

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Tuesday, June 16, 2009, the following members were present:

Ken Toole, Vice Chair
Gail Gutsche, Commissioner
Brad Molnar, Commissioner
John Vincent, Commissioner

Commissioner Jergeson was absent, but left his proxy with Commissioner Toole

APPEARANCE
Eric Eck, Utility Division

(227) In the matter of D2009.5.68: NorthWestern Corporation. On May 22, 2006, NorthWestern Corporation filed an application seeking authority to amend its Unsecured Credit Agreement.

Commissioner Vincent moved to GRANT NorthWestern's application to amend the existing Unsecured Credit Agreement. A Default Order has been drafted. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE
Wayne Budt, Administrator
Transportation & Centralized Services Division

(228) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes for the week of June 1, 2009.

Commissioner Gutsche moved to APPROVE the Commission Minutes for the week of June 1, 2009. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE
Jim Paine, Legal Staff
Phil Cooke, Consumer Division

(229) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Complaint No. 32771: John Vogeles complaint against Qwest.

Commissioner Molnar moved to DIRECT staff to set this matter for hearing regarding Complaint No. 32771. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Jim Paine, Legal Staff

(230) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. N2009.5.58: Lincoln Telephone Company motion for Protective Order re: employee compensation.

Commissioner Toole moved to ACCEPT Lincoln Telephone Companies motion for withdrawal of its motion for protective order in Docket No. N2009.5.58. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Ken Toole, Commissioner

Jim Paine, Legal Staff

(231) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Rulemaking for executive compensation: Commissioner Vincent moved to BEGIN the rulemaking process regarding disclosure of executive compensation. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed 4-1. Commissioner Molnar voted no.

APPEARANCE

Jim Paine, Legal Staff

Wayne Budt, Administrator

Transportation & Centralized Services Division

(232) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. T-08.40.com: Classic Limo complaint against Montana Mountain Express.

Commissioner Toole moved to NOT ACCEPT the order as drafted by staff in Docket No. T-08.40.com. Commissioner Molnar seconded the motion, which passed 4-1. Commissioner Vincent voted no.

APPEARANCE

Dave Burchett, Utility Division

(233) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. D2009.5.66: Energy West's request to convert Cascade and surrounding area from propane to natural gas and adjust existing rates.

Commissioner Toole moved to APPROVE the draft interim order on Energy West's request to convert the town of Cascade and surrounding area from propane to natural gas and adjust existing rates in Docket No. D2009.5.66. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE
Al Brogan, Legal Division

(234) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. D2009.5.62 and D2008.5.45: NorthWestern Energy motion to consolidate.

Commissioner Gutsche moved to GRANT NorthWestern Energy's motion to consolidate in Docket Nos. D2009.5.62 and D2008.5.45. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE
Justin Kraske, Legal Division

(235) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. D2009.1.9: Aqua Flo's request to suspend procedural order.

Commissioner Toole moved to APPROVE suspending the procedural order in Docket No. D2009.1.9. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE
Kate Whitney, Administrator,
Utility Division

(236) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Out of State travel for staff.

Commissioner Vincent moved to APPROVE out of state travel for Brian DeKiep to Boise, ID, July 22-23 for Northern Tier Transmission Group's stakeholder and joint committee meeting. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE
Wayne Budt, Administrator
Transportation & Centralized Services Division

(237) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of NRRI 2009 dues payment/lump sum payment to Sarah Carlson.

MOTION 1: Commission Vincent moved to APPROVE payment of remaining FY 2009 NRRI dues (\$3,750). Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

MOTION 2: Commissioner Vincent moved to APPROVE the payment of the one-time lump sum amount of \$450 to Sarah Carlson and include her in the group of employees receiving the one time payment. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned.

GREG JERGESON, Chair

KEN TOOLE, Vice Chair

GAIL GUTSCHE, Commissioner

BRAD MOLNAR, Commissioner

JOHN VINCENT, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Verna Stewart
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)