

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on January 20, 2015, the following members were present:

Brad Johnson, Chairman
Travis Kavulla, Vice Chairman
Kirk Bushman, Commissioner
Roger Koopman, Commissioner
Bob Lake, Commissioner

APPEARANCE

Aleisha Solem, Commission Secretary

(18) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes for the week of January 12, 2015.

Commissioner Lake moved to APPROVE the Commission Minutes for the week of January 12, 2015. Commissioner Koopman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Elizabeth Torske, Regulatory Division

(19) In the matter of D2015.1.1: Montana-Dakota Utilities Company's request to add Heating Zone 221 and 222 to their tariff.

Commissioner Kavulla moved to APPROVE MDU's request to add Heating Zone 221 and 222. Commissioner Bushman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Scott Fabel, Regulatory Division

(20) In the matter of D2014.12.98: Black Hills Power's quarterly fuel rate rider application.

Commissioner Bushman moved to APPROVE the application. Commissioner Kavulla seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Brenda Koch, Transportation Unit

(21) In the matter of TN2624: Bayside Disposal, Inc.'s request to continue the lease of PSC No. 9412 to the City of Cut Bank.

Commissioner Kavulla moved to APPROVE the lease of PSC No. 9412. Commissioner Bushman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Gary Duncan, Regulatory Division
Laura Farkas, Legal Division

(22) In the matter of D2014.11.91: CenturyLink QC's service quality.

Commissioner Kavulla moved to DENY the motion for protective order. Commissioner Lake seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Jason Brown, Legal Division

(23) In the matter of D2013.5.33/D2014.5.46: NorthWestern Energy's electricity supply tracker.

Commissioner Koopman moved to APPROVE the motion for protective order. Commissioner Lake seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Leroy Beeby, Regulatory Division
Jason Brown, Legal Division

(24) In the matter of D2014.12.96: NorthWestern Energy's 2015 Tax Tracker.

Discussion only, no action taken.

APPEARANCE

Leroy, Beeby, Regulatory Division
Jeremiah Langston, Legal Division

(25) In the matter of D2014.7.60: Cut Bank Gas Company's application for annual true-up of gas cost.

Chairman Johnson moved to GRANT the application. Commissioner Koopman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Laura Farkas and Jeremiah Langston, Legal Division

(26) In the matter of T-14.26.PCN: Big Sky Taxi's application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity.

Commissioner Lake moved to GRANT the motion to compel, vacate the hearing, and DIRECTED staff to issue an order to show cause to the applicant, delegating authority to staff to

dismiss the application if there is no response from the applicant by January 26, 2015. Commissioner Koopman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Commissioner Kavulla
Justin Kraske, Administrator, Legal Division
Jason Brown, Legal Division

(27) In the matter of delegating authority to staff to act as examiners.

Commissioner Kavulla moved to DIRECT staff to issue three notices of Commission action in proceedings currently underway, specifically Docket Nos. D2013.5.33/D2014.5.46, D2014.6.53, and D2014.8.72, AMEND the Blue Book to clarify that a staff attorney acting as examiner may dispose of discovery disputes and motions for protective order, and DIRECT staff to generally appoint examiners for these limited purposes through procedural orders on a going-forward basis. Chairman Johnson seconded the motion.

Commissioner Bushman moved to DIVIDE the question as to Docket No. D2013.5.33/D2014.5.46. Commissioner Kavulla seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The main motion passed 4 to 1. Commissioner Lake dissenting.

The motion in regard to issuing a notice of commission action in D2013.5.33/D2014.5.46 passed 4 to 1. Commissioner Bushman dissenting.

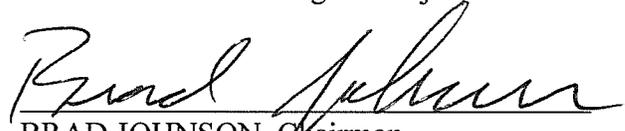
APPEARANCE

Kate Whitney, Administrator, Regulatory Division
Will Rosquist, Regulatory Division
Justin Kraske, Administrator, Legal Division

(28) In the matter of Legislative Bills.

Commissioner Bushman moved to SUPPORT HB 230. Commissioner Lake seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

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


BRAD JOHNSON, Chairman


TRAVIS KAVULLA, Vice Chairman


KIRK BUSHMAN, Commissioner


ROGER KOOPMAN, Commissioner


BOB LAKE, Commissioner

ATTEST:


Aleisha Solem
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 January 23, 2015, the following members were present:

Brad Johnson, Chairman
Travis Kavulla, Vice Chairman
Kirk Bushman, Commissioner via phone
Roger Koopman, Commissioner via phone
Bob Lake, Commissioner via phone

APPEARANCE

Kate Whitney, Administrator, Regulatory Division
Nickie Eck and Brenda Koch, Transportation Unit
Justin Kraske, Administrator, Legal Division

(29) In the matter of Legislative Bills.

Discussion only, no action taken.

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


BRAD JOHNSON, Chairman


TRAVIS KAVULLA, Vice Chairman


KIRK BUSHMAN, Commissioner


ROGER KOOPMAN, Commissioner


BOB LAKE, Commissioner

ATTEST:


Aleisha Solem
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)