANT TO MAKE MENTION TO THE BOARD THAT ROB SEARCY IS RETIRING FROM UNITED CAB, AND HE'S BEEN WITH MEARS TRANSPORTATION AND I THINK IT WOULD BE NICE TO RECOGNIZE, I KNOW HE DIDN'T ASK FOR THIS BUT I'VE KNOWN HIM FOR 30 YEARS AND HE'S DONE A GREAT JOB WITH MEARS TRANSPORTATION AND WE'RE GOING TO MISS HIM IN OUR INDUSTRY AND HE'S DONE A VERY LOT OF GOOD THINGS FOR EVERYBODY. I THOUGHT WE WOULD RECOGNIZE HIM BEFORE WE LEFT. THANK YOU.

>> VICTOR CRIST: I'M GLAD YOU BROUGHT THAT TO OUR ATTENTION. I THINK A LOT OF US UP HERE WERE NOT AWARE OF THAT, AND WE APOLOGIZE. WE SHOULD'VE BEEN AWARE OF THAT. AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME, MEMBERS, I WOULD LIKE TO ASK MR. SEARCY TO COME TO THE PODIUM AND BE RECOGNIZED FOR HIS SERVICE. AND I THINK THAT APPROPRIATE TIME WOULD BE AFTER THE PUBLIC TESTIMONY. IS THERE ANY OBJECTION? DAVE SHAW?

>> DAVE SHAW, WEST FLORIDA LIVERY ASSOCIATION, I'M EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. FIRST OF ALL, I WANTED TO THANK THIS COMMISSION FOR DOING THE PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT AT THE AIRPORT. WE'VE GONE TO THE AIRPORT BOARD AS YOU KNOW CHAIRMAN, MANY TIMES, ASKING THEM TO YOU KNOW, BASICALLY LET THE PUBLIC KNOW WHAT THEY'RE RIDING AND THEY BASICALLY SHOT DOWN BY THE DIRECTOR THERE. SO THANK YOU, COMMISSION, FOR BRINGING THAT UP. THAT'S EXCELLENT. WE APPRECIATE THAT. WHAT I DID SIGN UP FOR WAS THE LIMOUSINE LUXURY LIMOUSINE LISTING; WHICH ON THE AGENDA TODAY THE TOYOTA PRIUS IS LISTED, AND AS WE'VE ALL DISCUSSED IN THE PAST, THE LIMOUSINE ASSOCIATION DOESN'T BELIEVE THAT A TOYOTA PRIUS IS A LUXURY VEHICLE. SO WE WOULD ASK YOU TO DENY THAT VEHICLE AS IN THE LIMOUSINE LISTING. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

>> VICTOR CRIST: YOU'RE VERY WELCOME. TOM HELSNIK.

>> MR. CHAIR, IF I MAY INTERRUPT FOR JUST A MOMENT. I APOLOGIZE. MR. SHAW, I WANT TO SAY HE IS A VERY HUMBLE MAN AND DAVE HAS BEEN A GREAT ADVISOR TO ME IN THE LIMOUSINE INDUSTRY

OF KEEPING ME ABREAST OF WHAT GOES ON STATEWIDE, BUT I WOULD LIKE TO SAY THAT MR. SHAW IS ALSO RECOGNIZED NATIONALLY AS AN EXPERT IN COMPANY MANAGEMENT AND IN THE LIMOUSINE INDUSTRY. HE'S TRAVELED TO WASHINGTON TO SPEAK TO SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN THERE AND HE'S SEEN NATIONAL AS A FIGURE. SO THANK YOU, DAVE, FOR YOUR SERVICE AND REPRESENTING YOUR INDUSTRY NATIONALLY AND NOT JUST HERE LOCALLY.

>> TOM, BLACK PEARL LIMOUSINE. THERE ARE A COUPLE OF THINGS I WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS TODAY. ONE WOULD BE TO ASK IF WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO SPLIT THE PERMITTING FEES AS WE DID LAST YEAR. I KNOW IT'S NOT BEEN DISCUSSED BUT I WOULD LIKE TO OPEN THAT DISCUSSION. IT WAS NOT. WE STILL HAVE THE ONGOING ISSUES WITH THE TNCs. AND I WOULD LIKE TO SEE MAYBE THAT ADDRESSED TODAY AT SOME POINT, MAYBE NEXT MEETING. ALSO I TOO WOULD LIKE TO SAY THAT THE TOYOTA PRIUS AND ALSO THE TOYOTA HIGHLANDER JUST DOES NOT FIT IN THE LUXURY CATEGORY FOR LIMOUSINE. I MEAN THERE ARE OTHER VEHICLES THAT FIT THAT CATEGORY. THERE ARE OTHER LEXUS HYBRIDS AND THINGS LIKE THAT THAT I THINK FITS MORE APPROPRIATELY THAN THOSE VEHICLES. SUNS SINCE WE ARE RESUMING TALKS WITH UBER AND LIFT I WOULD LIKE TO SAY THAT I, THERE'S A MOVEMENT IN THIS COUNTRY THAT IS MOVING TOWARDS THE LEVEL ONE OR THE PROPER BACKGROUND SCREENING THAT NEEDS TO BE DONE. THERE ARE GOVERNMENT ENTITIES MOVING TOWARDS THAT AND I THINK THAT'S WHERE WE NEED TO BE FOCUSING OUR ATTENTION BECAUSE THAT'S THE PROPER THING TO DO. YOU CAN'T COMPROMISE ON SAFETY AND THEN ALSO I DO, I LIKE AND APPRECIATE FROM THE BOARD THE INPUT ON THE NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SEARCH. I THINK KYLE HAS DONE A FANTASTIC JOB AND I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE SURE WE GET SOMEBODY LIKE THAT. ALL RIGHT. THAT'S IT.

>> VICTOR CRIST: YOU KNOW, WE WERE LUCKY WHEN WE GOT KYLE, AND WE'RE GOING TO PLAY FORWARD THE SAME WAY WE DID LAST TIME AND HOPEFULLY GET LUCKY AGAIN AND I THINK WE'VE GOT A GOOD TEAM WORKING WITH US AND WE CERTAINLY ARE GOING TO HAVE A GOOD SEARCH COMMITTEE. SO THAT'S OUR GOAL IS TO GET THE BEST PERSONAL POSSIBLE AND ALLOW YOU AND YOUR COLLEAGUES TO HAVE INPUT IN THAT PROCESS. WHICH AGENDA ITEM IS THAT? LET'S WAIT UNTIL WE GET TO THAT POINT AND THEN WE'LL LET YOU SPEAK AT THAT POINT. JUST COME UP TO THE FRONT ROW WHEN WE GET THERE. BROOK? PASS OR ARE YOU GOING TO WAIT FOR AN AGENDA ITEM? ALL RIGHT. UM, STEPHANIE? GOOD MORNING, STEPHANIE. I'VE MISSED MEETING WITH YOU GUYS.

>> LOOKS LIKE WE'RE BACK.

>> GOOD MORNING, STEPHANIE SMITH, PUBLIC POLICY MANAGER WITH UBER TECHNOLOGIES. AND OF COURSE AS EVERYONE KNOWS, A FEW WEEKS AGO WE WORKED WITH CHAIRMAN CRIST AND STAFF, SPENT COUNTLESS HOURS WORKING ON A SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT THAT ADDRESSED INSURANCE, VEHICLE INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS, APPROPRIATE OVERSIGHT AUTHORITY WITH AUDITS TO ENSURE ALL PARTIES WERE COMPLYING WITH TERMS. WE WERE NOT PROPOSING ANYTHING NEW. OUR PROPOSALS HAVE BEEN CONSISTENT WITH 30-PLUS OTHER STATES AND JURISDICTIONS THROUGHOUT FLORIDA. WE MADE A LOT OF PROGRESS, AND I AM EXCITED TO LEARN THAT WE'LL BE RESUMING THOSE DISCUSSIONS. SINCE THOSE NEGOTIATIONS HAVE CEASED, THE PTC RULES COMMITTEE, HOWEVER, HAS DISCUSSED PROPOSING NEW RULES AND HIGHER FEES. WE HAVE SUBSTANTIAL CONCERNS ABOUT SOME OF THOSE PROPOSALS THAT HAVE BEEN BROUGHT UP BY THE RULES COMMITTEE, AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO SHARING OUR CONCERNS IN AUGUST OF THE NEXT RULES COMMITTEE MEETING. TOMORROW WE'RE GOING TO BE ANNOUNCING A PARTNERSHIP. JUST NEXT DOOR TO HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY AND PINELLAS WITH THE PSTA AS WELL AS JUST EAST OF HERE WE'VE BEEN WORKING WITH FIVE CENTRAL FLORIDA CITIES ON A TRANSIT PARTNERSHIP WHERE THEY'RE LOOKING AT SUBSIDIZING RIDES AND LOOKING TO UBER AND RIDE SHARING AS A WAY TO ALLEVIATE MOBILITY CONCERNS AND TRANSPORTATION CONCERNS IN THE COMMUNITY AND JUST WANT TO SAY I'M HOPEFUL THERE IS A TIME WE WILL BE HAVING THAT DISCUSSION HERE IN HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY AND NOT BE BOGGED DOWN HERE ON THE RULES BECAUSE I DO THINK THAT THE CITIZENS OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY ARE MISSING OUT ON SOME OF THE OPPORTUNITIES THAT ARE JUST HAPPENING JUST RIGHT AROUND THEM HERE IN THE COMMUNITY. WE CONTINUE TO STAND BY OUR PARTNERS AND DEFEND THEIR RIGHTS TO PROVIDE SAFE, RELIABLE, AND VALUABLE SERVICE IN THIS COMMUNITY. AND AGAIN WE LOOK FORWARD TO DISCUSSING NEGOTIATION WITH CHAIR AND THE STAFF HERE IN THE COMING WEEKS.

>> VICTOR CRIST: STEPHANIE, SEVERAL WEEKS AGO I GOT A PHONE CALL FROM MINNESOTA'S LEADER NEWSPAPER INTERVIEWING ME ON WHAT WE HAD WORKED OUT HERE AND WHY AND WHAT THE COMPONENTS WERE AND AT THE END OF THE CONVERSATION, THE GENTLEMAN'S RESPONSE WAS HE HAD BEEN FOLLOWING THIS FOR THE LAST FOUR YEARS AND WHAT WE HAD NEGOTIATED WAS THE MOST PROGRESSIVE MOST COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH HE HAD NEVER SEEN ANYWHERE IN THIS COUNTRY. I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR THE TIME YOU PUT IN. EVEN THOUGH WE FOUGHT LIKE CATS AND DOGS, WE DID IT RESPECTFULLY, AND WE GOT TO A POINT WHERE, YOU KNOW, WE WERE ALMOST THERE. AT THIS JUNCTURE, I WANT TO ENSURE THAT THE NEXT PROPOSAL IS DOABLE, SO I WOULD HOPE THAT SOMEONE WHO WAS A NO VOTE THIS LAST TIME AROUND WOULD TAKE THE LEAD ON IT AND NEGOTIATE OUT A PROPOSAL THAT COULD WIN THEIR SUPPORT SO THAT WE CAN GET THIS MOVING FORWARD.

>> SURE. I'D BE HAPPY TO MEET WITH ANYONE TO HELP MOVE THIS FORWARD.

>> VICTOR CRIST: COMMISSIONER HIGGINBOTHAM, WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO DO THAT? OKAY.



THEN WE'RE MOVING FORWARD. IS THERE ANY OBJECTION.

>> NO OBJECTION, JUST THAT I THINK WE ALL KNOW WHAT THE STICKING POINTS ARE, AND ME PERSONALLY AS BOARD MEMBER AND VICE CHAIR UNLESS THOSE STICKING POINTS ARE ADDRESSED AS WE'VE DISCUSSED FOR THE LAST TWO YEARS, MY VOTE WON'T BE CHANGING.

>> DO WE HAVE AN AVAILABILITY TO MEET INDIVIDUALLY AND DISCUSS THOSE STICKING POINTS?

>> VICTOR CRIST: I SEE NO ISSUE WITH YOU MEETING INDIVIDUALLY WITH BOARD MEMBERS THE ISSUE WOULD BE BOARD MEMBERS COLLECTIVELY MEETING WITH YOU. THAT WOULD BE A SUNSHINE BREACH. BUT AT THIS JUNCTURE I DON'T WANT 20 DIFFERENT NEGOTIATIONS GOING ON BECAUSE WE WILL GET NOWHERE FAST. EVERYONE AT THIS TABLE IS SMART, KNOWLEDGEABLE, AND CAPABLE. BUT SOMEONE WHO VOTED NO NEEDS TO NEGOTIATE A DEAL THAT THEY'LL VOTE YES ON IN ORDER FOR US TO GET SOMETHING PASSED.

>> GREAT.

>> SO THAT WOULD EITHER HAVE TO BE AL OR GUIDO AND I THINK IF AL NEGOTIATES OUT THE DEAL WE WILL GET GUIDO BY DEFAULT AND I'M JUST, I GUESS I COULD BE MORE PROGRESSIVE IN MY THINKING BUT I KNOW HOW BADLY YOUR COUNCIL WOULD LIKE TO SEE A DEAL GO THROUGH AND YOUR MAYOR.

>> I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU BEEN TALKING TO ON THE COUNCIL BUT I WILL TELL YOU MY POSITION NOW, AND SAME TO THE VICE CHAIR, UNLESS YOU'RE WILLING TO COME TO ME INCLUDING THE BACKGROUND CHECK LEVEL TWO, I'M GOING TO TELL YOU RIGHT NOW DON'T WASTE YOUR TIME CALLING ME.

>> WELL, I'D LOVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO STILL MEET WITH YOU.

>> WELL, YOUR POSITION HAVE TO BE THAT OR ELSE MY SCHEDULE WON'T ALLOW ME TO SPEAK WITH YOU.

>> WELL, ON BEHALF OF YOUR CONSTITUENTS THAT USE OUR SERVICE.

>> WELL, I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT -- I'M TALKING ABOUT ME.

>> ARE YOU GUYS OPERATING IN PUERTO RICO.

>> JUST LAST WEEK WE LAUNCHED IN PUERTO RICO.

>> VICTOR CRIST: IS THERE ANY KIND OF FIGHT GOING ON THERE.

>> FORGIVE ME, I'M NOT AS UP TO DATE. I BELIEVE THERE IS A GOVERNMENTAL BODY THAT'S WORKING THAT OUT WITH US THERE. I'M NOT SURE WHAT THE ISSUES ARE BUT I KNOW THAT WE LAUNCHED, AND I THINK THAT THE LAUNCH IS PAUSED FIVE DAYS AFTER. SO WE'RE TRYING TO LOOK TO GETTING RELAUNCHED IN PUERTO RICO.

>> VICTOR CRIST: THE REASON I ASK IS I AM PLANNING ON GOING AND I WANT TO BE ABLE TO USE YOU GUYS IF I DO.

>> CHECK DAY BY DAY.

>> ONE LAST THING, MR. CHAIRMAN. FOR THOSE WHO WEREN'T AT THE RULES AND POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING, WE DID RECEIVE A RULE CHANGE PROPOSAL FROM DRIVE SOCIETY THAT INCLUDES LEVEL TWO BACKGROUND CHECKS, THAT INCLUDES THE RIGHT INSURANCE, THAT INCLUDES PTC INSPECTING THE VEHICLES, THAT INCLUDES THE AGE OF VEHICLES THAT WE RECOMMENDED, THAT INCLUDES ALL THE THINGS THAT WE'VE BEEN ASKING FOR FROM THE OTHER TNCs FOR THE LAST TWO YEARS. THEY'VE INCLUDED IT IN THEIR PROPOSAL TO US. THERE ARE TNCs OUT THERE LOOKING TO DO THE RIGHT THING AND I WANT TO REMIND THOSE WHO WEREN'T THERE THAT THE PROPOSAL IS OUT THERE.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY, YOU KNOW, I MEAN, DAVE, THERE ARE CELL PHONES OUT THERE THAT WILL DO EVERYTHING AN APPLE WILL DO BUT PEOPLE STILL WANT TO BUY APPLE BECAUSE IT'S THE NATIONAL STANDARD. INTERNATIONAL STANDARD. SO AT THIS POINT, YOU KNOW, THE OTHER TNCs ARE WILLING TO DO EVERYTHING IN OUR PROPOSAL LESS THE LEVEL TWO BACKGROUND CHECK, WHICH REALLY SEEMS TO BE THE STICKING POINT. EVEN THOUGH I GOT YOU UP TO THE LEVEL ONE PLUS, EVERYTHING BUT THE FINGERPRINT AND THE LIFETIME SEARCH, THIS BOARD STILL INDICATED THAT THEY WANTED THE FULL LEVEL TWO. SO THAT'S SOMETHING THAT YOU KNOW, YOU GUYS ARE GOING TO HAVE TO TRY TO WORK OUT.

>> SURE, AND WE WILL PARTICIPATE IN THAT MEETING IN AUGUST 2nd AND WORK THROUGH THOSE DETAILS AS WELL.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY. ALL RIGHT. WE ARE GOING TO MOVE FORWARD. THANK YOU, STEPHANIE. BY THE WAY, YOU HAVE BEEN THE BEST WE HAVE HAD TO WORK WITH. YOUR PREDECESSORS WERE NOT SO GOOD. TOM? TOM SMITH. WHERE ARE YOU, TOM?

>> [INAUDIBLE]

>> VICTOR CRIST: , ALL RIGHT, WE'LL LET YOU GO AFTER RIDE SOCIETY. STEVE ANDERSON. I THOUGHT STEVE WAS ON VACATION.

>> HE'S BACK.

>> [INAUDIBLE]

>> YOU GOING TO PASS TOO? ALL RIGHT. I DON'T HAVE DRIVE SOCIETY HERE, BUT IF YOU FILL OUT A CARD, COME ON UP SO THAT TOM CAN SPEAK AFTER YOU.

>> ALL RIGHT, TOM SMITH, CLICK A RIDE. BASICALLY I HEAR ABOUT DRIVE SOCIETY'S PROPOSAL, BUT I'VE BEEN MAKING THE SAME PROPOSAL FOR TWO YEARS. I COME UP HERE EVERY MONTH WITH THE SAME PROPOSAL. YOU KNOW, CLICK A RIDE WANTS TO RELEASE OUR DEMAND RESPONSE APP NOW.

I DON'T KNOW IF THE MATERIAL I WAS PASSED AROUND. I ALSO SUBMITTED IT TO KYLE. I SUBMITTED MY OWN RULE CHANGE WAIVERS, THE WAY TO DO THIS. ANYWAY, WITH, I SUBMITTED WAIVER, WHATEVER, THEY WERE ALL TURNED DOWN BECAUSE OF LITIGATION. ANYWAY, MY REQUEST IS FOR EMERGENCY ACTION. I WANT TO -- I GOT A TEMPORARY OPERATING AGREEMENT THERE THAT DOES COMPLY WITH EVERYTHING. I'VE GOT MY INSURANCE POLICY AND I GOT IT A YEAR GO AND IT COVERS EVERYTHING. WE'VE BEEN IN A HOLDING PATTERN FOR ALMOST TWO YEARS. I DRIVE MY CAB 14 HOURS A DAY, SEVEN DAYS A WEEK TO SUPPORT ALL THE SERVICES AND THINGS THAT I HAVE TO PAY OUT WHILE IN A HOLDING PATTERN, AND NOT BEING ABLE TO FUNCTION. WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR IS TEMPORARY PERMITS. I HAVE CERTIFICATE, I HAVE INSURANCE, I HAVE EVERYTHING. THIS COMMISSION CAN ACTUALLY GIVE OUT TEMPORARY PERMITS ON MY LIMO CERTIFICATE WITH A WAIVER OF THE, AND THIS WAS ALSO KYLE PUT THIS IN, A WAIVER OF THE DRESS CODE, THE MILLION DOLLAR INSURANCE, A WAIVER OF BEING THE CAR BEING ON THE LIMO LIST, AND THE OTHER ONE WAS -- I HAVE ANOTHER WAIVER IN THERE, BUT I DON'T HAVE IT, I CAN'T THINK OF IT BUT I HANDED ALL THAT IN. THIS CAN BE DONE NOW. , I MEAN TEMPORARY PERMITS, KYLE CAN ISSUE ME 100 TEMPORARY PERMITS THAT I CAN USE AS A NONLUXURY LIMO WITH THE WAIVER OF SUGGESTIONS. AND I COULD BE OPERATING AS A LEGAL TNC TWO YEARS AFTER I STARTED, WHY? WHAT IS THE PROBLEM? WHY ARE WE HANGING THIS UP AND NOT ALLOWING ME TO DO THIS? 72.

>> TOM, I DON'T BELIEVE WE ARE HANGING IT UP AND NOT ALLOWING YOU TO DO IT. WE ARE TAKING THE TIME TO BE HOLISTIC AND INCLUSIVE NOT EXCLUSIVE IN THIS PROCESS, AND I BELIEVE THAT A LOT OF WORK HAS BEEN DONE TO PAVE THE WAY THAT WITH SOME TWEAKING THAT COMMISSIONER HIGGINBOTHAM I HAVE FAITH IN HIM IN HIS ABILITIES THAT HE WILL BRING BACK A PROPOSAL THAT THIS BOARD WILL BE ABLE TO ADOPT WHETHER UBER OR LYFT WILL BE ABLE TO OPERATE UNDER IT WILL BE UP TO THEM, BUT IT WILL BE PROPOSAL THAT WILL OPEN THE DOOR FOR RIDE SHARING AND ANY COMPANY, WHETHER IT BE YOU OR THE COMPANY IN THE BACK OF THE ROOM OR UBER AND LYFT, WOULD BE ABLE TO OPERATE UNDER IF THEY CHOSE TO. BUT I AM HOPEFUL THAT WE WILL HAVE WITHIN THE NEXT 30 TO 60 DAYS NEW RULES ON OUR BOOKS THAT CREATE THE WINDOW FOR RIDE SHARING IN TAMPA BAY. AND I AM HOPING THAT EVERYONE WOULD BE ABLE TO OPERATE AND CHOOSE TO OPERATE LEGALLY WITHIN THAT FRAMEWORK BUT IT WILL ULTIMATELY BE THEIR CHOICE.

>> WELL, MY PROPOSAL IS THERE. I SUBMITTED IT. I WAS AT THE RULE CHANGE WITH IT. YOU TOLD ME TO RIDE IT UP WHERE IT FITS THE SAME AS LIKE THE PROPOSAL YOU HAD. I WROTE IT UP. THERE IT IS. I'M OFFICIALLY REQUESTING THIS. Y MEAN, I KNOW THAT EVERYBODY'S BEEN WAITING, BUT EVERYBODY HASN'T COMPLIED FOR OVER A YEAR WITH EVERYTHING THAT'S SUPPOSED TO BE COMPLIED WITH.

>> VICTOR CRIST: WE ARE WORKING TOWARDS IT. THERE ARE CERTAIN HOOPS WE HAVE TO JUMP THROUGH. WE ARE WORKING TOWARDS IT. WE HAVE TO BE FAIR, WE HAVE TO BE OBJECTIVE AND WE HAVE TO MAKE IT INCLUSIVE.

>> WELL, IT'S A TEMPORARY OPERATING --

>> VICTOR CRIST: THAT'S WHAT WE'RE WORKING TOWARDS. WE ARE GOING TO MOVE FORWARD NOW.

>> THERE'S MINE.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY, WE GOT IT.

>> OKAY, WELL I'D LIKE TO DO IT TODAY.

>> VICTOR CRIST: WELL.

>> I'D LIKE TO VOTE ON IT TODAY. I'VE COMPLIED WITH EVERYTHING THAT THIS BOARD WANTS.

>> WE WILL PASS THAT ON TO COMMISSIONER HIGGINBOTHAM AS HE READS THROUGH HIS NEGOTIATIONS AND CONSIDERS ANY OF THE POINTS IN A COMPREHENSIVE PACKAGE TO BRING FORWARD.

>> OKAY, IT'S JUST THAT I'M RUNNING OUT OF STEAM. I'LL GO BROKE BY THE TIME THIS COMMISSION LETS ME GO TO WORK.

>> VICTOR CRIST: TOM, YOU ARE NOT GOING TO RUN OUT OF STEAM. YOU ARE AN ENGINE WELL HEALED ON THE TRACKS.

>> I KNOW I HAVE A LOT OF STEAM HERE BUT I'M RUNNING OUT OF --

>> VICTOR CRIST: WE GOT TO MOVE FORWARD. WE GOT ONE MORE. DORY NEVEN. DORY, I DON'T BELIEVE YOU GOT SWORN IN EARLIER. DO YOU MIND GETTING SWORN IN? I LIKE YOUR HAT. THAT'S HOW I REMEMBERED YOU DIDN'T GET SWORN IN BECAUSE I WOULD'VE REMEMBERED IF YOU STOOD. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I HAVE EVER BEEN TO ANYTHING LIKE THIS. I'M CURRENTLY AN UBER DRIVER AND I TOTALLY AGREE WITH THE COMMISSION ON DOING A SECOND LEVEL BACKGROUND CHECK. I THINK IT'S NEEDED FOR THE SAFETY AND ALSO FOR THE CONSISTENCY OF UBER. AND THAT'S WHAT I WANTED TO SAY.

>> VICTOR CRIST: DO YOU LIKE DRIVING FOR THEM.

>> I LOVE DRIVING FOR UBER.

>> VICTOR CRIST: WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT IT?

>> I LOVE THE PEOPLE. I LOVE BEING ABLE TO TAKE A POSSIBLE ACCIDENT OFF THE STREETS. I LOVE DISCUSSIONS, HELPING PEOPLE SEE OUR CITY, THEY'RE FLYING IN, DIFFERENT SUCH LIKE THAT. IT'S JUST A VERY ENJOYABLE JOB. I AM PERMANENTLY DISABLED. THERE ARE MORNINGS I CAN'T GET UP AND GO TO WORK BUT INSTEAD OF LIVING OFF THE CITY OR THE STATE OR THE GOVERNMENT,

I WORK FOR UBER. I DON'T RECEIVE DISABILITY. I CAN'T GET UP -- THERE'S MORNINGS I CAN'T GET OUT OF BED.

>> VICTOR CRIST: SO YOU'RE A SMALL BUSINESS.

>> IF IT WEREN'T FOR UBER, I COULDN'T DO IT. I JUST COULDN'T.

>> VICTOR CRIST: BECAUSE YOU ARE ABLE TO WORK IT AROUND YOUR GOOD AND BAD DAYS.

>> YES, SIR.

>> VICTOR CRIST: YOU GET TO SET YOUR OWN SCHEDULE.

>> YES, SIR.

>> VICTOR CRIST: YOU GET TO MOVE AT YOUR OWN SPEED.

>> YES, SIR.

>> VICTOR CRIST: THAT GIVES YOU THE FLEXIBILITY YOU WOULDN'T NECESSARILY HAVE ANY OTHER WAY?

>> YES, SIR.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY.

>> AND I DON'T HAVE ANY PROBLEM WITH DOING THE SECOND LEVEL BACKGROUND CHECK AND FINGERPRINTING.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY.

>> COMMISSIONER MAY I JUST FOR A MOMENT PLEASE. THANK YOU FOR COMING UP HERE THIS MORNING.

>> I'M NERVOUS AS ALL GET OUT, BUT OKAY.

>> THERE'S NO REASON TO BE NERVOUS. WE ARE JUST PEOPLE LIKE YOU ARE. THANK YOU FOR GETTING UP THIS MORNING AND MAKING A COMMENT. I WOULD LIKE TO SAY ONE THING AS A DIRECTOR. THAT WHEN WE ASK FOR A LEVEL TWO OR AN IN-DEPTH BACKGROUND CHECK FOR THE MOST PART WHAT'S OFTENTIMES MISSED BY THE MEDIA IS THIS. THAT LEVEL TWO BACKGROUND CHECK PROTECTS YOU FROM THE FEW WHO WILL WANT TO INFILTRATE THEIR SYSTEM FROM DOING THEIR DIRTY DEEDS AND THEY ARE DOING THEM AROUND THE COUNTRY AND WE SEE THIS. THAT'S NOT THE MAJORITY OF DRIVERS AND WE KNOW THAT. SO IT'S SOMETHING THAT HELPS PROTECT PEOPLE LIKE YOU WHO ARE SEEKING TO GO TO WORK, MAKE A LITTLE EXTRA MONEY AND PROVIDE A SERVICE AND WE GET THAT BUT IT'S ABOUT YOUR INTEREST AS WELL AND TRYING TO WEED OUT THAT PERCENTAGE THAT MAKES ALL OF YOU LOOK BAD.

>> THAT'S WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR TOO.

>> GOOD, WELL, THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS THIS MORNING.

>> VICTOR CRIST: I'M NOT ALLOWED TO TALK WITH OTHER COMMISSIONERS OFF THIS DAIS, SO I'M GOING TO GO AHEAD AND TALK WITH COMMISSIONER HIGGINBOTHAM IF IT'S OKAY WITH YOU, SIR. YOU KNOW, WE'VE HAD DIFFICULTY GETTING THE COMPANIES TO AGREE TO DOING THE LEVEL TWO BACKGROUND CHECKS, BUT IT'S JUST COME FORWARD THAT MANY OF THE DRIVERS WILLING TO DO IT IF IT TAKES THE MONKEY OFF THEIR BACK.

>> THERE ARE A LOT OF DRIVERS WILLING TO DO IT.

>> VICTOR CRIST: AND MAYBE WE ARE FOCUSING ON THE WRONG END OF THE STICK. MAYBE WE SHOULD BE LICENSING AND PERMITTING THE DRIVERS TO DO RIDE SHARE AND THE ONES WHO ARE WILLING TO COME FORWARD AND DO A LEVEL TWO BACKGROUND CHECK GET TO DRIVE LEGALLY AND DON'T GET TICKETS. >> THAT WOULD BE A WONDERFUL IDEA. [APPLAUSE] BECAUSE I AM SCARED TO DEATH TO GO TO THE AIRPORT. I DON'T WANT TO GO TO THE AIRPORT AND GET A TICKET. THE REASON WHY I STARTED WITH UBER, IT WAS BECAUSE OF THE FLEXIBILITY, BUT IT WAS ALSO THE 20% DECREASE THAT WE'VE CAUSED IN D.U.I.s.

>> WELL, MAYBE THAT'S THE TWEAK WE NEED TO MAKE F. WE CAN'T GET THE COMPANIES TO BE WILLING TO DO IT, MAYBE THE DRIVERS LIKE YOU.

>> I WILL BE THE FIRST ONE TO SIGN UP AND EVERYBODY THAT'S ON MY CHANNEL WITH ME WOULD DO IT TOO.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY, LEAVE IT UP TO YOU.

>> THERE ARE REPRESENTATIVES HERE FROM MY CHANNEL.

>> VICTOR CRIST: ALL RIGHT. COMMISSIONER HIGGINBOTHAM, YOU GOT A LOT TO THINK ABOUT, SIR.

>> ALL EARS.

>> IF I COULD, THIS IS NOT, AND THANK YOU FOR COMING. I APPRECIATE IT. BUT KYLE I THINK YOU CAN ATTEST TO THIS. WE HAVE DRIVERS SHOWING UP AT THE PTC BUILDING EVERY DAY BEGGING US TO DO A LEVEL TWO BACKGROUND CHECK. I THINK ALL'S SOME DETAILS THAT WOULD HAVE TO GET WORKED OUT. I'M NOT SO SURE WE CAN -- I GUESS IT WOULD HAVE TO BE VOLUNTARY OR SOMETHING BECAUSE HOW THE HELL ARE WE GOING TO KNOW WHO IS AN UBER DRIVER AND HOW ARE WE GOING TO KNOW THEY HAVE HAD A LEVEL TWO BACKGROUND CHECK.

>> THEY WOULD BE THE ONES WITH THE PERMITS.

>> YEAH, WELL. I MEAN, I THINK IT'S A GREAT IDEA. OBVIOUSLY UBER ISN'T INTERESTED IN DOING THAT AT THE MOMENT. BUT YOU AND ALL THE GOOD DRIVERS HAVE BEEN SHOWING UP AT KYLE'S DOOR FOR TWO YEARS.

>> YOU KNOW, WE DO THE INSPECTION ON YOUR CAR, PUT THE STICKER IN YOUR WINDOW AND WE DO THE INSPECTION ON YOUR BACKGROUND AND GIVE YOU A PERMIT CARD.

>> I HAVE NO PROBLEMS.

>> VICTOR CRIST: YOU KNOW WE'VE BEEN LOOKING AT THE WRONG END OF THE DOG HERE. ALL RIGHT. NO, TOM, WE GOT TO MOVE ON. GOT TO MOVE ON, MAN.

>> [INAUDIBLE] ALL RIGHT S THERE A MOTION TO CLOSE THIS PORTION OF THE MEETING. WE GOT A MOTION AND A SECOND. AYE. THOSE OPPOSED? ALL RIGHT, MOVING FORWARD.

>> THANK YOU, MR. CHAIR. NEXT ON THE AGENDA IS CONSENT ITEMS AND REPORTS. INCLUDED IN THAT JUNE MEETING MINUTES, APPROVAL OF PVDL LICENSES, FISCAL YEAR STATUS REPORT, COMMISSION REPORT, CRISIS CENTER OF TAMPA BAY HAS REQUESTED TWO ADDITIONAL HANDICAB PERMITS AND TWO ADDITIONAL BLS PERMITS OF WHICH THE STAFF COMPLETELY CONCURS. I WOULD ASK FOR A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE CONSENT ITEMS.

>> VICTOR CRIST: WE HAVE A MOTION AND TWO SECONDS. ALL IN FAVOR, AYE. THOSE OPPOSED IS IN SO MOVED.

>> THANK YOU, MR. CHAIR. MOVING ONTO DIRECTOR'S REPORT. PLACEMENT OF FUNDS IN A PRIVATE INSTITUTION, IF YOU WOULD COME FORWARD.

OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS WE'VE HAD DIFFICULTY WITH ACCOUNTING ISSUES, SPECIFICALLY ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND GENERAL BILLING ISSUES. THIS HAS CAUSED A LOT OF EMBARRASSMENT BECAUSE VENDORS HAVE NOT BEEN PAID IN A TIMELY MANNER AND IN SOME CASES OUR INVOICES HAVE BEEN SENT OVER TO OTHER DEPARTMENTS WITHIN THE COUNTY. MR. TIM JEWESAK IS HERE TO PRESENT YOU WITH A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE COST SAVINGS TO THE PTC IF WE WERE TO MOVE OUR FUNDS TO A PRIVATE INSTITUTION AND ASSUME THE PROCUREMENT PROCESS ABIDING BY GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES. AND GENERAL ACCOUNTING PROCEDURES INTERNALLY. ADDITIONALLY WE'RE FACING, AND I THINK THIS IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT, \$123,000 FEE THAT WILL BE INCURRED BY US BY FEES ASSOCIATED WITH INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT. LAST FISCAL YEAR WE PAID \$9,000 FOR THAT FEE. THIS YEAR IT'S BEEN ELEVATED TO \$123,000.

>> VICTOR CRIST: WHO'S CHARGING THAT FEE?

>> THAT'S CULMINATION OF PROCUREMENT, CLERK'S OFFICE, DIFFERENT ENTITIES, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, DIFFERENT ENTITIES WITHIN THE COUNTY.

>> VICTOR CRIST: DO YOU BELIEVE WE COULD DO IT CHEAPER?

>> YES, SIR, AND I THINK IN THE NEXT FORTY FIVE SECONDS, YOU ARE GOING TO SEE THAT.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY.

>> GOOD MORNING. AS A NEW PERSON ON BOARD WITH THE PTC, I GET ALL THE SPECIAL PROJECTS THAT MR. COCKREAM HAS FOR US. IN YOUR PACKAGES, THE TRANSITION TO A MORE EFFICIENT ORGANIZATION AND MY BACKGROUND IS IN NONPROFIT AND GOVERNMENT CONTRACT OVERSIGHT AND SOME OF THE THINGS WE WERE LOOKING AT WITH WHAT MR. COCKREAM WAS TALKING ABOUT, THE ACTUAL DOLLAR AMOUNT THAT THE INDIRECT COST IS PROPOSED TO GO UP TO IS \$134,000 THAT THE COUNTY'S GOING TO CHARGE THIS ORGANIZATION. DOING AN ANALYSIS OF THOSE ITEMS THAT WE LOOKED AT THAT ARE IN THAT COST ALLOCATION WE WERE LOOKING AT MANAGEMENT BUDGET PROCUREMENT SERVICES, THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES, THE OPERATIONS AND LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AND THE CLERK OF THE COURT BOARD SERVICES, WHICH IS CUTTING OF THE CHECKS TO PAY FOR OBLIGATIONS THAT WE ARE OBLIGATED TO. THIS IS THE GRAPH OF THE LAST FIVE FISCAL YEARS AND THE INDIRECT COSTS. AND THIS IS WHAT WE CAN DO. TOTAL COST COMPARISON FOR THIS NEXT FISCAL YEAR IS \$134,643 FOR INDIRECT COSTS THAT THE COUNTY'S PROPOSING AND YOU CAN SEE WHAT WE CAN DO THAT FOR. THIS IS SUBSTANTIAL COST SAVINGS.

>> WOW.

>> YES, THAT'S WHY THE TITLE IS TRANSITIONING TO A MORE EFFICIENT ORGANIZATION.

>> VICTOR CRIST: WHAT ARE WE GOING TO LOSE WITH THE COST SAVINGS? ANYTHING?

>> THE ONLY THING WE WILL LOSE WILL BE THE ABILITY TO ACCESS THE PHONE NUMBERS FOR COUNTY EMPLOYEES. ON THE INTERNET.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY.

>> AND THE LONG SHORT OF IT, I'D LIKE TO DRAW A SPECIFIC ATTENTION TO MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. WE DO OUR OWN BUDGET INTERNALLY. PROCUREMENT SERVICES, 31,949. IF I CAN JUST CUT TO THE CHASE I'LL DO THAT IN ABOUT TEN SECONDS. WE OPERATE MUCH LIKE A SMALL BUSINESS. 99% OF THE PAYMENTS THAT WE MAKE OUT OF THE PTC ARE DONE ELECTRONICALLY AND TRACKED AS SUCH. THIS PROCESS WOULD INCLUDE THE OVERSIGHT OF THE COMPLETELY INDEPENDENT AUDITING FIRM THAT WOULD ENSURE THE FUNDS ARE TRANSFERRED APPROPRIATELY AND THAT ALL ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES WERE PUT IN PLACE. IF THERE WAS AN OCCASION THAT A CHECK NEEDED TO BE SIGNED IT WOULD BE A TWO SIGNATURE CHAIR, THE CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR AND PROBABLY A STAND IN SHOULD ONE OF YOU BE ABSENT BUT THIS IS NOT ROCKET SCIENCE. BUT AT THE END OF THE DAY, WE'RE BEING CHARGED FOR SERVICES THAT WE DON'T USE, AND IF WE DID USE THEM, I CAN DO IT AT A FRACTION OF THE COST INTERNALLY AND THAT'S REALLY WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT.

>> BY DOING THIS, WOULD THAT IMPACT OUR CONTRACTS WITH MS. OSTER OR WITH CIVIL SERVICE.

>> NO, SIR, THOSE CONTRACTS ARE INDEPENDENT. THE ONLY REAL CONTRACT THAT WOULD BE AFFECTED HERE IS WITH THE CLERK'S OFFICE. I WOULD REQUEST THAT WE BE ABLE TO BASICALLY PAY OUR OWN

BILLS. THAT'S ALL I'M REQUESTING. EVERY OTHER RELATIONSHIP WITH THE COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, THE BOCC, THE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENTS WITH THOSE ENTITIES WOULD REMAIN IN PLACE AND IN TACT. THERE WAS OVER \$100,000 IN JOURNAL ENTRIES THAT WERE, THAT HAD TO BE CORRECTED IN THIS PAST AUDITING PROCESS. AND IT'S NOT UNIQUE TO THE PTC.

>> VICTOR CRIST: ISN'T IT TRUE THAT WHEN YOU FIRST CAME ON BOARD, WE HAD AN ISSUE WITH INVOICES BEING PAID MULTIPLE TIMES?

>> YES, SIR, AS A MATTER OF FACT, RIGHT OUT OF THE CHUTE WE WERE HIT WITH THAT. WHEN THE INTERIM DIRECTOR KEVIN JACKSON WAS WORKING THERE AND I WORKED THERE, WE HAD ONE DAY WHERE THREE VENDORS CALLED US UP AND SAID THEY WERE GOING TO STOP DOING BUSINESS WITH US BECAUSE OUR BILLS WERE SO FAR DELAYED. NOT JUST LATE, THEY WERE THAT FAR DELAYED.

>> VICTOR CRIST: BUT I AM NOT TALKING ABOUT JUST THE DELAYED BILLS.

I AM TALKING ABOUT THE INVOICES THAT WERE PAID ONE, TWO, THREE, FOUR AND FIVE TIMES FOR THE SAME SERVICE.

>> YES, SIR, MULTIPLE TIMES FOR THE SAME SERVICE AND IN SOME CASES, THEY WERE PAID BY OTHER COUNTY ENTITIES, AND THEN IT WAS DISCOVERED, AND THEN WE WERE CHARGED OR WE PAID SOMEBODY ELSE'S BILL AND THEN THAT HAD TO BE REMEDIED SO IT'S BEEN A LITANY OF ISSUES.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY.

>> WE JUST HAD A DUPLICATE PAYMENT THIS LAST WEEK.

>> WHAT'S THE MOTION THAT YOU NEED?

>> IF WE CAN CONTINUE JUST FOR ONE MOMENT.

>> IT'S NOT ONLY JUST A PROBLEM IN THE PAST BUT IT IS A CURRENT PROBLEM. AND THIS WOULD ADDRESS THAT.

>> VICTOR CRIST: VERY CLEAR. GOOD PRESENTATION. DISCUSSION?

>> THAT'S THE OVERSIGHT.

>> HOW FAST CAN WE MAKE THE TRANSITION?

>> WE ARE WORKING WITH A COUPLE OF ENTITIES NOW. WE HAVE ONE ENTITY THAT IS CURRENTLY A VENDOR HERE IN HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY THAT DOES THIS KIND OF WORK WHETHER OVER THE STATE OF FLORIDA AND IT'S A FLORIDA AND LOCALLY BASED COMPANY. SO WE'RE TALKING TO THEM RIGHT NOW GETTING SOME COST ISSUES DOWN AND I'LL LOOK FORWARD TO BRINGING YOU A PROPOSAL IN THE FUTURE. I DON'T NECESSARILY NEED A MOTION. AT THE LAT MEETING A MOTION WAS PASSED FOR ME TO CONTINUE TO INVESTIGATE THIS, SO NO FURTHER ACTION IS NEEDED AT THIS MOMENT.

>> VICTOR CRIST: MS. OSTER IS THERE ANY RULE OR GUIDELINE THAT HAS TO BE ADHERED TO IN PROCUREMENT? I MEAN, DO WE NEED TO DO AN RFP? DO WE NEED THREE PROPOSALS? HOW AND WHAT WOULD BE THE BEST WAY TO MOVE FORWARD HERE?

>> WELL, I THINK YOU HAVE A COUPLE OF OPTIONS. ONE WOULD BE AN RFP TO OBTAIN THESE SERVICES. THE OTHER WOULD BE TO PIGGYBACK WITH THE COUNTY OR OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY.

I DON'T THINK IT'S A SPECIALIZED SERVICE ENOUGH BY WHICH IT WOULD BE A SOLE SOURCE TYPE OF PROCUREMENT, SO I WOULD SUGGEST EITHER AN RFP OR A PIGGYBACK OPTION ON AN EXISTING GOVERNMENTAL CONTRACT.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY. SO DIRECTED THEN. I GUESS THERE IS NO NEED FOR A MOTION AT THIS POINT. JUST CONTINUE YOUR GOOD WORK AND BRING US BACK A CONTRACT TO CONSIDER.

>> YES, SIR, I THINK IT'S OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO BE RESPONSIBLE WITH FUNDS, AND I THINK THIS IS A MOVE IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

>> VICTOR CRIST: WELL, YOU CERTAINLY BROUGHT ON BOARD THE CAPACITY TO DO THAT.

>> WELL, I APPLAUD MR. DUSECK HERE. HE HAS DONE A GREAT JOB. HE'S OUR INTERNAL BOOKKEEPER IF YOU WILL AND ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND HE'S REALLY, I'VE SADDLED HIM WITH A LOT AND TO DATE HE'S TAKEN THE LOAD COMPLETELY AND HE'S A PLEASURE TO HAVE ON THE BOARD, SO.

>> VICTOR CRIST: WELL, WE HAVE FAITH. ANY OTHER DISCUSSION? I KNOW YOU'VE GOT MORE IN THE PRESENTATION SO YOU DID SAY 45 SECONDS. LIKE I SAID YOU HAD US AT 45 SECONDS.

>> I DON'T HAVE THE OVERVIEW. EVERYTHING ELSE IS THE DETAILS IN THAT OVERVIEW.

>> OKAY. THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU, MR. CHAIR. NEXT --

>> VICTOR CRIST: BEFORE WE MOVE FORWARD, THERE'S SOMETHING THAT I WOULD LIKE TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD UNLESS THERE'S AN OBJECTION.

I WOULD LIKE TO CALL MR. SEARCY UP TO THE PODIUM.

>> GOOD MORNING, SIR. I'M SORRY THAT I DIDN'T HAVE ANY PREPARED REMARKS TODAY THAT WERE WELL RESEARCHED AND DOCUMENTED TO BRING HIGHLIGHT TO YOUR MANY DECADES OF SERVICE AND EXPERTISE IN THIS INDUSTRY I KNOW THAT YOU LOVE. AND I APOLOGIZE.

>> THERE IS NO REASON TO APOLOGIZE. I AM STILL GOING TO BE SOMEWHAT INVOLVED, BUT I'M NOT GOING TO BE WORKING FULL-TIME AFTER 40 YEARS IN THE BUSINESS. WHICH HAS BEEN A GOOD LONG ADVENTUROUS RIDE, AND HAS BEEN A PLEASURE KNOWING ALL OF YOU AND WORKING WITH YOU AND I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ON OCCASION FROM TIME TO TIME IN THE FUTURE BUT I WAS BORN IN THIS INDUSTRY. MOST PEOPLE DON'T KNOW THAT BUT MY FAMILY HAD A SMALL CAB COMPANY IN ALABAMA,

AND MY UNCLES, MY FATHER AND GRANDFATHER ALL OWNED ABOUT THREE CARS APIECE. THEY HAD BETWEEN 12 AND 15 VEHICLES, AND THEY WERE RUNNING THAT, AND MY FATHER WAS RUNNING IT OUT OF A SERVICE STATION THAT HE OWNED. THEN WE MOVED FROM ALABAMA TO FLORIDA, AND GOT OUT OF THE BUSINESS, AND INADVERTENTLY GOT BACK IN THE BUSINESS IN 1976 AND SINCE THEN I'VE WORKED DIRECTLY WITH THE TAXICAB INDUSTRY SINCE THEN. SO.

>> VICTOR CRIST: HAULING PEOPLE OR HAULING LIQUOR?

>> WELL, THEY ACTUALLY HAULED LIQUOR TOO. [LAUGHTER] THAT IS A PIECE OF THE BUSINESS PEOPLE DON'T REALIZE. TAXICABS WERE CALLED TO DELIVER LIQUOR. THEY WERE CALLED ON TO DELIVER IT TO THE OF AGE CUSTOMER TO TAKE IT TO THE CUSTOMER. SO THAT IS NOT UNHEARD OF PIECE OF BUSINESS. IT'S KIND OF ANTIQUATED NOW. MOST PEOPLE DON'T DO THAT. BUT I APPRECIATE THE RECOGNITION, AND I APPRECIATE THE KIND WORDS OF LOUIE. LIKE I SAY I WILL BE SEEING YOU FROM TIME TO TIME. I WILL NOT BE AN ABSOLUTELY ABSOLUTE STRANGER BUT I WILL BE INVOLVED WITH NORTH COAST TRANSPORTATION BUT ON A LIMITED BASIS AND LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN THE FUTURE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND RECOGNITION. [APPLAUSE]

>> VICTOR CRIST: ANY COMMENTS?

>> NO CALLS ON THAT. I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE NO COMMENTS ON THAT. I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A POINT OF ORDER IF I MAY. IT SEEMS TO ME THAT IN ADDITION TO THE FINE REVIEW THAT KYLE GOT THAT THERE OUGHT TO BE A DISCUSSION OF AN INCREASE IN SALARY BECAUSE I KNOW COUNTY DIRECTORS AND SUCH WERE GETTING WHAT, 3.5 OR 3%, AND THAT WE OUGHT TO BE DOING THE SAME THING I WOULD THINK.

>> VICTOR CRIST: I BELIEVE WE'VE ALREADY DONE IT.

>> DID WE DO IT ALREADY?

>> VICTOR CRIST: KYLE, DID WE DO ANYTHING YET? I THOUGHT WE DID 3%?

>> NO, SIR, I THINK THAT WAS AT MY LAST EVALUATION. THERE HAS BEEN NOTHING FOR THIS ONE.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY, SO WE HAVE A MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION. DO WE HAVE A SECOND?

WE HAVE A SECOND. IS THERE DISCUSSION? SEEING NONE, ALL IN FAVOR OF GIVING KYLE A 3% INCREASE, SIMILAR TO WHAT WAS DONE WITH THE OTHER EMPLOYEES, SAY AYE. THOSE OPPOSED? YOU GOT IT, KYLE.

>> THANK YOU, MR. CHAIR. DID YOU HAVE SOMETHING YOU WANTED TO SAY? I WOULD LIKE TO SAY ONE THING, MR. SEARCY, THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE, AND YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO THE PTC, BUT I ALSO THINK AND I MAY BE WRONG ON THIS, MS. OSTER MIGHT BE ABLE TO BE A POINT OF REFERENCE BUT I ALSO THINK THERE WAS SOME REALLY GOOD NASCAR DRIVERS THAT WERE BORN OUT OF RUNNING MOON SHINE AND SUCH. BUT I WOULD DEFER TO MRS. OSTER ON THAT. BEING A NASCAR EXPERT AND I'M NOT.

>> VICTOR CRIST: LEGALLY DELIVERING ADULT BEVERAGES ISN'T RUNNING MOON SHINE. [LAUGHTER] WE WERE TALKING ALABAMA NOW, WE'RE NOT TALKING TENNESSEE.

>> YES, SIR. MOVING FORWARD THE RULES AND POLICIES COMMISSION MEETING WAS HELD ON JULY 6th. THE COMMITTEE APPROVED SOME PROPOSALS ACCEPTED THESE PROPOSALS. IN THOSE PROPOSALS WERE A PROPOSAL FOR SLOW MOVING VEHICLES TO EXIST HERE IN HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY AND CREATING A CATEGORY 4 OF THOSE SPECIFICALLY IN THE DOWNTOWN PARTNERSHIP FOOTPRINT. ADDITIONALLY TO THAT THERE WERE PROPOSALS TO INCREASE FINES, SPECIFICALLY THREE FINES ASSOCIATED WITH RULE 1-3, 1-4, AND 1-5. THAT WAS ALSO ACCEPTED AT THE COMMITTEE, AND THE THIRD AND FINAL ONE WAS A SERIES OF TNC RULE CHANGE PROPOSALS MADE BY MR. MARCUS CARTER REPRESENTING THE TNC DRIVE SOCIETY. THE RULES WERE PROPOSED IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHER PROPOSED TNC RULES THAT LINGERED FROM 2015 THAT HAVE BEEN TABLED. MRS. OSTER AND I ARE LOOKING AT THOSE, AND THOSE RULES ARE SLATED FOR THE NEXT RULES AND POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULED ON AUGUST 2nd. CHAIRMAN OF THAT COMMITTEE IS COUNCILMEMBER POGORILICH IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE ANY WORDS TO THOSE OR COMMENTS TO THOSE.

>> ONLY THAT AN ISSUE CAME UP ON THE INCREASING OF THE FINES, AND IN THE VEIN OF COOPERATION, WE HAVE TABLED NOT BROUGHT THAT TO THE FULL PTC BOARD FOR APPROVAL TO ALLOW TNCs TO COMMENT ON THAT RULES AND POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING. I WOULD STRONGLY SAY THAT WE WERE UNDER NO OBLIGATION TO DO THAT, BUT OUT OF, IN THE VEIN OF COOPERATION, WE ARE GOING TO TABLE THAT DISCUSSION UNTIL THE NEXT RULES AND POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING. THAT'S ALL.

>> ALL RIGHT. THANK YOU. SO THAT WAS JUST AN UPDATE. I DON'T THINK ANY ACTION IS REQUIRED BY THIS COMMISSION. THE NEXT ONE IS EXECUTIVE CAR SERVICE REVOCATION. IN FEBRUARY 2016 A REVOCATION HEARING WAS HELD TO ADDRESS ALL CERTIFICATE HOLDERS WHO WERE DELINQUENT IN PAYMENT OR HAD GONE OUT OF BUSINESS. THIS IS AN ANNUAL HEARING TO FORMALIZE A REVOCATION OF CERTIFICATE HOLDERS. HEARING OFFICER SUSAN MOORE AUTHORED A HEARING OFFICERS ORDER RECOMMENDING THAT THE LIST OF CERTIFICATE HOLDERS ON THAT LIST BE REVOKED. HEARING OFFICER MOORE RECOMMENDATION WAS APPROVED BY THIS COMMISSION DURING THE MARCH MEETING. DURING THE JUNE MEETING THIS COMMISSION APPROVED REINSTATING EXECUTIVE CAR SERVICE CERTIFICATE IN LIEU OF SUBMITTING A NEW APPLICATION AND AS HAS BEEN DONE IN THE PAST WE HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH MR. SOPEDA WHO OWNS THIS CAR SERVICE, AND THE LONG AND SHORT OF IT WAS HE WAS DELINQUENT HE HAD NOT PAID ANY OF HIS FEES. WE'VE GIVEN HIM OVER 30 DAYS TO COME FORWARD AND REMEDY THIS ISSUE. HE HAS NOT COME FORWARD TO REMEDY THIS ISSUE SO HE APPEALED TO YOU TO BE ABLE

TO REINSTATE HIS CERTIFICATE IF HE PAYED HIS FEES. IT'S BEEN OVER 30 DAYS AND HE STILL HAS MADE NO EFFORT TO PAY HIS FEES SO I WOULD REQUEST HUMBLY REQUEST THAT HE BE PLACED BACK ON THE REVOCATION LIST AND REVOKED IF HE'S NOT SHOWING ANY INTEREST IN KEEPING HIS COMPANY AFLOAT.

>> SO MOVED.

>> MR. SOPEDA I HAVE NOT SEEN HIM. HE WAS NOTICED OF THIS MEETING, SIR, AND NOTICED OF THIS ISSUE. WE HAVE BEEN IN CONSTANT CONTACT WITH HIM OVER THE LAST 30 DAYS.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY. WE HAVE A MOTION. WE HAVE A SECOND.

>> VICTOR CRIST: ALL RIGHT WE HAVE A MOTION WITH TWO SECONDS. NO DISCUSSION.

NO DEBATE. ALL IN FAVOR, AYE. THOSE OPPOSED? SHOW IT UNANIMOUS.

>> THANK YOU, MR. CHAIR. NEXT ON THE AGENDA IS HANDICAB CERTIFICATE, AMERICAN MED TRANS INC. I BELIEVE MR. JORDAN MILLER IS HERE TO SPEAK ON THIS ISSUE. AMERICAN MED TRANS INC. HEARING OFFICER JERRY FULLER RECOMMENDS GRANTING THE HANDICAB CERTIFICATE ALONG WITH THE PERMITS AND PTC STAFF CONCURS WITH THE HEARING OFFICER'S ORDER.

>> MAY I APPROACH THE -- [INAUDIBLE]

>> SURE, AND WILL I HAVE THREE MINUTES TO SPEAK? THAT'S WHAT I SEE MY TIME AS NOW.

>> THREE MINUTES OR MORE, BOARD? SINCE THIS IS A.

>> I WOULD REQUEST FIVE.

>> VICTOR CRIST: HOLD ON. WE HAVE A MOTION AND A SECOND. ALL IN FAVOR, AYE. FIVE MINUTES.

>> MY NAME IS JORDAN MILLER. I REPRESENT A HANDICAB PROVIDER. I SPEAK TO YOU TODAY TO OPPOSE THE HEARING OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION TO GRANT THE PERMITS ON THE BASIS OF A TOPIC THAT'S REALLY BEEN DISCUSSED QUITE FREQUENTLY HERE TODAY, AND THAT'S PUBLIC SAFETY. AS YOU ALL ARE PROBABLY AWARE, THE SPECIAL ACT HAS SEVERAL FACTORS THAT IT REQUIRES THE APPLICANT PROVE BEFORE THIS BOARD ISSUES A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY AND TWO OF THOSE ARE THE CHARACTER RESPONSIBILITY OF THE APPLICANT AND ANOTHER IS THE CATCH ALL THAT STATES ANY OTHER FACTS OR CIRCUMSTANCES THAT WOULD INDICATE WHETHER THE PROPOSED SERVICES IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST, AND I WOULD SUBMIT TO YOU THAT THIS APPLICATION IS NOT IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST DUE TO PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUES. IT CAME OUT IN THE HEARING AND THIS IS WHAT I HAD JUST HANDED TO YOU THAT THIS APPLICANT HAD BEEN ISSUED TWO SEPARATE CEASE AND DESIST LETTERS FOR OPERATING ILLEGALLY AS A HANDICAB FOR I THINK OVER TWO YEARS. THE FIRST WAS ISSUED IN JULY OF 2014. THE SECOND WAS ISSUED IN DECEMBER OF 2015. THESE LETTERS ARE UNAMBIGUOUS. THEY STATE THE APPLICANT WAS OPERATING ILLEGALLY AND I BELIEVE THE SECOND LETTER SAYS THEY MAY ADJOINED FOR APPLYING. THERE WAS DISPUTE AFTER THE HEARING ABOUT WHAT OCCURRED AFTER THE FIRST CEASE AND DESIST LETTER THAT WAS ISSUED. THERE WAS TESTIMONY ALLOWED IN OVER MY OBJECTION THAT SOMEONE FROM THE PTC MET WITH THE APPLICANT AND OPINED THAT THEIR SERVICE WORDS NOT UNDER THE PTC'S JURISDICTION BUT I BELIEVE THERE WAS NO DISPUTE THAT AFTER THE SECOND CEASE AND DESIST LETTER WAS ISSUED IN DECEMBER OF 2015, THAT THE APPLICANT KNEW THAT THEY WERE OPERATING ILLEGALLY AND THEY CONTINUED TO DO SO AND I BELIEVE CONTINUED TO DO SO TO THIS DAY AND DIDN'T ACTUALLY SUBMIT AN APPLICATION UNTIL APRIL OF 2016. SO ALMOST A YEAR AND A HALF AT A MINIMUM THEY WERE OPERATING KNOWINGLY ILLEGALLY. AND OF COURSE THIS MEANS THERE WERE NO BACKGROUND CHECKS ON THEIR DRIVERS, DRIVERS NOT CERTIFIED UNDER PVDLS WHICH WE HAVE DISCUSSED TODAY AT LENGTH REGARDING YOU KNOW TNCs AND ROGUE OPERATORS AS I BELIEVE THEY WERE DESCRIBED. THERE WERE NO VEHICLE INSPECTIONS AND THEY WEREN'T PAYING THE PTC FOR PERMITS SO I BELIEVE THESE ILLEGAL OPERATIONS UNDER THE SPECIAL ACT SHOULD DISQUALIFY THIS APPLICANT FROM BEING ISSUED A CERTIFICATE TO OPERATE HANDICAB SERVICES, ESPECIALLY GIVEN THE RECENT EXPLOSION WE'VE HAD IN THE HANDICAB INDUSTRY HERE IN THE LAST YEAR OR SO. JUST IN THE LAST MEETING 50 PERMITS WERE GRANTED TO A NEW APPLICANT AND THAT TOOK THE NUMBER OF HANDICAB PERMITS IN THE LAST YEAR TO 120% INCREASE. THAT'S MORE THAN DOUBLE SINCE 2015. AND I KNOW THAT WHEELCHAIR TRANSPORT SERVICES HERE TODAY ASKING FOR 35 NEW PERMITS TO SERVICE THE VA CONTRACT WHICH MY CLIENT WAS FORMERLY SERVICING AND NOW IS LOOKING FOR WORK BECAUSE WTS IS, IS SERVICING THAT CONTRACT. THAT WOULD BE 35 MORE PERMITS. THAT WOULD BE 168% INCREASE SINCE 2015. AND SO GIVEN THE ILLEGAL OPERATIONS OF THIS APPLICANT, THE EXPLOSION IN THE HANDICAB INDUSTRY, THEY'VE NOT ONLY NOT SATISFIED THE TWO CHARACTER AND FITNESS PRONGS OF THE SPECIAL ACT BUT ALSO THE ADEQUACY OF EXISTING SERVICE AND OTHER FORMS OF TRANSPORTATION, WHICH UNDOUBTEDLY ALREADY EXISTS, AND WE'RE JUST OVERSATURATING THIS MARKET. WE'RE DESTROYING THE REGULATED MARKET THAT THE SPECIAL ACT CONTEMPLATES, AND I WOULD JUST ASK WHERE DOES THE STOP. IF AN APPLICANT THAT'S BEEN OPERATING ILLEGALLY IS ALLOWED TO COME IN, YOU KNOW, I DON'T THINK THIS COMMISSION'S MANDATE IS A RUBBER STAMP ON THE HEARING OFFICER'S REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION. I BELIEVE THAT PUBLIC SAFETY SHOULD BE THE NUMBER ONE FOCUS HERE, AND THE SPECIAL ACT MIRRORS THAT MANDATE THAT THE PTC HAS SO I WOULD ASK YOU NOT MERELY RUBBER STAMP THE HEARING OFFICER'S BELIEF THAT THIS APPLICANT WAS NOT ACTING IN ANY KIND OF BAD FAITH. I BELIEVE THE EVIDENCE WAS COMPLETELY CONTRARY TO THAT. THEY DIDN'T SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR OVER A YEAR AFTER THEY KNEW THEY WERE OPERATING ILLEGALLY WHICH I BELIEVE

THEY CONTINUE TO DO SO TODAY AND AS SUCH I WOULD REQUEST THAT YOU DENY THIS APPLICATION.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY. WE HAVE A QUESTION. DAVE?

>> HAVE YOU EVER DRIVEN IN AN UBER? HAVE YOU EVER TAKEN ANY TNCs?

>> YES, I HAVE.

>> OKAY. THANK YOU.

>> MR. NOWAK IS HERE ALSO. COME FORWARD, PLEASE. HE REPRESENTS AMERICAN MED, AND I'M ASSUMING YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE COMMENTS.

>> YES, I'D LIKE FIVE MINUTES AS WELL, ALTHOUGH I THINK I COULD FINISH IN LESS THAN FIVE MINUTES IF MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION WOULD APPROVE THAT.

>> VICTOR CRIST: NO, IS THERE OBJECTION? SEEING NO OBJECTION. SO MOVED.

>> THANK YOU. AGAIN, MY NAME IS ERIC NOWAK. AS YOU ALL KNOW, THERE ARE MANY ELEMENTS TO THE SPECIAL ACT THAT THE HEARING OFFICER CONSIDERS, BUT BECAUSE ONLY THE ADEQUACY OF THE EXISTING SERVICE AND THE CHARACTER OF THE COMPANY WAS BROUGHT TO QUESTION BY THE PRIOR SPEAKER, THOSE ARE THE ONLY TWO ELEMENTS I'LL DISCUSS IN MY PRESENTATION. I WOULD LIKE TO NOTE THAT HEARING OFFICER FULLER CONSIDERED EVERYTHING THAT WAS JUST BROUGHT BEFORE YOU AND REJECTED IT AND NOTED THAT IT DIDN'T REFLECT ON THE CHARACTER OF THE APPLICANT. THE FIRST CEASE AND DESIST LETTER THAT AMERICAN MED TRANS RECEIVED, THEY CONTACTED THE PTC, THEY SAID COME OVER TO OUR FACILITY, TAKE A LOOK AT OUR VEHICLES. MEETOUR DRIVERS. HERE'S OUR INSURANCE POLICY, LOOK AT US, LET US KNOW WHETHER WE QUALIFY FOR REGULATION. MANY OF THE TRIPS THAT AMT PROVIDES ARE NOT FOR WHEELCHAIR BOUND PEOPLE. THEY'RE AMBULATORY SO THEY LOOKED AT THE STATUTE, THE SPECIAL ACT ALONG WITH A GENTLEMAN NAMED MARIO WHO THEIR HEARING OFFICER ACTUALLY DISCOVERED THE FULL IDENTITY OF HIM. I WAS NOT ABLE TO IN MY RESEARCH IN LOOKING FOR HIM BUT HE WAS A FORMER INSPECTOR FOR THE PTC. HE TOLD THEM AT THAT TIME AFTER THE FIRST LETTER THAT THEY DIDN'T NEED TO BE REGULATED. THAT THEY DIDN'T NEED A CERTIFICATE. AND SO THEY WENT ON WITH BUSINESS AS USUAL BELIEVING THAT THEY WEREN'T REGULATED UNDER THE SPECIAL ACT. AFTER THEY GOT THE SECOND LETTER IN DECEMBER 2015, THEY COMMUNICATED AGAIN WITH THE COMMISSION, WITH MR. COCKREAM, AND DISCUSSED THEIR CONCERNS UNDER THE STATUTE. THE STATUTE REQUIRES FOR THEM TO BE CONSIDERED A HANDICAB THAT THEIR DRIVERS ALSO SERVE AS ATTENDANTS. AND THEIR DRIVERS WEREN'T DOING THAT. THEY WEREN'T PROVIDING DOOR TO DOOR SERVICE. THEY WEREN'T WALKING THESE PEOPLE TO THE DOCTOR'S OFFICE. THEY ARE JUST DROPPING THEM OFF AND SO THEY HAD A STATUTORY ARGUMENT TO SAY HEY, WE'RE NOT REGULATED. AFTER DISCUSSIONS WITH MR. COCKREAM, THEY DECIDED TO BRING THAT ISSUE BEFORE HEARING OFFICER AND HAVE A HEARING OFFICER DECIDE ARE WE REGULATED AND IF WE ARE, THEN WE WOULD LIKE THE CERTIFICATE SO THAT WE COULD BE IN FULL COMPLIANCE. BUT AMT HAS AT ALL TIMES MAINTAINED AN OPEN BOOK WITH THE PTC, BEEN IN COMMUNICATION WITH THE PTK AND TRIED TO DO EVERYTHING THEY ASKED US TO DO. IF YOU READ HEARING OFFICER FULLER'S OPINION IT'S VERY DETAILED. WE PRESENTED EXPERT TESTIMONY. WE ACTUALLY HAD MICHELLE OGILVIE FROM THE HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION COME DOWN. SHE AUTHORED OR HELPED AUTHOR TWO STUDIES. ONE OF THOSE STUDIES SHOWS THAT ON A DAILY BASIS, HERE IN HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY THERE ARE 12,000 RIDES THAT GO UNMET, AND THOSE ARE FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED. AMT PROVIDES RIDES TO MEDICAID AND MEDICARE RECIPIENTS THROUGH A BROKER. THOSE PEOPLE ARE ALL TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED. SHE RENDERED THE OPINION AT THE HEARING THAT HALF OF THOSE 12,000 RIDES ARE MEDICAL IN NATURE. THAT MEANS OVER 6,000 RIDES A DAY GO UNMET FOR THE TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED. OUR COMPANY, AMT, PROVIDES THOSE RIDES. SO IF YOU ALL TODAY WERE TO DENY THEM THE CERTIFICATE, THAT NEED WOULD GROW BECAUSE THEY ARE PROVIDING THOSE SERVICES. BUT THEY ALSO IN CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS PRESENTLY WITH ANOTHER BROKER ONCE THEY RECEIVE THE CERTIFICATE TO EXPAND THEIR SERVICES SO THEY WOULD ALSO HELP TO FULFILL SOME OF THOSE UNMET RIDES EVERY DAY. AND UNLESS THE COMMISSION HAS ANY OTHER FURTHER QUESTIONS THAT I CAN ADDRESS, THAT WILL CONCLUDE MY COMMENTS. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR TIME AND CONSIDERATION.

>> VICTOR CRIST: ANY QUESTIONS?

>> IF I CAN MAKE A COMMENT AT THIS TIME, MR. MILLER HAS RAISED SOME ISSUES THAT PROBABLY WOULD'VE BEEN PROPERLY POSITIONED IN EXCEPTIONS THAT HE HAS A RIGHT TO FILE.

THE EXCEPTIONS WERE NOT FILED. THEY ARE REQUIRED TO DO THAT WITHIN FIVE DAYS OF GIVING THIS COMMISSION AT LEAST FIVE DAYS NOTICE, AND IN THAT REGARD, I WOULD SUGGEST THAT THOSE ISSUES THAT WERE RAISED OR OBJECTIONS THAT HE'S RAISED WERE PROBABLY WAIVED BY NOT FILING THOSE EXCEPTIONS. WITH THAT BEING SAID, YOU CAN CONSIDER THE ARGUMENTS THAT WERE MADE BY BOTH COUNSEL BEFORE YOU TODAY. ESSENTIALLY THE BURDEN IS ON THE APPLICANT TO ESTABLISH WHETHER PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY PROPOSED IN THE APPLICATION HAS BEEN MET.

THERE ARE SIX FACTORS THAT ARE TO BE CONSIDERED UNDER THE SPECIAL ACT THAT HAVE BEEN RAISED TODAY. ONE BEING ADEQUACY OF EXISTING SERVICE AND OTHER FORMS OF TRANSPORTATION FOR PASSENGERS. THE PROBABLE PERMANENCE AND THE QUALITY OF THE SERVICE BEING OFFERED BY THE APPLICANT. THE CHARACTER OF SERVICE PROPOSED BY THE APPLICANT. THE FINANCIAL EXPERIENCE



AND ADEQUACY OF THE APPLICANT. ANY OTHER FACT OR CIRCUMSTANCES THAT WOULD INDICATE WHETHER THE PROPOSED SERVICES IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST. THE HEARING OFFICER DID FIND THAT THE APPLICANT HAD MET ITS BURDEN AND TOOK INTO CONSIDERATION THESE FACTORS. THIS COMMISSION HAS THE OPTION OF AFFIRMING THE HEARING OFFICER'S REPORT, REVERSING THE HEARING OFFICER'S REPORT, OR MODIFYING THE HEARING OFFICER'S REPORT IN RECOMMENDATION. OF COURSE IF YOU AFFIRM IT, THEN THE PERMITS WOULD BE ISSUED TO THE APPLICANT.

>> OKAY, WE HAVE A MOTION TO APPROVE. SECOND. ALL IN FAVOR, AYE. THOSE OPPOSED? SHOW IT UNANIMOUS.

>> THANK YOU, MR. CHAIR. MOVING FORWARD, WHEELCHAIR TRANSPORT SERVICES APPLIED FOR 35 ADDITIONAL HANDICAP PERMITS. HEARING OFFICER JEFFREY FULLER RECOMMENDS GRANTING THESE PERMITS. I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE COMMENT THAT WHEELCHAIR TRANSPORT SERVICES IS ASKING FOR THESE PERMITS SO THEY CAN ADEQUATELY SERVE THE VA, WHICH THEY HAVE A CONTRACT FOR.

BUD IS IN THE AUDIENCE, THE OWNER OF WHEELCHAIR TRANSPORT IS IN THE AUDIENCE IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS FOR THEM CONCERNING THE ORDER.

>> WE HAVE A MOTION, WE HAVE A SECOND. ALL IN FAVOR, AYE. THOSE OPPOSED? SHOW IT UNANIMOUS.

>> THANK YOU, MR. CHAIR. EXCELLENT CAR TRANSPORTATION INC. HAS APPLIED FOR A LIMOUSINE CERTIFICATE AND TWO LIMOUSINE PERMITS. HEARING OFFICER TROY LUBBLE RECOMMENDS GRANTING THE LIMOUSINE CERTIFICATE ALONG WITH THE PERMITS AND PTC STAFF CONCURS, THIS WOULD REQUIRE A MOTION.

>> MOVE TO APPROVE.

>> VICTOR CRIST: WE HAVE A MOTION, WE HAVE A SECOND. ALL IN FAVOR, AYE. SHOW IT ADOPTED WITHOUT OBJECTION.

>> THANK YOU. AMERISTAR LIMOUSINE AND TRANSPORTATION HAS APPLIED FOR A CERTIFICATE AND PERMIT. HEARING OFFICER RECOMMENDS GRANTING THE LIMOUSINE CERTIFICATE ALONG WITH PERMITS. PTC STAFF CONCURS.

>> SECOND.

>> VICTOR CRIST: ANY DISCUSSION? SEEING NONE? SEEING NO OBJECTION, ALL IN FAVOR, AYE. THOSE OPPOSED? SHOW IT UNANIMOUS.

>> THANK YOU, MR. CHAIR. METRO TAXI OF TAMPA, LLC, HAS APPLIED FOR A TAXICAB CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY. THE HEARING OFFICER RECOMMENDS GRANTING THE TAXICAB CERTIFICATE. PTC STAFF CONCURS. THIS WOULD REQUIRE A MOTION TO MOVE APPROVAL.

>> VICTOR CRIST: WE HAVE A MOTION AND A SECOND. ALL IN FAVOR, AYE. THOSE OPPOSED? SHOW IT ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY.

>> MOVING ON, MR. THOMAS SMITH HAS SUBMITTED A REQUEST TO ADD TWO VEHICLES TO THE LIST OF ACCEPTED VEHICLES TO OPERATE IN THE LIMOUSINE CATEGORY. THE TWO VEHICLES PROPOSED ARE THE TOYOTA HIGHLANDER LIMITED EDITION AND THE TOYOTA PRIUS V. IT'S MY UNDERSTANDING THE PRIUS 4 AND 5 OR V IN THIS CASE COME STANDARD WITH UPGRADED INTERIOR AND LEATHER. THIS ITEM WAS TABLED FROM THE JUNE MEETING. IT WOULD REQUIRE ACTION BY THIS COMMISSION TO ADD OR NOT ADD THOSE VEHICLES TO THE LUXURY LIMOUSINE LIST.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY, COME FORWARD, PLEASE.

>> TOM SMITH, TAMPA BAY AIRPORT LIMO. AFTER DISCUSSING WITH A LOT OF PEOPLE, I'VE DECIDED TO WITHDRAW THE PRIUS. IT'S JUST THE NAME PRIUS SEEMS TO NOT GO WITH EVERYBODY. IT IS A LARGER PRIUS, IT IS MORE LUXURIOUS BUT PRIUS JUST DOESN'T SEEM TO APPLY. SO I WANT TO GO BACK TO THE HIGHLANDER. THE HIGHLANDER, WHICH KYLE INSPECTED. HE ACTUALLY INSPECTED BOTH OF THEM. HE INSPECTED THE HIGHLANDER LIMITED. IT'S EVERY BIT AS LUXURIOUS AND NICE AS AN ACADIA. IT IS TOYOTA'S VERSION, WHAT GMC DID IS THEY TURNED THEIR ENVOY AND TURNED IT CROSS-OVER AND RENAMED IT ARCADIA AND THAT'S WHAT'S ON THE LIST.

TOYOTA TURNED THEIR MIDSIZE SUV, THE HIGHLANDER, INTO A CROSS-OVER, AND THAT IS THE IDENTICAL THING. THEY'RE JUST AS NICE. IT'S A \$50,000 VEHICLE. AND KYLE INSPECTED IT. I DO WANT TO HOLD UP WITH THE HIGHLANDER BUT I'M DROPPING THE PRIUS.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY, IS THERE ANY DISCUSSION?

>> WHAT'S STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION?

>> YOU KNOW, IT'S A NICE VEHICLE. I MEAN, I GUESS IT'S REALLY LEFT UP TO THE INTERPRETATION OF DOES IT MEET A LIMOUSINE STANDARD OR NOT. I WOULD SAY IT'S, THE BLACK ON BLACK OR THE LEATHER INTERIOR, IT'S A NICE VEHICLE. VERY NICE VEHICLE, AND I WOULD RECOMMEND THAT WE CONSIDER ADDING THAT TO THE LIST.

>> IS IT COMPARABLE TO THE ACADIA?

>> YES, I WOULD SAY IT IS. I WOULD SAY IT'S NOT AS NICE AS THE SEQUOIA OR ONE OF THE UPPER LEVEL, BUT I THINK IT REALLY BOILS DOWN TO A MATTER OF IN INTERPRETATION OF THE INDIVIDUAL OF WHETHER YOU WANT THAT ON THE LIST NOW. THERE ARE LUXURY VEHICLES THAT ARE ON THE LIST NOW SO WE ALREADY HAVE THAT CATEGORY FILLED. IT'S REALLY JUST A MATTER OF INTERPRETATION BY THE INDIVIDUAL.

>> VICTOR CRIST: I'M GOING TO COMMENT.

FOR ME, MY WIFE DRIVES A VOLVO AND SHE DRIVES A TOYOTA HIGHLANDER TOP OF THE LINE. THE LIMITED. AND WHILE IT A LUXURIOUS, I WOULDN'T CONSIDER IT A LUXURY AUTOMOBILE PERSONALLY. I THINK TOYOTA'S LUXURY AUTOMOBILES ARE THE LEXUS. JUST LIKE NISSAN'S LUXURY AUTOMOBILES ARE THE INFINITI. AND WHILE BUICK IS A LUXURY CAR, GM'S LUXURY AUTOMOBILE IS THE CADILLAC. AND YOU KNOW, I'M SORRY TOM BUT THAT'S MY PERSONAL OPINION. SO I'M NOT WITH YOU ON THIS. I PERSONALLY FEEL IF YOU WANT TO RUN SOMETHING AS A LIMOUSINE YOU NEED TO CHOOSE THE FLAGSHIP OF THE MANUFACTURER, AND TOYOTA IS NOT THE FLAGSHIP OF TOYOTA. LEXUS IS.

>> JUST OUT OF CURIOSITY, WHY ARE YOU PUSHING THE HIGHLANDER?

>> WELL, FOR A SEVEN-PASSENGER VEHICLE, IT GETS 28 MILES TO THE GALLON, IT WAS PART OF MY THING WITH THE GREEN LIMOS. MY HIGHLANDER, WHEN I FIRST PUT IN THE GREEN LIMOS I PUT IN THE HIGHLANDER AND THE PRIUS V AS WHAT OTHER CITIES ARE USING AS GREEN LIMOS. THERE'S NO OTHER SEVEN PASSENGER THAT GETS 28 MILES TO THE GALLON. YOU CAN GET A HYBRID TAHOE AND IT GETS 19 INSTEAD OF 14. AND IT'S SEVEN PASSENGER. BUT THAT'S WHY I WAS PUSHING FOR THE HIGHLANDER AND THE PRIUS V TO BE THE GREEN LIMOS. NOBODY WANTS THE PRIUS, BUT THE HIGHLANDER IS, IT'S A VERY NICE CAR, AND WE ALREADY HAVE A TOYOTA ON THE LIMO LIST. THE TOYOTA, WHAT IS IT? THE AVALON. THE TOYOTA AVALON WHICH IS A NICE CAR TOO. I'VE TEST DRIVEN ONE. IT'S AS NICE AS A CADILLAC AND THE HIGHLANDER IS JUST AS NICE AS AN ACADIA. WHY BECAUSE IT'S TOYOTA WOULD IT BE A NO? IT'S A TOP OF THE LINE MOST LUXURIOUS VERSION OF A CROSS-OVER THAT TOYOTA HAS.

>> VICTOR CRIST: WHAT IS THE BOARD'S WILL HERE? IS THERE A MOTION OF SOME KIND?

>> TO THE DIRECTOR. YOU'VE INSPECTED THIS. DOES IT HAVE THAT FEELING OF BEING AN UPSCALE CAR?

>> THE MODEL THAT I SAW, WHICH WAS A LIMITED, ABSOLUTELY DOES. VERY NICE VEHICLE. I WOULD SAY IT DOES NOT COMPARE TO A LEXUS.

>> BUT IT DOES NOT HAVE THAT UPSCALE FEEL.

>> I PAID AS MUCH FOR THE LAWN MOWER AS I PAID FOR THE CAR I'M DRIVING RIGHT NOW, AND BEING SOMEONE USES A CLOTHESLINE RATHER THAN A DRYER, WASHES DISHES BY HAND RATHER THAN WITH A DISHWASHER, DOESN'T HAVE A TV, I AM GOING TO MAKE A MOTION THAT WE ADD THIS TO THE FLEET TO BE RECOGNIZED AS A GREEN VEHICLE.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY, WE HAVE A MOTION AND A SECOND. ANY DISCUSSION? ANY DEBATE. ALL IN FAVOR, AYE. OPPOSED? OKAY, ONE NAY, THE AYES GOT IT.

>> THANK YOU, MR. CHAIR. MOVING FORWARD TO THE PVDL APPLICANTS, MR. MARVIN FISHER, IF YOU WOULD STEP UP TO THE PODIUM FOR A MINUTE, PLEASE. MR. FISHER APPLIED FOR A PVDL, AND AFTER REVIEWING THE APPLICATION THERE WERE SOME CONCERNS ON THERE, WHICH IS INCLUDED IN YOUR BACKUP. MR. FISHER NOW IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU TO DISCUSS ANY CONCERNS THAT MAY BE IN YOUR PAST THAT ARE IN CONFLICT WITH PTC RULES AND THEN ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS THAT THE BOARD MIGHT ASK.

>> YEAH, YES, SIR. I HAD JUST RECENTLY WENT TO WORK FOR A LIMOUSINE COMPANY. I WENT THROUGH THE BACKGROUND CHECK AND EVERYTHING. I INDICATED TO THEM BACK WHEN I WAS A BONEHEAD TEENAGER, IT CAME UP. I WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT IT CAME UP. IT WAS SOMETHING THAT HAPPENED 30 YEARS AGO. I BEEN WORKING FOR A COMPANY FOR ABOUT TWO MONTH NOW. THEY SAY I'M DOING AN OUTSTANDING JOB AND EVERYTHING, BUT I JUST WANTED TO COME TO THE BOARD TO APPEAL THIS BECAUSE I BEEN A GOOD CITIZEN EVER SINCE, AND IT'S SOMETHING THAT HAPPENED 30 YEARS AGO.

I HAVEN'T BEEN IN TROUBLE SINCE AND I LIVED OVERSEAS FOR 16 YEARS IN FRANCE. I'VE MOVED HERE TO FLORIDA TWO YEARS AGO. I BEEN AN OUTSTANDING CITIZEN HERE, SO I LIKE THE COMPANY I DRIVE FOR. THE OWNER REALLY LIKES ME ALSO. SO THAT'S WHY I CAME HERE TO APPEAL THIS.

>> VERY GOOD, THANK YOU. I WOULD LIKE TO INDICATE THAT OUR RECORDS AND RESEARCH INDICATE THAT THERE HAVE BEEN NO INCIDENTS SINCE 1988.

>> MR. FISHER, THANK YOU FOR COMING HERE TODAY AND I'M GOING TO MOVE FOR APPROVAL OF THE LICENSE.

>> SECOND.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY, MOVE APPROVAL, SECOND. ANY DISCUSSION? ANY DEBATE? ALL IN FAVOR? THOSE OPPOSED? WELCOME.

>> THANK YOU.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY, MEMBERS.

>> MR. AUSTIN JOSEPH, COME FORWARD, PLEASE. MR. JOSEPH NOW WOULD BE A TIME FOR YOU TO DISCUSS WITH THE BOARD MEMBERS ANYTHING IN YOUR PAST THAT MIGHT BE IN CONFLICT WITH OUR EXISTING RULES.

>> GOOD MORNING, BOARD. THANK YOU FOR HAVING ME. YES, IN MY PAST 2002 BLEMISH CAME UP ON MY RECORD THAT IS RECOGNIZED BY THE PTC. I JUST WANT TO SAY THAT I'VE BEEN A LAW-ABIDING CITIZEN. I'VE WORKED FOR THE CITY OF ATLANTA FIRE DEPARTMENT. I JUST MOVED HERE RECENTLY. LOVE IT HERE IN TAMPA. WOULD LOVE TO WORK FOR THIS GENTLEMAN BEHIND ME. I THINK I'VE DONE AN OUTSTANDING JOB SINCE MY INCIDENT OCCURRED, AND FEEL FREE TO EVALUATE THAT AS YOU PLEASE,

AND I WOULD LOVE TO HAVE MY LICENSE AND DRIVE HERE IN TAMPA. THANK YOU.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY, ANY DISCUSSION? IS THERE A MOTION? IS THERE A MOTION TO APPROVE? IS THERE A SECOND?

>> EVERYTHING WAS DISCLOSED?

>> NO, SIR. EVERYTHING WAS NOT DISCLOSED. THERE WAS AN INCIDENT IN 2005 WHICH WAS DISCLOSED, AND TWO INCIDENTS, ONE IN 2010 AND 2011 WHICH WERE NOT DISCLOSED ON THE APPLICATION. THEY WERE NOT DISCLOSED ON THE APPLICATION.

>> I WOULD BE WILLING TO HAVE A PROBATION WITH APPROVAL.

>> I'LL RESCIND THAT MOTION AND REDO IT AS APPROVAL WITH A SIX-MONTH PROBATIONARY PERIOD.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY.

>> FINE WITH THAT.

>> VICTOR CRIST: WE HAVE A MOTION. IS THERE A SECOND? WE HAVE A DISCUSSION. ALL IN FAVOR, AYE. THOSE OPPOSED? SHOW IT UNANIMOUS.

>> THANK YOU SO MUCH.

>> MR. OSCAR LOPEZ IF YOU WERE PRESENT IN THE AUDIENCE IF YOU WOULD COME FORWARD, PLEASE. MR. LOPEZ, NOW WOULD BE A GOOD TIME FOR YOU TO DISCUSS WITH THE COMMISSION ANY THINGS THAT LINGER IN YOUR PAST THAT MIGHT BE IN CONFLICT WITH EXISTING RULES.

>> I WOULD. YES, I COME FOR THE SAME REASON TO GET THIS PVDL LICENSE. BASICALLY I HAD AN INCIDENT BACK IN 2005 WHICH Y'ALL KNOW ABOUT, AND I HAVEN'T HAD NO MORE INCIDENTS IN 10 YEARS OVER 10 YEARS. HOMING YOU ALL GIVE ME ANOTHER CHANCE. I GOT MR. BROOKS WILLING TO GIVE ME ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY. ABOUT IT.

>> VICTOR CRIST: IS THERE SOMEONE HERE WHO SPEAKS ON BEHALF OF YOUR BEHALF.

>> MR. BROOK NEGUSEI WHO OWNS LIMO EXCESS HERE.

>> GOOD MORNING, COMMISSIONERS. BROOK NEGUSEI. I JUST WANTED TO SAY I TALKED TO MR. LOPEZ EXTENSIVELY, AND I DID HE IS A GOOD GUY AND I'M WILLING TO GIVE HIM A CHANCE AND TO LET HIM DRIVE, YOU KNOW, OUR CUSTOMERS. SO.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY, ANY QUESTIONS.

>> KYLE, NOTHING PAST 2005?

>> NO, SIR, NOTHING SINCE 2005.

>> OKAY, I WOULD MOVE TO APPROVE.

>> SECOND.

>> DISCUSSION?

>> ISSUES WERE NOT DISCLOSED, AND THAT'S BEEN A STUMBLING BLOCK FOR ME. YOU DISCUSS THEM UP HERE TODAY AND THAT'S GRAND, AND WAS PREPARED TO VOTE AGAINST GRANTING A LICENSE, BUT WHEN BROOK CAME UP HERE AND SPOKE ON YOUR BEHALF, KNOWING THE CHARACTER OF THE MAN THAT YOU'D BE WORKING WITH, I WOULD BE OPEN TO AN APPROVAL WITH A PROBATIONARY PERIOD.

>> SO AMENDED.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY, YOU HAVE AN AMENDED MOTION WITH A SECOND.

>> EXCUSE ME, MR. CHAIR, GIVEN THE BREVITY OF THIS, I WOULD STRONGLY ENCOURAGE A 12-MONTH PROBATION VERSUS A 6-MONTH PROBATION.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY, WE HAVE A RECOMMENDATION.

>> JUST TO EXPLAIN TO ME AND EVERYBODY ELSE, WHEN YOU'RE ON PROBATION, HOW DOES THAT WORK? I MEAN, JUST WAIT FOR SOMETHING TO HAPPEN?

IS THERE ANY INTERMEDIATE DRUG TESTING OR ANYTHING?

>> THAT IS TYPICALLY DONE BY THE COMPANY NOT BY THE PTC.

>> OKAY WE MEET WITH THE PVDL DRIVER MONTHLY AND WE DO A REVIEW TO MAKE SURE THERE HAVE BEEN NO INCIDENTS AND LIKewise WE ARE IN TOUCH WITH THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER TO MAKE SURE THERE ARE NO PROBLEMS INTERNALLY AS WELL.

>> OKAY.

>> I'M ALSO WILLING TO IF ANY JUST TALK TO YOU ABOUT IT AND IF THERE IS AN INCIDENT.

>> MOTION BE AMENDED TO 12-MONTH PROBATION VERSUS A 6-MONTH PROBATION.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY, WE HAVE A MOTION FOR A 12-MONTH PROBATION. WE HAVE A SECOND. ANY DISCUSSION? ALL IN FAVOR, AYE. THOSE OPPOSED?

>> THANK YOU, MR. CHAIR.

THAT IS EVERYTHING THAT IS ON THE AGENDA FOR TODAY.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY. WE'VE COVERED A LOT OF GROUND. WE'VE DONE IT VERY QUICKLY AND WE'VE ACTUALLY HAD A VERY ENJOYABLE MEETING TODAY WITHOUT A LOT OF CONTROVERSY. SO MEMBERS, IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE FURTHER TO COME BEFORE THIS BOARD?

COMMISSIONER HIGGINBOTHAM, WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR REPORT AND PRESENTATION. AND STAFF IS SO DIRECTED TO WORK WITH COMMISSIONER HIGGINBOTHAM, AND WITH THAT, THEN GUIDO MOVES WE RISE.