

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Monday, January 10, 2011, the following members were present:

Bill Gallagher, Chairman  
Brad Molnar, Vice Chairman  
Gail Gutsche, Commissioner  
Travis Kavulla, Commissioner  
John Vincent, Commissioner, via telephone

APPEARANCE

Kate Whitney, Administrator, Regulatory Division  
Al Brogan, Administrator, Legal Division  
Staci Litschauer, Administrator, Centralized Services Division  
Will Rosquist and Eric Dahlgren, Regulatory Division

(37) In the matter of House Bill 59 for the 2011 Legislative Session.

Commissioner Molnar moved to be an informational witness and to EXPRESS two concerns: one, the October 1st date, and the second with respect to the meaning of "typically reduced by seasonal water conditions" on HB 59. Commissioner Gallagher seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(38) In the matter of Senate Bill 109 for the 2011 Legislative Session.

Commissioner Molnar moved to MONITOR SB 109. Commissioner Gallagher seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(39) In the matter of Senate Bill 7 for the 2011 Legislative Session.

Commissioner Molnar moved to be an informational witness limited to issues discussed in this meeting in SB 7. Commissioner Kavulla seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(40) In the matter of Senate Bill 65 for the 2011 Legislative Session.

Commissioner Molnar moved to MONITOR SB 65. Commissioner Kavulla seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(41) In the matter of Senate Bill 104 for the 2011 Legislative Session.

Commissioner Gutsche moved to OPPOSE SB 104. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion, which failed 2 to 3. Commissioners Gallagher, Molnar and Kavulla voted Nay.

The discussion on SB 104 will be postponed until Tuesday.

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

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W. A. GALLAGHER, Chairman

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BRAD MOLNAR, Vice Chairman

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GAIL GUTSCHE, Commissioner

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TRAVIS KAVULLA, Commissioner

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JOHN VINCENT, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Verna Stewart  
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, January 11, 2011, the following members were present:

Bill Gallagher, Chairman  
Brad Molnar, Vice Chairman  
Gail Gutsche, Commissioner  
Travis Kavulla, Commissioner  
John Vincent, Commissioner

APPEARANCE

Kate Whitney, Administrator  
Regulatory Division

(42) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes for the week of December 20 and 27, 2011:

Commissioner Kavulla moved to APPROVE the Commission Minutes for the week of December 20 and December 27, 2011. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(43) In the matter of N2010.12.119: On December 17, 2010, Ronan Telephone Co. requested regulatory authorization to remove its tariffs for DSL and Internet services.

Commissioner Gallagher moved to APPROVE Ronan Telephone Company's request in N2010.12.119. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Eric Dahlgren, Regulatory Division

(44) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. TN2489: Triple S Disposal, Inc., request to split authority.

Commissioner Kavulla moved to APPROVE the split of PSC No. 4066 as requested in Docket No. TN 2489. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(45) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. TN 2490 - Triple S Disposal, Inc., - request to lease authority.

Commissioner Kavulla moved to APPROVE the request of Triple S. Disposal to lease the split portion of the authority to Miller's Garbage Service in Docket No. TN 2490. Commissioner Gallagher seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Kate Whitney, Administrator, Regulatory Division  
Bob Decker, Regulatory Division

(46) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. N2010.12.113: MDU request to reschedule round table.

Commissioner Gallagher moved to GRANT the extension to a date within late March or first week of April with the comment period to end one week prior to the date of the round table in Docket No. N2010.12.113. Commissioner Molnar seconded the motion, which passed 3-2. Commissioner Gutsche and Commissioner Kavulla voted Nay.

APPEARANCE

Kim Moran, Regulatory Division

(47) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of OMS Board of Directors meeting, January 13, 2011, - proxy to vote at meeting.

Commissioner Molnar moved to ASSIGN a back up voting proxy to either Brian DeKiep or Kim Moran for the purpose of voting at the OMS Board of Directors meeting on January 13, 2011. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Kate Whitney, Administrator, Regulatory Division  
Al Brogan, Administrator, Legal Division

(48) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of NorthWestern Energy's request for informational meeting.

Commissioner Vincent moved to DENY NorthWestern Energy's request for an informational meeting regarding its distribution infrastructure project. Commissioner Molnar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Jason Brown, Legal Division  
Bob Decker, Regulatory Division

(49) In the matter of the Commission's discussion to determine a format for renewable portfolio standard compliance filing from public utilities and competitive electricity suppliers as contemplated by Section 69-3-2005(6), MCA.

Commissioner Kavulla moved to ADOPT the forms drafted by staff as the format for RPS compliance filings subject to yearly updating of the year beginning in reporting year 2016 and

that it reflects a 15% RPS. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Brad Molnar, Vice Chairman  
Kate Whitney, Administrator, Regulatory Division  
Al Brogan, Administrator, Legal Division  
Will Rosquist, Regulatory Division

(50) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. D2009.9.129: Consider initiating a proceeding pursuant to §69-3-324,MCA, to investigate the rates, tolls, charges, rules practices and services of NorthWestern Energy subsequent to PSC Order 7046h in Docket No. D2009.9.129.

Commissioner Kavulla moved to POSTPONE this matter to February 1, 2011. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed 3-2. Commissioner Gallagher and Commissioner Molnar voted Nay.

APPEARANCE

Kate Whitney, Administrator, Regulatory Division

(51) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of out of state staff travel.

Commissioner Gutsche moved to APPROVE Eric Dahlgren's travel request to attend a required pipeline safety training class in Oklahoma City, OK, on February 15-16, 2011. Commissioner Kavulla seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(52) In the matter of House Bill 78 for the 2011 Legislative Session.

Commissioner Gallagher moved to SUPPORT HB 78 with staff amendments. Commissioner Kavulla seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(53) In the matter of House Bill 100 for the 2011 Legislative Session.

Commissioner Molnar moved to MONITOR HB 100. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(54) In the matter of Senate Bill 104 for the 2011 Legislative Session.

Commissioner Gutsche moved to OPPOSE SB 104. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion, which failed 2-2. Commissioner Gallagher and Commissioner Kavulla voted Nay. Commissioner Molnar was absent.

(55) In the matter of Senate Bill 104 for the 2011 Legislative Session.

Commissioner Gallagher moved to MONITOR SB 104 and communicate the Public Service Commission's concerns with the bill as written. Commissioner Kavulla seconded the motion, which failed 2-2. Commissioner Gutsche and Commissioner Vincent voted Nay. Commissioner Molnar was absent.

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

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W. A. GALLAGHER, Chairman

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BRAD MOLNAR, Vice Chairman

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GAIL GUTSCHE, Commissioner

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TRAVIS KAVULLA, Commissioner

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JOHN VINCENT, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Verna Stewart  
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 Wednesday, January 12, 2011, the following members were present:

Bill Gallagher, Chairman  
Brad Molnar, Vice Chairman  
Gail Gutsche, Commissioner  
Travis Kavulla, Commissioner  
John Vincent, Commissioner, via telephone

(56) In the matter of Senate Bill 104 for the 2011 Legislative Session.

Commissioner Kavulla moved to MONITOR SB 104. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(57) In the matter of House Bill 40 for the 2011 Legislative Session.

Commissioner Molnar moved to MONITOR HB 40. Commissioner Gallagher seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(58) In the matter of House Bill 120 for the 2011 Legislative Session.

Commissioner Kavulla moved to MONITOR HB 120. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(59) In the matter of House Bill 198 for the 2011 Legislative Session.

Commissioner Kavulla moved to MONITOR HB 198. Commissioner Molnar seconded the motion, which passed with a 3-2 vote. Commissioner Gutsche and Commissioner Vincent voted nay.

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

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W. A. GALLAGHER, Chairman

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BRAD MOLNAR, Vice Chairman

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GAIL GUTSCHE, Commissioner

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TRAVIS KAVULLA, Commissioner

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JOHN VINCENT, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Verna Stewart  
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 Thursday, January 13, 2011, the following members were present:

Bill Gallagher, Chairman  
Gail Gutsche, Commissioner  
Travis Kavulla, Commissioner  
John Vincent, Commissioner, via telephone

Commissioner Molnar was excused.

(60) In the matter of Senate Bill 145 for the 2011 Legislative Session.

Commissioner Kavulla moved to MONITOR SB 145. Commissioner Gallagher seconded the motion, which passed 4-1. Commissioner Molnar was absent.

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

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W.A. GALLAGHER, Chairman

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BRAD MOLNAR, Vice Chairman

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GAIL GUTSCHE, Commissioner

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TRAVIS KAVULLA, Commissioner

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JOHN VINCENT, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Verna Stewart  
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)