

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Tuesday, May 4, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., the following members were present:

James Brown, Chairman
Brad Johnson, Vice Chairman
Tony O'Donnell, Commissioner
Randy Pinocci, Commissioner
Jennifer Fielder, Commissioner

PUBLIC COMMENT
NONE.

ANNOUNCEMENT
James Brown, Chairman, District 3

Work Session Number 1 to discuss Legislative matters, and the Placeholder Legislative work sessions for May 5, 6, and 7, are cancelled.

APPEARANCE
Katy Gordon, Legal Division

(076) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes for the week of April 26, 2021.

Commissioner Pinocci moved to APPROVE the Commission Minutes for the week of April 26, 2021. Commissioner O'Donnell seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE
James Brown, Chairman, District 3

(077) In the matter of Gary Duncan and his years of service to the PSC.

The Commission recognizes and thanks Gary Duncan for his many years of dedicated service to the PSC. Mr. Duncan retired as of last Friday, after 17 years of service. It was noted that utilities and ratepayers owe him a lot for his hard work and dedication. He will be missed.

APPEARANCE
NONE.

(078) In the matter of Legislative – To discuss bills relevant to PSC mission, statutory authority, administrative process and general agency concerns; discuss PSC budget requests/presentation; consider staff analysis and recommendations; provide direction on PSC response to bills.

This work session was CANCELLED.

APPEARANCE
Lucas Hamilton, Legal Division

(079) In the matter of 2021.01.003 – Knerr, Inc. – Knerr, Inc.’s Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity – To consider Knerr, Inc.’s request for oral argument on summary judgment.

Commissioner Fielder moved to ALLOW oral arguments on summary judgment to be made during the hearing that will commence on June 2. Vice Chairman Johnson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE
Lucas Hamilton, Legal Division

(080) In the matter of Commission Initiated – Doney Crowley, P.C. – Complaint against North Central Montana Regional Water Authority – To consider acceptance of the complaint.

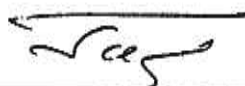
Commissioner Pinocci moved to ADOPT staff recommendation to decline to accept the Town of Kevin letter as a formal complaint at this time. Instead, the Commission shall direct the complainant to file an amended complaint that more closely adheres to the Commission’s procedural requirements and states with greater clarity the facts upon which the complaint is based. Commissioner O’Donnell seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE
Luke Casey, Legal Division

(081) In the matter of Commission Initiated – Commission Initiated – Rule Making Authority per HB 606 – To determine if the Commission should initiate Rule Making related to Advanced Meters and Advanced Metering Gateway Devices.

The Commission undertook a discussion of initiating rulemaking on HB 606 and the impact of that legislation on the current rulemaking related to implementation of HB 267 from the 2019 Montana legislative session. After Commission discussion, at Chairman Brown’s discretion, this work session was CONTINUED to the May 18, 2021, business meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 10:19 a.m.



JAMES BROWN, Chairman



BRAD JOHNSON, Vice Chairman

Tony O'Donnell

TONY O'DONNELL, Commissioner

Randall Pinocci

RANDALL PINOCCI, Commissioner

Jennifer O'Heller

JENNIFER MELDER, Commissioner

ATTEST:

for *Tina Shorten*

Patricia Trooien, Commission Secretary

