

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Tuesday, July 8, 2003, the following members were present:

Bob Rowe, Chairman
Thomas J. Schneider, Vice Chairman
Greg Jergeson, Commissioner
Jay Stovall, Commissioner

Commissioner Brainard was absent but left written votes & proxy with Commissioner Rowe.

Kate Whitney, Administrator
Utility Division

(260) In the matter of Qwest Communication - Docket No. N2003.6.81; On June 19, 2003, Qwest filed tariff transmittal 03-16, which introduces new option B for Integrated T1 service. This option will provide up to 12 channels of advance voice channel and up to 12 channels of frame relay dedicated digital access on the same DS1 Circuit. Option B will be available as a 1 year option. Commissioner Stovall moved to approve the new option B for Integrated T1 service. Commissioner Jergeson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Commissioner Brainard voted aye.

(261) In the matter of Qwest Communications - Docket No. N2003.6.78; On June 16, 2003, Qwest filed tariff transmittal 03-15, Federal Telephone Assistance Plan (TAP) credit increase. This filing is the forth phase of the Coalition For Affordable Local And Long Distance Services (CALLS) order that was released on May 31, 2000. Included in the FCC filing is an increase to the residence subscriber line charge. The subscriber line charge increases from \$6.00 to \$6.50. The purpose of this filing is to increase the Federal Telephone Assistance Plan credit (ASGFX) from \$6.00 to \$6.50 (total Lifeline support amount from \$9.50 to \$10.00) to offset the \$.50 increase in the residence subscriber line charge. Commissioner Schneider moved to approve the Federal Telephone Assistance Plan (TAP) credit increase. Commissioner Stovall seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Commissioner Brianard voted aye.

APPEARANCE

Laura Calkin
Transportation & Centralized Services Division

(262) In the matter of T-03.29.PCN; On April 16, 2003 Marvin R. Black, Jr. dba Shelby Services, Shelby, Montana applied for a Class B certificate of authority authorizing passenger transportation between all points and places in Shelby, Montana and a 100 mile radius thereof. The application was noticed to the public on May 7, 2003 and protests were received. The parties in this docket have stipulated to the following authority.

Class B – Passengers between all points and places in Shelby, Montana and a 100 mile radius thereof. LIMITATIONS: 1) Transportation in limousine service is prohibited. 2) Transportation of rail crews is prohibited. 3) All transportation to Great Falls, Montana must terminate at the Great Falls International Airport, or the Benefis East Hospital Campus, or the Benefis West Hospital Campus or medical offices. 4) All transportation movements that originate in Cascade County must terminate outside that county. 5) Transportation is limited to seven (7) passengers or less.

Commissioner Jergeson moved to approve the authority. Commissioner Schneider seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Commissioner Brainard voted aye.

(263) In the matter of T-03.34.RI; On May 29, 2003, Titan Enterprises, Inc. dba Diamond Cab and Diamond Wheelchair Van, Great Falls, Montana filed for increased rates and charges in their Local Passenger Tariff No. 1 and Local Passenger Tariff No. 2, covering passenger transportation in Great Falls, Montana and a 150 mile radius thereof. These increased rates were between 5.9% and 127%. The rate increase was noticed to the public on June 9, 2003 and no protests were received. The increased rates are scheduled to take effect on July 12, 2003. Commissioner Schneider moved to approve the increase. Commissioner Jergeson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Commissioner Brainard voted aye.

(264) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes; Commissioner Stovall moved to approve the Commission Minutes for the week of June 30, 2003. Commissioner Schneider seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Commissioner Brainard voted aye.

APPEARANCE
Monica Tranel

(265) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Qwest – D2003.2.22; Commissioner Schneider moved to deny Qwest’s motion for reconsideration of Order No. 6493 and Qwest is directed to inform the Commission by July 16, 2003, in writing directed whether it will make a comprehensive filing fully compliant with the direction set forth in this Order. Commissioner Jergeson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Commissioner Rowe cast Commissioner Brainard proxy aye.

APPEARANCE
Kate Whitney

(266) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Qwest policy for application of its trouble isolation charge – N2003.7.88; Commissioner Schneider moved to prohibit Qwest from assessing the trouble isolation charge unless the company has determined with certainty that the source of the trouble that prompted the customer’s report is on the customer’s side of the network . Commissioner Stovall seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Commissioner Rowe cast Commissioner Brainard proxy aye.

APPEARANCE
Leroy Beeby

(267) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Southern Telephone – D2003.3.34; Commissioner Stovall moved to accept the Montana Consumer Counsel’s withdrawal of its Petition for Review and Determination of Rates and close Docket D2003.3.34. Commissioner Jergeson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Commissioner Rowe cast Commissioner Brainard proxy aye.

APPEARANCE
Leroy Beeby

(268) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Central Montana Communications – N2003.3.38; Commissioner Schneider moved to approve increase of rates. Commissioner Jergeson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Commissioner Rowe cast Commissioner Brainard proxy aye.

APPEARANCE

Martin Jacobson

(269) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Utility Services for a Natural Gas Supplier License – N2003.6.71; Commissioner Stovall moved to grant Utility Services a permanent natural gas supplier license for natural gas service in the State of Montana. This license is contingent upon the filing of audited financial information and an annual report to shareholders by one year from the service date of the Notice of Commission Action. Commissioner Jergeson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Commissioner Rowe cast Commissioner Brainard proxy aye.

APPEARANCE

Mike Lee and Martin Jacobson

(270) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Northwestern Energy Annual Avoided Cost Compliance Filing – D2003.7.86; Commissioner Schneider moved to approve increase on interim basis. Commissioner Stovall seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Commissioner Rowe cast Commissioner Brainard proxy aye.

APPEARANCE

Eric Eck and Martin Jacobson

(271) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of NWE Electric Default Supply Tracker Filing – D2003.6.77; Commissioner Schneider moved to instruct NWE to supplement its filing to address the prudence of cost included in the filing within 14 days. Commissioner Stovall seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Commissioner Rowe cast Commissioner Brainard proxy aye.

APPEARANCE

Martin Jacobson

(272) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of NorthWestern Energy requested findings for EWG status for Milltown Dam – D2003.2.25; Commissioner Schneider moved to direct staff to prepare a draft order. Commissioner Stovall seconded the motion, which passed 4-0. Commissioner Brainard didn't leave a vote.

APPEARANCE

Martin Jacobson

(273) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of PSC, Touch America, NWE implementation of HB 337 – D2003.6.76 & D2003.6.85; Commissioner Stovall moved to reject filing until additional information is received. Commissioner Jergeson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Commissioner Rowe cast Commissioner Brainard proxy aye.

APPEARANCE

Laura Calkin

(274) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of out of state travel; Commissioner Jergeson moved to approve out of state travel for Will Rosquist to attend Power Costs, Inc. Seminar, Portland, OR , July 30, 2003. (Northwestern will pick up travel expenses); and out of state travel for Moncia Tranel to attend the NARUC Summer Committee Meetings in Denver CO, July 27-31, 2003. Commissioner Stovall seconded

the motion, which passed unanimously. Commissioner Rowe cast Commissioner Brainard proxy aye.

APPEARANCE
Martin Jacobson

(275) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Brian Parks application for Limousine Authority – T-02.28.PCN; Commissioner Schneider moved to adopt draft order and deny application. Commissioner Jergeson seconded the motion, which passed 4-0. Commissioner Brainard didn't leave a vote.

APPEARANCE
Monica Tranel

(276) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of PSC v. Qwest – BDV 2002-397 (PSC D2000.2.21); Commissioner Schneider moved to close the work session. Commissioner Stovall seconded the motion, which passed 4-0. Commissioner Brainard didn't leave a vote.
Commissioner Schneider moved to authorize staff to make a counter offer to Qwest of \$100,000.
Commissioner Stovall seconded the motion, which passed 4-0. Commissioner Brainard didn't leave a vote.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned.

BOB ROWE, Chairman

THOMAS J. SCHNEIDER, Vice Chairman

MATT BRAINARD, Commissioner

GREG JERGESON, Commissioner

JAY STOVALL, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Ann Purcell
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Tuesday, July 11, 2003, the following members were present:

- Bob Rowe, Chairman
- Thomas J. Schneider, Vice Chairman
- Matt Brainard, Commissioner via phone
- Greg Jergeson, Commissioner

Commissioner Stovall was absent and didn't leave a vote.

(277) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of QLD – D2002.12.153; Commissioner Schneider moved to establish an additional issue for Montana specific costings for QLD. Commissioner Jergeson seconded the motion, which passed 3-1. Commissioner Schneider, Jergeson and Brainard voted aye. Commissioner Rowe dissented.

Commissioner Schneider moved to authorize additional interventions on the additional issue. Motion failed for lack of second.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned.

BOB ROWE, Chairman

THOMAS J. SCHNEIDER, Vice Chairman

MATT BRAINARD, Commissioner

GREG JERGESON, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Ann Purcell
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)