

Minutes for the week of July 30, 2012, 9:30am

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 31, 2012, the following members were present:

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

APPEARANCE

Judy Scheier, Assistant Commission Secretary

(227) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes for the week of July 16, 2012.

Commissioner Vincent moved to APPROVE the Commission Minutes for the week of July 16, 2012. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Kate Whitney, Administrator, Regulatory Division

(228) In the matter of out-of-state staff travel: Brian DeKiep and David Lofftus' travel to attend the PUC Energy Imbalance Market workshop in Tempe, AZ, Sept. 13-14, 2012.

Chairman Kavulla moved to APPROVE the out-of-state staff travel requests. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Mike Dalton, Regulatory Division

(229) In the matter of Docket No. N2012.7.73: On July 2, 2012, Montana Dakota Utilities gave notice of a new consumer utility bill format and requested approval of a change to Optional Seasonal General Gas Service Rate 72 (Service Rate 72). The proposed change to Service Rate 72 moves the method used to bill the cost of gas from a bills rendered basis to a service rendered basis at the time of the season change.

Commissioner Molnar moved to APPROVE Montana Dakota Utilities' proposed change to Service Rate 72 in Docket No. N2012.7.73. Chairman Kavulla seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Nickie Eck, Transportation Unit

(230) In the matter of Docket No. TN2547: William P. Jones d/b/a Executive Limousine Service, Missoula, MT requests permission to suspend PSC No. 9096 for a six month period, July 25, 2012 to January 25, 2013.

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Commissioner Gutsche moved to APPROVE the suspension of PSC No. 9096. Commissioner Gallagher seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Gary Duncan, Regulatory Division
Brenda Elias, Legal Division

(231) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Docket No. N2012.4.36: Project Telephone, Co., Mid-Rivers Telephone Co-op., Nemont Telephone Co-op, Triangle Telephone Co-op, and Central Montana Communications – Annual certification of Montana Eligible Telecommunications Carriers – protective orders.

Commissioner Gallagher moved to GRANT the co-ops' requests for protective order in their entirety; and GRANT that of Central Montana Communications with exceptions of ARC revenues, CAF revenues, and the access line information. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Mike Dalton, Regulatory Division

(232) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Docket No. D2012.5.59: NorthWestern Energy BPA Residential Exchange Credit Adjustment.

Chairman Kavulla moved to APPROVE NorthWestern Energy's application for the BPA Residential Exchange Credit adjustment and to issue a final order attached to the work session request. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Justin Kraske, Legal Division
Nickie Eck, Transportation Unit

(233) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Docket No. T-12.8.ST: Floaters Shuttle Service, LLC application for Sale and Transfer of PSC No. 9463.

Commissioner Vincent moved to DIRECT staff to contact the transferee through his attorney to get additional information and documentation for the Commission to review prior to making a decision on the application. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Brenda Elias, Legal Division
Nickie Eck, Transportation Unit

(234) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Docket No. T-12.2.PCN: Billings Yellow Cab Motion for Reconsideration of Commission's Final Order.

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Commissioner Gallagher moved to GRANT the Motion for Reconsideration. Commissioner Molnar seconded the motion, which failed 3 to 2. Commissioner Gallagher and Commissioner Molnar voting in favor of reconsideration. Chairman Kavulla, Commissioner Gutsche, and Commissioner Vincent voting against reconsideration.

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

TRAVIS KAVULLA, Chairman

GAIL GUTSCHE, Vice Chair

W. A. GALLAGHER, Commissioner

BRAD MOLNAR, Commissioner

JOHN VINCENT, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Judy Scheier
Assistant Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

