

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Tuesday, December 9, 2008, the following members were present:

Greg Jergeson, Chairman
Doug Mood, Vice Chairman
Brad Molnar, Commissioner
Robert H. Raney, Commissioner, via telephone
Ken Toole, Commissioner

APPEARANCE

Scott Fabel, Utility Division

(438) In the matter of N2008.11.135: Project Telephone. On November 24, 2008, Project Telephone Co. requested that the Commission allow Project Telephone Co. to waive the charges for the temporary installation of lines for Huntley Project School for the following: Central Office Charges, Service Order Charges, Line Connection Charges, Service Call Charges and Charges related to moving and changes of facilities.

Commissioner Molnar moved to APPROVE Project Telephone's request to waive the charges for the temporary installation of lines for Huntley Project School as stated. Commissioner Toole seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Wayne Budt, Administrator
Transportation & Centralized Services Division

(439) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes for the week of December 1, 2008.

Commissioner Toole moved to APPROVE the Commission Minutes for the week of December 1, 2008. Commissioner Mood seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Eric Eck, Utility Division

(440) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. D2008.11.129: NorthWestern Energy Accounting order for pension expense.

Commissioner Toole moved to APPROVE issuing the accounting order for NorthWestern Energy pension expense as drafted by staff in Docket No. D2008.11.129. Commissioner Mood seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE
Al Brogan, Legal Division

(441) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. D2008.6.69: NorthWestern Energy interest in Colstrip 4, consider and act on Montana Consumer Counsel's Motion for Reconsideration.

Commissioner Mood moved to DENY Montana Consumer Counsel's Motion for Reconsideration in Docket D2008.6.69. Commissioner Molnar seconded the motion, which passed 4-1. Commissioner Toole voted no.

(442) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. D2007.12.147: City of Great Falls complaint and request for declaratory ruling by the City of Great Falls, Benefits Healthcare System, and Electric Power, Inc.

Commissioner Jergeson moved to APPROVE the issuance of the circulated draft order as a final order subject to editing paragraph 38 with clarifying language and other minor edits in Docket D2007.12.147. Commissioner Raney seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE
Will Rosquist, Utility Division

(443) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. N2007.11.138: NorthWestern Energy Biennial Electric default supply resource procurement plan.

Commissioner Toole moved to APPROVE the issuance of written comments with the direction to staff to modify paragraphs 114 and 117 as directed by the Commission in Non-Docket No. N2007.11.138. Commissioner Raney seconded the motion, which passed 4-1. Commissioner Molnar voted no.

APPEARANCE
Justin Kraske, Legal Division
Kim Moran, Utility Division

(444) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. D2004.7.99, D2004.12.192, D2005.6.106: NorthWestern Energy natural gas and electric USB investigation.

Commissioner Toole moved to APPROVE and adopt the draft final order with minor editing changes in Docket Nos. D2004.7.99, D2004.12.192, D2005.6.106. Commissioner Raney seconded the motion, which passed 4-1. Commissioner Molnar voted no.

APPEARANCE

Justin Kraske, Legal Division
Lori Sandru and Phil Cooke, Consumer Division

(445) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. N2008.11.134: NorthWestern Energy Medical Emergency rule applications/payment arrangements.

Commissioner Molnar moved to ESTABLISH a payment schedule of the current billing amount for the winter months and to address the arrearage in the Spring of 2009 in Non-Docket No. N2008.11.134. Commissioner Toole seconded the motion, which passed 3-2. Commissioner Jergeson and Commissioner Raney voted No.

APPEARANCE

Justin Kraske, Legal Division
Lori Sandru, Vicki Duncan and Phil Cooke, Consumer Division

(446) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Medical Emergency memo which reviews and offers recommendations involving ARM 38.5.1411:

Commissioner Jergeson moved to INSTRUCT staff to prepare the memo for proposed rulemaking that would reflect option No.1 to include the impacted utilities and other state agencies and to convene a round table discussion. Commissioner Raney seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Will Rosquist, Utility Division

(447) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in joining other Northwest Public Utility Commissions in sending a letter to the Congressional delegation in support of increased Borrowing authority for BPA.

Commissioner Toole moved to APPROVE joining other Northwest Public Utility Commissions in sending a letter to the Congressional delegation in support of increased borrowing authority for BPA. Commissioner Raney seconded the motion, which passed 3-2. Commissioner Mood and Commissioner Molnar voted no.

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

GREG JERGESON, Chairman

DOUG MOOD, Vice Chairman

BRAD MOLNAR, Commissioner

ROBERT H. RANEY, Commissioner

KEN TOOLE, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Verna Stewart
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)