

CAPTIONING  
MAY 10, 2017  
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING

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>> AL HIGGINBOTHAM: GOOD MORNING AND WELCOME.

THIS IS THE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10th, 9:03 A.M.

WOULD YOU PLEASE RISE FOR THE INVOCATION AND PLEDGE?

[PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE]

>> LES MILLER, JR.: OUR GRACIOUS AND HEAVENLY FATHER WE ARE SO GRATEFUL YOU TOUCHED US WITH YOUR LOVING HANDS TO ALLOW US TO SEE ANOTHER ONE OF YOUR BEAUTIFUL DAYS.

FATHER WE ARE THANKFUL FOR EVERYTHING YOU HAVE DONE FOR US.

WE ASK YOU TO BE WITH US TODAY AS WE MAKE DECISIONS TO MAKE THIS COUNTY A BETTER PLACE FOR ALL OF US TO LIVE, WORK, AND PLAY.

HUMBLE OUR HEARTS AND REGULATE OUR MINDS AS WE MAKE THESE DECISIONS, FATHER.

FATHER, WE ASK A SPECIAL BLESSING FOR STACY WHITE AND HIS FAMILY ON THE PASSING OF HIS FATHER LAST NIGHT UNEXPECTEDLY.

FATHER, WE KNOW THAT THEY ARE SAFE RIGHT NOW, AND IN MOURNING BECAUSE OF THE PASSING OF HIS FATHER.

BE WITH THEM, GUIDE THEM, COMFORT THEM, KEEP THEM, WRAP THEM IN YOUR LOVING ARMS, AND GUIDE THEM IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION, FATHER.

LET THEM KNOW THAT HE IS ON THE RIGHT HAND SIDE OF THE FATHER IN HEAVEN.

FATHER, WE LEAVE THIS PLACE, WE ASK YOU TAKE US BACK TO OUR HOMES, FIND EVERYTHING SAFE AND SOUND.

THESE AND ALL BLESSINGS WE ASK IN YOUR NAME, AMEN.

>> AL HIGGINBOTHAM: DO WE HAVE ANYONE WHO'S GOING TO BE SPEAKING BEFORE THE COMMISSION?

IT'S TIME FOR THE SWEARING IN OF WITNESSES OR SPEAKERS.

WOULD YOU PLEASE RISE AND BE SWORN?

[SWEARING IN]

>> AL HIGGINBOTHAM: THANK YOU.

NEED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.

ALL IN FAVOR, AYE.

MOTION PASSES.

WE HAVE FOUR SPEAKERS TODAY.

THE FIRST ONE IS JORDAN MILLER, LOUIS MINARDI, THOMAS SMITH, AND BROOK NEGUSEI.

MR. MILLER, WELCOME.

>> GOOD MORNING, COMMISSIONERS.

MY NAME IS JORDAN MILLER.

100 NORTH TAMPA STREET.

I'M WITH THE MILLS PASCART DIVERS LAW FIRM AND WE REPRESENT THE PLAINTIFFS IN THE DRIVE SOCIETY CASE.

I KNOW THAT YOU ALL CONSIDERED A SETTLEMENT PROPOSAL THAT OUR CLIENTS HAVE MADE AT THE LAST MEETING IN MARCH.

I'M HERE TO TRY TO CLARIFY MAYBE SOME MISUNDERSTANDINGS THAT I UNDERSTOOD MAY HAVE GONE ON DURING THAT DISCUSSION.

ESPECIALLY WITH RESPECT TO THE, THE \$65,000 PAYMENT COMPONENT THAT WAS PART OF THE SETTLEMENT.

MY UNDERSTANDING IS THERE MIGHT HAVE BEEN SOME MISCONCEPTIONS THAT THIS WAS A CASH OUT OR WINDFALL PAYMENT TO OUR CLIENTS, AND THAT'S NOT THE CASE.

THE MONEY THAT WE'RE REQUESTING IS PART OF THE SETTLEMENT IS PART OF OR COVERS MOSTLY THE ATTORNEYS' FEES THAT WERE INCURRED BY OUR CLIENTS WHO MIGHT TURN IN THE ILLEGALLY ENTERED INTO OPERATING AGREEMENTS WITH UBER AND LYFT BACK LAST YEAR, AND IF YOU WILL REMEMBER THE WHOLE BASIS FOR THE PTC ENTERING INTO THOSE TEMPORARY OPERATING AGREEMENTS IS THE EXISTENCE OF ONGOING LITIGATION WITH UBER AND LYFT. SO WE SAW NO OTHER RECOURSE TO FILE ANOTHER LAWSUIT TO TRY TO CHALLENGE THOSE TEMPORARY OPERATING AGREEMENTS IN COURT, AND SO IN OTHER WORDS, OUR HAND WAS FORCED TO FILE THESE SUITS.

THERE WAS NO FORMAL SETTLEMENT OFFERED FROM MY UNDERSTANDING MADE AFTER LITIGATION WAS COMMENCED.

WE HAD TO HAVE SEVERAL HEARINGS.

WE HAD TO ANSWER DISCOVERY FROM THE PTC'S OUTSIDE COUNSEL.

SO, YOU KNOW, ATTORNEYS' FEES WERE INCURRED AND CONTINUE TO BE INCURRED.

THERE'S A HEARING SET AT THE END OF THE MONTH, A STATUS HEARING IN FRONT OF THE JUDGE, AND THEN THERE'S A HEARING ON A MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT THAT WE HAVE FILED IN JUNE.

SO FEES CONTINUE TO OCCUR ON BOTH SIDES, NOT ONLY MY CLIENT BUT IN THE PTC'S ENGAGEMENT OF THEIR OUTSIDE COUNSEL.

SO I'D LIKE TO ASK THE BOARD TO RECONSIDER ITS DECISION IN MARCH NOT TO ACCEPT THE SETTLEMENT.

THE ATTORNEYS' FEES INCURRED SHOULD BE PAID IN OUR VIEW BECAUSE OUR HAND WAS FORCED TO TRY TO OVERTURN THESE ILLEGAL SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS OR THESE ILLEGAL OPERATING AGREEMENTS.

AND I HAVE FORWARDED THE SETTLEMENT OFFER TO MS. OSTER LAST NIGHT REITERATING OUR OFFER, AND I WOULD ASK YOU TO RESPECTFULLY RECONSIDER.

>> AL HIGGINBOTHAM: THANK YOU.

COUNSELOR, DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT ON THIS?

AND DO WE HAVE ANY OTHER PENDING SETTLEMENTS?

>> MR. CHAIR, WE DO NOT HAVE ANY OTHER PENDING SETTLEMENTS.

THIS PROPOSED OFFER WAS PRESENTED TO THE COMMISSION AT ITS MARCH MEETING, WHICH IT REJECTED.

IN SUMMARY, TWO POINTED I WANTED TO MAKE IN RESPONSE TO WHAT MR. MILLER HAS ADVISED IS, ONE, THERE WAS AN OFFER OF SETTLEMENT PREVIOUSLY MADE AT THE EARLY STAGES OF LITIGATION, WHICH WAS REJECTED BY THE PLAINTIFFS.

THAT WOULD CUT OFF ATTORNEYS' FEES THEY ARE ACCRUING AT THIS TIME. SECOND, I WOULD LIKE TO POINT OUT THE NATURE OF THE CASE IS INJUNCTIVE RELIEF IN WHICH ATTORNEYS' FEES ARE NOT TYPICALLY AWARDED.

THAT FORMULATED THE BASIS FOR OUR RECOMMENDATION TO REJECT THE SETTLEMENT OFFER AT THE MARCH MEETING.

OUR RECOMMENDATION IS THE SAME THAT WE REJECT THE SETTLEMENT OFFER. THIS IS THE SECOND TIME AROUND ESSENTIALLY.

I ASKED IF THEY WOULD REMOVE THE ATTORNEYS' FEES PART OF THE PAYMENT, AND THEY SAID NO THEY WERE NOT INTERESTED IN THAT.

WE ASKED IF THEY WOULD REMOVE THE \$65,000 MONETARY SETTLEMENT OR MONETARY PAYMENT AS A CONDITION OF SETTLEMENT, WHICH THEY REJECTED. THE OTHER TERMS I THINK ARE WORTH CONSIDERING, BUT THE MONETARY FIGURE IS IN OUR OFFICE'S OPINION NOT APPROPRIATE SINCE THIS IS NOT A MONETARY DAMAGES OR ATTORNEYS' FEES TYPE OF CASE.

>> MR. CHAIR, CAN I MAKE TWO QUICK POINTS IN RESPONSE?

>> AL HIGGINBOTHAM: GO AHEAD.

>> FIRST, THE ONLY SETTLEMENT OFFER I'M AWARE OF WAS MADE AT THE DAIS BY THE CHAIRMAN WHEN THE AGREEMENTS WERE ENTERED TO GIVE THE SAME DEAL THAT UBER AND LYFT GOT TO EVERYONE ELSE.

WELL, OF COURSE THOSE DEALS INCLUDED A LARGE LUMP SUM PAYMENT BY UBER AND LYFT THAT WOULD MAKE NO SENSE FOR OUR CLIENTS AND NO SUBSEQUENT OFFER TO MY KNOWLEDGE WAS EVER MADE OTHER THAN YOU CAN HAVE THE SAME THING.

AND SO WE WERE YOU KNOW, FORCED TO PROCEED WITH LITIGATION AND NO OTHER OFFERS WERE MADE.

>> AL HIGGINBOTHAM: ALL RIGHT.

I ANTICIPATE ONE MORE MEETING BEFORE WE MOVE TO THE NEXT CHAPTER, AND I'LL TALK TO COUNCIL ABOUT THIS.

AND POSSIBLY REVISIT THIS AT THE NEXT MEETING.

LOUIS MINARDI, WELCOME.

>> LOUIE MINARDI.

IF POSSIBLE I'D LIKE TO SAVE MY COMMENTS.

YOU ALL ARE GOING TO RECOGNIZE ONE OF MY DRIVERS IN A MOMENT.

I WOULD LIKE TO RESPOND TO THAT IF THAT'S OKAY WITH YOU ALL?

>> AL HIGGINBOTHAM: SURE.

TOM SMITH.

WELCOME, MR. SMITH.

>> HI, TOM SMITH, TAMPA BAY AIRPORT LIMO, CLICK A RIDE.

MY CONCERN IS JUST ABOUT THE NONLUXURY LIMO PERMITS.

WILL THEY CONTINUE?

WITHOUT THEM I HAVE NO WAY OF COMPETING WITH UBER AND LYFT.

THE THINGS THE STATE PASSED ARE BEYOND MY REACH.

JUST THE INSURANCE POLICY ALONE YOU NEED \$175,000 TO START IT.

THOSE RULES WERE SET FOR SOMEBODY WITH MILLIONS AND BILLIONS OF DOLLARS, AND SILICON VALLEY ANGELS FLYING DOWN WRITING BILLION-DOLLAR CHECKS, NOT FOR A LOCAL COMPANY.

I NEED THOSE NONLUXURY LIMOS TO REMAIN IN TACT IN ORDER TO BE ABLE TO COMPETE AGAINST THEM, AND I SEE RIGHT HERE IN THE CONSENT ITEMS YOU GOT TWO OTHER COMPANIES CUBA TRANSPORT AND AFFORDABLE MEDICAL ASKING FOR TWO NONLUXURY LIMO PERMITS, SO CAN WE MAKE THOSE PERMANENT ACTUALLY BEFORE WE GO INTO THE COUNTY AND AT LEAST GIVE US A CHANCE TO HAVE A LOCAL ITEM THAT GIVES US THE ABILITY TO COMPETE WITH THE BIG GIANT TNCs.

>> AL HIGGINBOTHAM: I AM GOING TO REFER THAT TO COUNSEL.

>> MR. CHAIR, I BELIEVE THERE MIGHT BE A PREEMPTION ISSUE. THE LEGISLATION THAT WAS JUST RECENTLY SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR I BELIEVE LAST NIGHT OR YESTERDAY PREEMPTS REGULATION OF TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANIES TO THE STATE EFFECTIVE JULY 1st. AT WHICH POINT THIS COMMISSION WOULD NOT HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO ADOPT ANY RULES ON A PERMANENT BASIS TO PROVIDE FOR TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANIES.

>> AL HIGGINBOTHAM: OKAY.  
BEST ANSWER WE CAN PROVIDE.

>> [INAUDIBLE]

>> AL HIGGINBOTHAM: ALL RIGHT, THANK YOU.  
LAST SPEAKER IS BROOK NEGUSEI.

>> GOOD MORNING, COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF.  
BROOK NEGUSEI, 4810 NORTH HALE AVENUE.

I WANTED TO KIND OF, I DON'T WANT TO ECHO WHAT THE COUNSEL HAVE SAID. BUT THE REASON THAT WE WENT TO SUE THE PTC TO GET THE SAME OPPORTUNITY WHAT LYFT AND UBER GOT LAST YEAR WAS THE CHAIRMAN IN HIS WORDS TOLD US FROM THE DAISES THAT WE ASKED HOW COULD WE GET THE SAME OPPORTUNITY, THE SAME DEAL, AND HE TOLD US ALL THEY HAVE TO DO, JUST SUE. SO IN MY MIND AT THAT TIME I THOUGHT MAYBE THAT'S A TECHNICALITY. WE JUST KIND OF HAVE COUPLE HUNDRED DOLLARS AND THEN GET THE SAME DEAL.

AND THAT WASN'T THE CASE.  
MOST OF YOU WERE THERE.  
JUST WANT TO CLARIFY THAT.

>> AL HIGGINBOTHAM: WAS THIS MATTER PUBLIC RECORD?

>> YES, MR. CHAIR.

I BELIEVE THAT WAS DURING THE DISCUSSION IN THE NOVEMBER MEETING. ALTHOUGH I THOUGHT IT WAS SORT OF A TONGUE IN CHEEK TYPE OF COMMENT, I'M NOT SURE THAT WAS SERIOUSLY COMMUNICATED.

HOWEVER, THE OTHER POINT THAT I WOULD WANT TO MAKE IS THAT IN THE UBER AND LYFT SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS, EACH PARTY PAID FOR THEIR OWN ATTORNEYS' FEES.

THERE WAS NO OTHER MONETARY CONSIDERATION PROVIDED AS PART OF AN ATTORNEYS' FEES OFFER.

>> AL HIGGINBOTHAM: ALL RIGHT.

DISCUSSION WITH COUNSEL AFTER MEETING ON THE MATTER AS WELL.

>> THE PROBLEM WITH THAT DEAL WAS UBER OPERATED THE LAST THREE YEARS WHERE WE PAID HUNDRED THOUSAND, I MEAN CLOSE TO 500, \$600,000, THE REST OF US.

UBER GOT A SWEET DEAL.

BASICALLY THEY JUST PAID ONE YEAR, THAT'S FOR 5 TO 10,000 DRIVERS, ABOUT \$250,000 FOR THREE YEARS WHILE WE PAID 550 EVERY YEAR FOR OUR VEHICLE.

SO THAT WAS IN ITSELF WAS REALLY UNJUST.

BUT TALKING ABOUT THE MONEY ISSUE BUT ANYHOW, THAT'S WHAT THE REASON WE DID.

I THINK WE'RE BEING TOLD TO DO THAT.

>> AL HIGGINBOTHAM: THANK YOU.

I HAVE NO OTHER SPEAKERS FOR AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION.

I NEED A MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT.

ALL IN FAVOR, AYE.

COUNSELOR.

>> I HAVE TWO ITEMS UNDER MY REPORT.

THE ONE IS IN REFERENCE TO THE DRIVE SOCIETY LAWSUIT THAT HAS BEEN UNDER DISCUSSION THIS MORNING.

JUST WANTED TO ADVISE THE COMMISSION THAT THE PLAINTIFFS HAVE FILED A MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT, WHICH ESSENTIALLY MEANS BASED ON THE FACT AS THEY STAND AND THE LAW THAT JUDGMENT SHOULD BE GRANTED IN FAVOR OF THE PLAINTIFF.

HEARING ON THE MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT IS SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 15th AT 9:00 A.M. THERE'S ALSO A STATUS CONFERENCE THAT MR. MILLER REFERENCED EARLIER, AND THAT'S SCHEDULED FOR MAY 30th, 2017, AT 9:00 A.M. AND AT THIS POINT IN TIME, OUR LITIGATION COUNSEL HAS ADVISED I THINK THEY WOULD BE SUCCESSFUL IN THE OUTCOME OF THIS LITIGATION. SO THAT WOULD CONCLUDE MY REPORT AS IT RELATES TO THAT PARTICULAR ITEM.

THE OTHER ITEM ON MY REPORT IS TO UPDATE A PUBLIC RECORDS LAWSUIT ON ANDREA FLYNN MOGENSON.

THAT LITIGATION IS MOVING FORWARD.

THERE IS A MOTION HEARING SCHEDULED FOR THIS FRIDAY MORNING AT 8:45 A.M. ON A SERIES OF MOTIONS FILED BY VARIOUS PARTIES.

THE PLAINTIFF AS WELL AS MR. COCKREAM THROUGH HIS ATTORNEY.

THESE MOTIONS ARE NOT DISPOSITIVE MEANING THAT THEY REALLY DON'T HAVE A TIME IMPACT ON THE CASE.

BUT IF ANY MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND THAT HEARING, IT'S IN FRONT OF JUDGE NIELSEN AT THE GEORGE EDGECOMB COURTHOUSE. IF YOU HAVE ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS ABOUT THAT, I'M HAPPY TO ANSWER THAT.

>> AL HIGGINBOTHAM: THAT'S MAY 12th.

>> YES, SIR, THIS FRIDAY AT 8:45 A.M. AND THAT WOULD CONCLUDE MY REPORT.

>> AL HIGGINBOTHAM: THANK YOU.

DIRECTOR'S REPORTS.

>> MORNING, COMMISSIONERS.

I WOULD LIKE TO START, IT'S NOT ON THE AGENDA BUT IF I COULD BRING UP YELLOW CAB, I WOULD LIKE TO PUBLICLY RECOGNIZE A NICE CIVIC DEED MR. FREEMAN ASSISTED WITH AT LAW ENFORCEMENT.

MORNING.

COMMISSIONERS, IF YOU MAY HAVE BEEN WATCHING THE NEWS ON APRIL 19th, MR. FREEMAN WAS CAUGHT ON VIDEO ASSISTING A TAMPA POLICE OFFICER APPREHENDING A SUSPECT ON HIMES.

I WATCHED THAT.

HE WAS INTERVIEWED ON TV.

HE WAS VERY ELOQUENT.

HE CAME TO OFFICER'S AID WHEN IN NEED.

I SENT MR. FREEMAN A LETTER THE VERY NEXT MORNING.

I'LL JUST READ IT IN PART.

MR. FREEMAN, I WANTED TO PERSONALLY RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND YOU FOR YOUR ACTIONS YESTERDAY IN ASSISTING THE TAMPA POLICE OFFICER WHO WAS IN DANGER DURING APPREHENSION OF A SUSPECT.

FROM THE NEWS MEDIA ACCOUNT YOU AND OTHERS RISKED YOUR OWN SAFETY AND QUICKLY CAME TO THE OFFICER'S AID AND POTENTIALLY SAVED THE OFFICER FROM SERIOUS INJURY OR WORSE.

THE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION AND THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE OWE YOU A GREAT DEAL OF GRATITUDE.

AND WELL DONE.

SO ON BEHALF OF THE TAXICAB INDUSTRY AND YOUR FELLOW DRIVERS, I INVITED YOU TO COME DOWN TODAY SO YOU CAN BE PUBLICLY THANKED BY THE COMMISSION AND EVERYONE HERE FOR YOUR BRAVE ACTS THAT DAY ON THE 9th. I APPRECIATE IT VERY MUCH.

[APPLAUSE]

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SAY ANYTHING?

OKAY.

MR. MINARDI, WOULD YOU LIKE TO COME UP?

>> I JUST WANT TO SAY A COUPLE EXTRA THINGS ABOUT RAY.

I KNOW YOU HAVE READ MOST OF IT IN THE NEWSPAPER, BUT HE ACTUALLY GOT OUT OF THE CAR AND JUMPED ON THE GUY, AND HELD HIM DOWN WHILE THE POLICE WERE GOING AND HE DIDN'T GET A CHANCE TO TELL HIS STORY, BUT WE'RE VERY PROUD OF WHAT HE DID, AND WANTED TO REITERATE ALSO WHAT THE CAB DRIVERS OVERALL DO.

A LOT OF TIMES THEY'RE OUT ON THE STREET REPORTING CRIMES.

THEY'RE THE FIRST TO THE SCENE, THE ACCIDENTS REPORTING, THINGS LIKE THAT.

SO TO ALL THE TAXICAB DRIVERS, I KNOW THEY'VE GOTTEN A BAD RAP OVER THE LAST FEW MONTHS ABOUT DIFFERENT THINGS, BUT OVERALL, THEY DO THEIR JOB, THEY DO IT VERY WELL.

AND FOR HIM TO RISK HIS LIFE TO JUMP OUT OF A CAR AND HELP THIS POLICE OFFICER, WE'RE VERY PROUD OF HIM, AND GLAD HE'S GOT THE RECOGNITION FROM THIS BOARD AND ALSO WITH THE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

BUT ALSO I WANT TO GIVE A CALL OUT TO DELORES LYLE, WHICH WAS THE OTHER WOMAN THAT ALSO JUMPED OUT AND BASICALLY SAVED HIM. AND GRABBED THE GUY'S FEET, AND WHILE RAY WAS WRESTLING THE OTHER GUY DOWN, AND TRYING TO GET THE COP BACK TO HELP THEM OUT. AND HE'S BEEN DOING A LOT OF INTERVIEWS AND STUFF, BUT ALSO DELORES DID A VERY GOOD JOB THAT THESE TWO WERE WILLING TO JUMP OUT AND RISK THEIR LIVES TO SAVE THE POLICE OFFICER. AND THANK YOU.

DO YOU WANT TO SAY ANYTHING?

>> I WILL SAY THIS IS THAT WHEN THIS HAPPENED, MY FATHER COMMITTED ME TO WHAT I HAD DID.

AND AFTER THAT, HE SAID DID YOU EVER THINK ABOUT YOUR SAFETY? AND TWO, THREE WEEKS LATER, IF THIS HAD HAPPENED, I WOULD DO IT AGAIN. IF IT CAME MY TIME TO GO AND I WENT BECAUSE, YOU KNOW, WE KEEP SAYING THE POLICE OFFICER, AND I KNOW HE WAS A POLICE OFFICER, BUT I THINK AS I TRIED TO EXPLAIN TO THE MEDIA, THAT WE'RE FORGETTING WE'RE TALKING ABOUT A HUMAN BEING.

I CAME TO THE AID OF A HUMAN BEING, AND THAT HAPPENS TO BE A POLICE OFFICER, AND IF ANY FLACK WERE TO COME BACK TO ME BECAUSE OF DOING THIS, BECAUSE I HAVE GOT SOME NEGATIVE COMMENTS ON FACEBOOK FROM PEOPLE FELT LIKE BECAUSE IT WAS A POLICE OFFICER AND MY ARGUMENT HAS BEEN THEN AND IT IS NOW, I SAVED A HUMAN BEING THAT HAPPENED TO BE A POLICE OFFICER.

AND I COULD'VE POSSIBLY SAVED MY OWN LIFE BECAUSE WHEN THIS GUY HAD HIT THE COP, HE LITERALLY HAD KNOCKED HIM OUT.

AND WHEN I SAW HIM REACHING FOR HIS HOLSTER, I KNEW THAT IF I DIDN'T STOP THIS GUY, HE COULD POSSIBLY HAD KILLED ME, KILLED HIM, KILLED EVERYBODY STANDING AROUND.

BUT I WOULD SAY THIS LAST THING IS THAT LOUIE MENTIONED THIS LADY DELORES LYLE.

SHE SAVED ME BECAUSE I HAVE A BAD BACK AND A BAD SHOULDER, AND THIS GUY WAS GOING TO GET AWAY.

AND THE POLICE WAS THERE.

HE WASN'T, HE JUST WASN'T WITH IT, AND BUT I WAS GETTING SO ANGRY BECAUSE YOU KNOW WHEN YOU'RE IN A SITUATION LIKE THIS, FIVE SECONDS SEEMS LIKE 30 MINUTES.

AND I'LL LAYING THERE AND I EVEN TOLD THE POLICE OFFICER, SHOOT HIM, NOT WITH A TASER BUT WITH HIS GUN, SHOOT HIM.

AND THE SAD PART IS 30, 40 PEOPLE FILMING ON FACEBOOK, FILMING WITH THE CAMERAS, AND NOBODY CAME TO HELP ME BUT A WOMAN.

WITH ALL THE TRAINING WE GO THROUGH AT YELLOW CAB, CPR AWARENESS, THERE'S NOTHING YELLOW CAB OR ANYBODY ELSE COULD'VE TRAINED ME FOR THIS.

IT'S THAT YOU EITHER HAVE A COMPASSION FOR HUMANS OR YOU DON'T.

I'M JUST GLAD I WAS THERE BECAUSE EVERYBODY ELSE WAS STANDING AROUND DOING NOTHING.

I CAME TO THE AID OF A HUMAN BEING, NOT A POLICE OFFICER.

A HUMAN BEING.

I WOULD JUST LIKE TO SAY THAT.

THANK YOU.

>> AL HIGGINBOTHAM: COMMISSIONER MILLER.

>> LES MILLER, JR.: SIR, LET ME THANK YOU PERSONALLY.

I REMEMBER THAT, AND THAT GENTLEMAN WAS GOING FOR THAT OFFICER'S GUN. AND BEING THE FATHER OF A TAMPA POLICE SERGEANT, MY SON'S A POLICE SERGEANT, POLICE OFFICERS GET A BAD RAP.

THERE ARE SOME OFFICERS OUT THERE THAT DO SOME THINGS THAT ARE JUST SILLY, BUT THE FACT OF THE MATTER IS IS THAT THIS OFFICER WAS DOING HIS JOB, AND HE GOT IN TROUBLE, AND YOU DIDN'T THINK ABOUT WHAT THE OUTCOME MIGHT'VE BEEN IF YOU JUMPED OUT THAT CAR.

YOU JUST WENT AND DID IT.

YOU SAID YOU WERE SAVING A HUMAN BEING'S LIFE THAT WOULD GO BACK HOME TO HIS FAMILY.

SO ON BEHALF OF THIS BOARD AND MYSELF AND OTHERS OUT THERE, THANK YOU FOR WHAT YOU DID.

YOU SAID IF YOU WOULD HAPPEN AGAIN, YOU WOULD DO IT AGAIN, AND I THANK THAT LADY WHO HELPED YOU.

THANK YOU FOR WHAT YOU DID.

THANK YOU FOR SAVING THE HUMAN BEING'S LIFE AND THANK YOU FOR SAVING A POLICE OFFICER'S LIFE.

YOU ARE TO BE COMMENDED.

THERE IS A SPECIAL PLACE FOR YOU IN HEAVEN.

THANKS.

[APPLAUSE]

>> AND I WANT --

>> AL HIGGINBOTHAM: AND I WANT TO SAY YOU'RE AN EXAMPLE OF WHAT'S RIGHT IN THIS COMMUNITY AND THIS INDUSTRY.

THERE'S BEEN A LOT OF TENSION AND BAD BLOOD IN THIS ROOM IN THE CHAMBERS WITH THIS BOARD.

I WISH THERE WERE MORE PEOPLE LIKE YOU WHO WOULD SHOW THE WAY AND INFLUENCE THROUGH EXAMPLE, AND YOU CERTAINLY HAVE SET AN EXAMPLE THAT WILL INFLUENCE OTHERS, INCLUDING MYSELF.

AND I'M JUST WANTING YOU TO KNOW FROM MY HEART TO YOURS I'M PROUD OF YOU, SIR.

YES, SIR?

>> AND ALSO JUST WANTED TO JOIN IN COMMENTING.

LET ME ASK YOU, DO YOU HAVE A SPOUSE, CHILDREN?

>> I HAVE FIVE KIDS.

>> THERE YOU GO.

I KNOW IF I WAS IN A SITUATION LIKE THAT THE FIRST THING I WOULD THINK OF BEFORE I INVOLVED MYSELF WOULD BE MY 10-YEAR-OLD SON BECAUSE IN A SPLIT SECOND THAT PERSON WHO YOU SAVED THE POLICE OFFICER FROM COULD'VE PULLED OUT A KNIFE, COULD'VE PULLED OUT A GUN AND YOUR FATHER WOULD'VE LOST A SON, YOUR KIDS WOULD'VE LOST A FATHER, ET CETERA, SO THAT'S THE FIRST THING I WOULD'VE THOUGHT OF, BUT I THINK, AND



I'M SURE THAT'S WHAT YOU THOUGHT OF TOO, BUT EVEN AFTER THAT, YOU WENT IN AND DID THE RIGHT THING.

IT'S IN THAT SPLIT SECOND WHEN WE CAN MAKE DECISIONS IN LIFE, AND YOU REALLY MADE THE RIGHT CHOICE.

SO I JUST WANTED TO COMMEND YOU FOR THAT.

AND TO THE EXTENT ANYBODY ATTACKS YOU FOR DEFENDING A POLICE OFFICER, JUST KNOW THAT YOU'RE RIGHT AND THEY'RE WRONG.

IN MY OPINION THEY CAN GO JUMP IN A LAKE, SO THANK YOU.

>> AL HIGGINBOTHAM: MR. JACKSON.

>> THANK YOU, MR. FREEMAN.

UNDER DIRECTOR'S REPORT, ITEM A, THE FY '17 PERMIT FEE COLLECTION UPDATE.

AS YOU RECALL ON THE MARCH 29th BOARD MEETING, I PUT ON A FAIRLY LENGTHY REPORT OR RECOMMENDATION FOR THE BOARD TO CONSIDER REDUCING FY '17 PERMANENT FEES.

THE BOARD ULTIMATELY DID THAT AND WE IMPLEMENTED A PROGRAM TO TRY TO BEGIN COLLECTING ON THOSE PERMIT FEES.

SO I WANTED TO PROVIDE AN UPDATE SO AS OF MARCH 29th AT THAT BOARD MEETING, WE ACTUALLY HAD 876 VEHICLE PERMIT FEES UNPAID AT THAT TIME. AFTER THE BOARD TOOK ACTION AND THEN STAFF GOT GOING ON A PROCESS TO BEGIN COLLECTING THOSE UNPAID FEES, THE INDUSTRY ALTHOUGH WAITED TO THE 11th HOUR BUT ALMOST EVERYBODY CAME IN.

WE'RE NOW DOWN TO JUST 114 UNPAID PERMIT FEES, SO IN THAT SHORT PERIOD OF TIME BETWEEN MARCH 29th AND YESTERDAY, WE MADE GOOD ON 762 VEHICLE PERMIT FEES, AND PART OF THE GOAL FOR THAT RECOMMENDATION ON MARCH 29th WAS TO TRY TO GET THE FY '17 BOOKS UP IN ORDER SO THAT WHEN WE HAVE A POTENTIAL DISSOLUTION OF THE PTC AND A TRANSITION TO THE COUNTY, THAT IN FACT WE DO HAVE A CLEAN SLATE AND WE GOT MOST PEOPLE UP TO DATE.

AND ALSO MAKE JUST A NOTE THE 114 UNPAID AS OF TODAY IT SOUNDS LIKE A LARGE NUMBER, BUT MANY OF THEM ARE VERY SMALL COMPANIES WITH JUST ONE, TWO, OR THREE PERMITS.

SOME WE ARE NOT EVEN SURE THEY ARE GOING TO CONTINUE TO OPERATE SO IT MAY ACTUALLY BE LESS THAN THAT.

EACH DAY WE FINALLY, EACH DAY WE GET SOME CONTACT FROM A CERTIFICATE HOLDER THAT MAY NOT WANT TO RENEW ONE OR TWO PERMITS ANYWAY.

SO WE'RE CONTINUING TO PUSH THAT AS WE CAN.

IN FACT, LAST WEEK OUR UNPAID CERTIFICATE HOLDERS, WE PRINTED OUT INVOICES.

I HAD INSPECTORS OUT IN THE FIELD WHILE THEY WERE DOING THEIR NORMAL WORK TO MAKE PERSONAL VISITS TO MAKE SURE THAT THEY RECEIVED THE UNPAID INVOICES, SO WE'RE DOING EVERYTHING WE CAN, AND I CERTAINLY TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO COMMEND STAFF FOR STEPPING UP AND MAKING THIS RESULT A POSITIVE ONE GOING FORWARD.

>> AL HIGGINBOTHAM: THANK YOU.

GOOD JOB.

>> ITEM B IS THE PTC TRANSITION UPDATE.

JUST I THINK EACH MEETING I COME I'LL TRY TO PROVIDE A LITTLE UPDATE ON THE TRANSITION OF THE PTC.

LEGISLATIVELY YOU KNOW THAT THE BILLS MADE THEIR WAY THROUGH. THE LOCAL BILLS AT THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE WAITING FOR SIGNATURE OR IF NOT THEN IT'LL BECOME LAW JULY 1.

SO I'VE BEGUN BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSION INDIVIDUAL BRIEFINGS WITH THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR.

MIKE MERRILL AND I HAVE VISITED SEVERAL OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS. THE LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS DIRECTOR BRANDON WAGNER AND I HAVE BEEN TO EACH OF THE CITIES ALREADY.

I WAS IN TAMPA YESTERDAY.

WE'VE DONE PLANT CITY AND TEMPLE TERRACE MEETING ONE ON ONE WITH THE CITY MANAGERS.

CITY ATTORNEYS OFFICE, EXPLAINING TO THEM THE OVERALL PROCESS THAT WE'RE GOING THROUGH TO TRANSITION THE PTC FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

SO WE'VE PROVIDED THEM THE BACKGROUND FOR THAT, AND WE'LL ENGAGE THEM GOING FORWARD AS WE BEGIN GETTING INTO MORE OF THE DETAILS ABOUT ANY ORDINANCES THAT WE BEGIN DRAFTING.

NEXT WEEK I THINK CINDY OSTER AND I ARE GOING TO BE AT THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL PLANNING COUNCIL MEETING, THEY MEET QUARTERLY.

THIS IS WHERE THE BLS BASIC LIFE SUPPORT AMBULANCE ENTITY WILL MOST LIKELY WIND UP.

SO WE'LL BE BRIEFING THAT COUNCIL NEXT WEEK.

NEXT WEDNESDAY I BELIEVE MAY 17th, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING ON THE AGENDA FOR TIME CERTAIN AT 11:00.

WE'LL BE AT COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR BRIEFING TO THE BOARD ON THE PTC TRANSITION: IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE THAT, THE TAX COLLECTOR DOUG BELDON WILL BE APPEARING AT 11:00 AS WELL.

THEY WILL PROVIDE A REPORT TO THE BOCC ON THE PROCESS AND ENGAGE THE BOCC IN OUT OF THAT MEETING WE EXPECT THE BOARD TO ASK THE COUNTY ATTORNEY TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE DRAFTING OF TWO ORDINANCES AND AMENDING OF ANOTHER.

IN FACT, IF I CAN GET KIMBERLY TO PASS OUT IF I CAN THE ACTUAL, THIS IS THE REPORT THAT WILL GO AS BACKUP TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR THE WEDNESDAY MEETING NEXT WEEK, SO EACH OF YOU CAN HAVE A COPY OF THAT NOW.

IT'LL BE PUBLICLY AVAILABLE I THINK ON FRIDAY THIS WEEK ON THE AGENDA PROCESS.

I CONTINUE TO MEET WITH INDUSTRY.

YESTERDAY I MET WITH THE TOWING ASSOCIATION AT THEIR MONTHLY LUNCHEON IN YBOR CITY, SO I HAD 25, 30 OF THEM IN THERE, AND I ENGAGED WITH THEM ON THE PROCESS INVOLVED THE TRANSITION.

SO I GOT A LOT OF FEEDBACK.

THEY ASKED ME FOR A COUPLE THINGS.

I ASKED THEM FOR A COUPLE THINGS, AND WE'LL CONTINUE TO DO THAT.

I DO THAT WITH A TAXICAB AND LIMO AND VAN INDUSTRY AS WELL.

IN FACT I THINK AFTER THIS MEETING, I'M GOING TO MEET WITH MR. MINARDI AGAIN.

HE'S KIND OF BEEN SPEARHEADING A LITTLE BIT OF THEIR COMMITTEE AND ENGAGING WITH ME ON SOME DETAILS GOING FORWARD.

SO TO THE EXTENT THAT WE HAVE INDUSTRY AS PART OF THE PROCESS, IT'S GOING TO BE SO, SO IMPORTANT, AND THAT'S MY PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY I THINK AT THIS POINT TO IS TO MAKE SURE THAT THEY'RE ENGAGED AND TO LISTEN TO THEM AND TO BRING FORTH THINGS THAT ARE IMPORTANT AND THEY WANT TO SEE IN THE TRANSITION.

AND LASTLY, ONGOING MEETINGS WITH OUR PARTNERS AND THE TRANSITION REPORT YOU'LL SEE WE'RE GOING TO HAVE BASICALLY THREE PARTNERS.

IT'LL BE THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S ORGANIZATION, THEN YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE THE TAX COLLECTOR AS THE CUSTOMER SERVICE PIECE, AND THEN WE'LL ENGAGE THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE AND A SMALL PORTION OF THE TOWING ORDINANCE GOING FORWARD.

SO THAT'S SORT OF THE UPDATE ON THE TRANSITION.

I'M HAPPY TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS THE BOARD MAY HAVE.

OTHERWISE, I'LL JUST CONTINUE TO BRIEF YOU AT THE MEETINGS OR INDIVIDUALLY AS YOU REQUEST.

>> AL HIGGINBOTHAM: I SEE NO QUESTIONS.

THANK YOU.

UNDER OLD BUSINESS, TNC EMERGENCY RULES, COUNSELOR?

>> GO AHEAD.

>> MR. CHAIR, THIS IS JUST SORT OF LIKE A PERFUNCTORY APPROVAL PROCESS THAT YOU HAVE TO TAKE IN TERMS OF ACTION ON THE EMERGENCY RULES. THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ACT REQUIRES YOU AND YOUR ACTUALLY SPECIAL ACT REQUIRES YOU TO RENEW THEM AT EVERY MONTHLY MEETING. AND THE COMMISSION HAS BEEN APPROVING THOSE ON A MONTHLY BASIS. THE PURPOSE OF WHICH WOULD BE TO ALLOW THE TNCs THAT ARE CURRENTLY OPERATING TO BE ABLE TO CONTINUE OPERATING UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THERE IS A POTENTIAL DISSOLUTION OF THE PTC.

>> AL HIGGINBOTHAM: ALL RIGHT, SO WE NEED A MOTION.

>> YES, SIR.

>> AL HIGGINBOTHAM: I'M ASKING IF WE NEED A MOTION.

SECOND.

ALL IN FAVOR, AYE.

MOTION PASSES.

THANK YOU.

>> COMMISSIONER, UNDER NEW BUSINESS WE HAVE A BOOKKEEPING ITEM. IT'S CORCORAN AND JOHNSTON'S CONTRACT, WHICH WAS THE BOARD APPROVED FOR \$96,000.

WHAT WE'RE ASKING FOR IS AN ADDITIONAL 24,000 REALLY JUST COMING FROM THE FY '17 BUDGET DUE TO THE FACT THAT THE FIRST THREE MONTHS WERE PAID OUT OF THE FY '16 BUDGET I BELIEVE.

SO IT'S ESSENTIALLY A PROCUREMENT PURCHASING CLERK REQUEST TO MOVE \$24,000 FROM ONE AREA INTO ANOTHER SO THAT WE CAN CONTINUE TO PAY THE CONTRACT FOR CORCORAN AND JOHNSTON.

SO IF WE CAN GET A MOTION TO DO THAT, THEN THAT WOULD CLEAN UP SOME BOOKKEEPING ISSUES.

>> AL HIGGINBOTHAM: NEED A MOTION TO APPROVE.

ALL RIGHT.

SECOND?

ALL RIGHT.

ALL IN FAVOR?

AYE.

MOTION PASSES, THANK YOU.

>> ITEM B IS A WAIVER REQUEST OF AFFARI TRANSPORTATION.

REQUESTING REALLY IT'S TWO WAVERS.

ONE IS THE RULE 1-80014C, A STRETCH LIMOUSINE MAY NOT BE OLDER THAN FIVE MODEL YEARS WHEN INITIALLY REINSPECTED TO BE PLACED IN SERVICE. AND THEN THE SECOND COMPANION RULE IS 1-80014E, A STRETCH LIMOUSINE IF CURRENTLY PERMIT COULD IN THE EXCEED 10 MODEL YEARS AT THE TIME OF ANNUAL INSPECTION.

SO WE'RE ASKING FOR A WAIVER REQUEST ON THIS 2005 FORD EXCURSION WITH ONLY 90,000 MILES.

WE ADD THE VEHICLE COME TO THE PTC.

I WENT OUT PERSONALLY LOOKED AT IT AS WELL AS AN INSPECTOR.

IT'S VERY NICE VEHICLE.

I HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO ISSUES WITH COMING INTO THE FLEET SO WE WOULD ASK THE BOARD TO PASS A MOTION TO WAIVE THE TWO RULES IN ORDER TO BRING THIS VEHICLE INTO THE FLEET.

>> AL HIGGINBOTHAM: SECOND?

ALL IN FAVOR, AYE?

MOTION CARRIES.

THANK YOU.

>> ITEM C, PUBLIC HEARINGS, WE HAVE THE FIRST ONE IS A VAN CERTIFICATE. VIAJE EXPRESS CORPORATION.

THE BACKUP IS INCLUDED IN YOUR AGENDA.

VIAJE EXPRESS CORPORATION HAS APPLIED FOR A VAN CERTIFICATE AND ONE UNRESTRICTED VAN PERMIT.

THE HEARING OFFICER TROY LOVELL RECOMMENDS GRANTING THE CERTIFICATE AND PERMIT AND THE PTC STAFF CONCURS.

>> AL HIGGINBOTHAM: NEED A MOTION TO APPROVE.

SECOND.

ALL IN FAVOR, AYE.

MOTION CARRIES.

THANK YOU, BOARD MEMBERS.

>> THAT CONCLUDES THE PUBLIC HEARING.

WE MOVE ONTO ITEM D.

WE HAVE TWO PUBLIC VEHICLE DRIVER'S LICENSE APPEALS.

BOTH OF THEM WILL BE EMPLOYED BY DTS RECOVERY.

ONE ACTUALLY IS THE OWNER JOSE CRUZ.

HE'S HERE TODAY, AND IF I ASK MR. CRUZ TO COME UP AND ALLOW HIM TO PROVIDE THE BOARD INFORMATION ON HIS APPEAL.

THEN YOU CAN MAKE A RECOMMENDATION.

>> AL HIGGINBOTHAM: WELCOME, SIR.

>> THANK YOU.

HOW ARE YOU?

I'M THE OWNER OF THE COMPANY OF THE CORPORATION DTS.

I'VE BEEN THE OWNER FOR ABOUT THREE OR FOUR YEARS.

I SPONSORED DRIVERS OVER THE LAST FOUR YEARS WHO'VE HAD PROBLEMS IN THE PAST.

I DID NOT -- I NEVER RECEIVED MY PVDL WHEN I INCORPORATED THE COMPANY. I REALIZED THAT I HAD TO HAVE IN ORDER TO MOVE CARS AROUND ON A PRIVATE IMPOUND.

SO WHEN I WENT TO DO THE PROCESS AND FILL OUT THE APPLICATION, THEY TOLD ME THAT THIS IS A PROCESS THAT NEEDED TO BE FILED BECAUSE OF MY HISTORY OF ANY CRIMINAL THING, ANYTHING I'VE DONE IN THE PAST HAD TO HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE PTC.

THEY DENIED IT AND SAID I HAD TO COME IN FRONT OF YOU GUYS AND ASK YOU FOR YOUR PERMISSION TO DO PVDL TO DO PRIVATE PROPERTY IMPOUNDS.

>> AL HIGGINBOTHAM: VERY GOOD.

I SEE STAFF RECOMMENDATION OF APPROVAL.

I NEED A MOTION, A SECOND.

CONGRATULATIONS.

>> SECOND ONE IS JOSE ROBLES.

IF MR. ROBLES IS HERE, HE MAY ADDRESS THE BOARD WITH HIS APPEAL.

>> GOOD MORNING.

I WORK WITH MR. CRUZ.

I HAD A RUN-INS WITH THE LAW A FEW YEARS AGO.

TURNED IT ALL AROUND.

BASICALLY FOUND A NEW CAREER.

SO TRYING TO GET MY PVDL SO I HAVE FOUR KIDS.

YOU KNOW, I JUST WANT TO GIVE THEM SOMETHING TO LOOK UP TO.

>> AL HIGGINBOTHAM: VERY GOOD.

WE HAVE NO OBJECTION FROM THE STAFF.

I NEED A MOTION TO APPROVE.

ALL IN FAVOR, AYE.

NOW TAKE CARE OF THOSE YOUNGINS.

>> THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

>> AL HIGGINBOTHAM: YES, SIR.

THERE'S NO OTHER BUSINESS.

WE'RE ADJOURNED.