

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on June 28, 2016 the following members were present:

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

Chairman Johnson was excused from work session item 109 and left his proxy with Commissioner Koopman.

APPEARANCE

Aleisha Solem, Commission Secretary

(104) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes for the week of June 20, 2016.

Commissioner Bushman moved to APPROVE the Commission Minutes for the week of June 20, 2016. Commissioner Koopman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Gary Duncan, Regulatory Division

(105) In the matter of N2016.4.36: 2016 FCC Mandated Intrastate Access Charge Fifth Step Rate Reduction.

Commissioner Bushman moved to APPROVE the intrastate access terminating access tariffs filed in Docket No. N2016.4.36. Commissioner Lake seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Mike Dalton and Gary Duncan, Regulatory Division
Laura Farkas, Legal Division

(106) In the matter of D2016.5.43: Hot Springs Telephone Company's request for interim order approving rate increase.

Commissioner Lake moved to APPROVE in part and DENY in part Hot Springs Telephone Company's proposed increase. The urban residential measured service rate class is approved on an interim basis, with interim approval to expire on July 30, 2016. The requested interim rate increases for all other rate classes are denied. Commissioner Bushman seconded the motion, which passed 3 to 2. Commissioners Johnson and Koopman dissenting.

APPEARANCE

Scott Fabel, Regulatory Division
Laura Farkas, Legal Division

(107) In the matter of D2015.7.52: NorthWestern Energy's 2015 Electricity Supply Tracker.

Chairman Johnson moved to ADOPT staff's recommendation for approval of the Interim Order. Commissioner Koopman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Dagan Lynch and Scott Fabel, Regulatory Division
Laura Farkas, Legal Division

(108) In the matter of D2015.7.53: NorthWestern Energy's 2015 Gas Supply Tracker.

Commissioner Kavulla moved to ADOPT staff's recommendation for approval of the Interim Order. Commissioner Lake seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Scott Fabel, Regulatory Division

(109) In the matter of D2016.6.51: Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.'s Fuel and Purchase Power Cost Tracking Rate 58.

Commissioner Koopman moved to APPROVE the Interim Order. Commissioner Kavulla seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Laura Farkas, Legal Division

(110) In the matter of D2014.12.99: Liberty Utilities Co.'s joint application for approval of a sale and transfer of stock.

MAIN MOTION: Commissioner Lake moved to APPROVE the Joint Stipulation and Settlement Agreement. Chairman Johnson seconded the motion.

Commissioner Kavulla moved to AMEND the main motion to strike the parenthetical language that appears in subsection 3 up to and including the Western Water holdings level, provide Mountain Water until the end of the day Thursday to agree to the change, and if no agreement is made to initiate a complaint in District Court on Friday. The motion died for lack of a second.

The main motion failed 2 to 3. Commissioners Johnson, Kavulla, and Koopman dissenting.

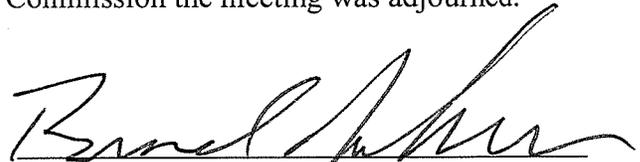
Chairman Johnson moved to ADOPT the Stipulation as written with the deletion of the words up

Minutes for the week of June 27, 2016 9:30 a.m.

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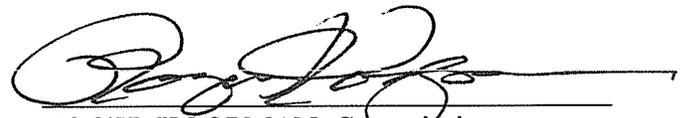
to and including Western Water. The motion died for lack of a second.

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:


Sandy Scherer
Administrative Assistant

(SEAL)

