

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 10, 2006, the following members were present:

Greg Jergeson, Chairman
Brad Molnar, Vice Chairman
Doug Mood, Commissioner
Robert H. Raney, Commissioner

Commissioner Thomas J. Schneider left his proxies with Commissioner Mood.

APPEARANCE

Kim Moran
Utility Division

(11) In the matter of Qwest Services Corporation December 28, 2005 filed request for approval of a Master Service Agreement between Qwest and Cendant Operations, Inc. This filing was submitted pursuant to Section 2.18, Volume and Term Discounts to Large Business Customers with a Multi-State Presence, of Qwest's Exchange and Network Services Tariffs. The MSA is the result of a competitive bidding process to provide Integrated Services Digital Network Primary Rate Service (ISDN PRS) and ISDN Single Line Service and/or Digital Switched Flat-Rate Business Line service- Docket No. N2005.12.180:

Commissioner Raney moved to approve the Master Service Agreement between Qwest and Cendant Operations, Inc. Commissioner Mood seconded the motion, which passed 4-0. Commissioner Schneider was not present.

APPEARANCE

Wayne Budt, Administrator
Transportation & Centralized Services Division

(12) In the matter of Peter Enterprises, Inc., Manhattan, Montana November 15, 2005 filed application for a permanent and temporary certificate of public convenience and necessity. The temporary application was granted and the permanent application was noticed to the public on December 7, 2005. No protests to the permanent application were received. The permanent grant will replace the temporary authority previously approved- Docket No. T-05.39.PCN:

Commissioner Raney moved to approve the grant of permanent authority. Commissioner Mood seconded the motion, which passed 4-0. Commissioner Schneider was not present.

(13) In the matter of Dick Irvin, Inc., Shelby, Montana requests permission to continue the lease of PSC No. 9392 to Irvin, Inc. & Mico, Inc. dba I&T Transfer, Shelby, Montana for a one year period, January 6, 2006 to January 6, 2007- Docket No. TN2297:

Commissioner Raney moved to approve the lease as requested. Commissioner Mood seconded the motion, which passed 4-0. Commissioner Schneider was not present.

(14) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes:

Commissioner Mood moved to approve the Commission Minutes for the week of January 3, 2006. Commissioner Raney seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Robin McHugh, Administrator, Legal Division

Gary Duncan, Utility Division

(15) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Qwest Amendment of 38.5.4111- the PIC change Charge rule- Docket No. L-05.11.6-RUL:

Commissioner Raney moved to adopt the proposed amendment certified to the SOS on November 28, 2005, to ARM 38.5.4111(2), modified to permit a separate charge on a customer bill for calls "one-half" charge identified at proposed amendment ARM 38.5.4111(2)(c). Commissioner Mood seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Robin McHugh, Administrator

Legal Division

(16) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of MDU 2005 Integrated Resource Plan- Docket No. N2005.9.139:

Commissioner Mood moved to approve the extension for comments requested by the Department of Environmental Quality to February 6, 2006 in Docket No. N2005.9.139. Commissioner Raney seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Martin Jacobson

Legal Division

(17) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Five Valleys Gas Company general propane rate case- Docket No. D2004.12.202:

Commissioner Mood moved to approve the stipulation agreement between Montana Consumer Counsel and Five Valleys Gas on an interim basis and issue a Notice of Hearing, and that Five Valleys notify the Commission by fax or e-mail of any monthly rate change. Commissioner Raney seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(18) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Vigilante Electric Cooperative and

NorthWestern Energy exclusive service agreement- Docket No. D2005.11.165:

Commissioner Raney moved to approve the exclusive service agreement in Docket No. D2005.11.165. Commissioner Mood seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(19) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of NorthWestern Energy Natural Gas Procurement Guidelines- Docket No. N2005.6.101:

Commissioner Raney moved to adopt the Natural Gas Procurement Guidelines in N2005.6.101 on an interim basis, and to approve the recommendation of Commissioners Schneider and Mood subject to minor editing. Commissioner Mood seconded the motion, which passed 4-1. Commissioner Molnar voted no.

APPEARANCE

Al Brogan, Legal Division
Leroy Beeby, Utility Division

(20) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Utility Solutions, LLCq Interim Initial Rates- Docket No. D2005.11.163 and D2005.11.164:

Commissioner Raney moved to adopt the Interim Initial Rates in the draft Interim Order in D2005.11.163 and D2005.11.164 subject to the indicated editing changes. Commissioner Molnar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Mike Lee
Utility Division

(21) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of the Organization of MISO States Board of Directors special meeting:

Commissioner Jergeson moved that Montana join in general agreement in support of these comments to FERC and that he be delegated authority to vote for or against any amendments that may be offered during the OMS board meeting today. Commissioner Molnar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Wayne Budt, Administrator
Transportation & Centralized Services Division

(22) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Budget/Case management/Travel:

Commissioner Raney moved to allocate \$15, 000 from consulting funds toward completion of the

Case Management system. Commissioner Mood seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

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

GREG JERGESON, Chairman

BRAD MOLNAR, Vice Chairman

DOUG MOOD, Commissioner

ROBERT H. RANEY, Commissioner

THOMAS J. SCHNEIDER, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Connie Jones
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)