

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Tuesday, November 16, 2010, the following members were present:

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

Commissioner Jergeson was excused, and left his proxy with Commissioner Toole.

APPEARANCE
Kate Whitney, Administrator
Regulatory Division

(348) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes for the week of November 8, 2010.

Commissioner Gutsche moved to APPROVE the Commission Minutes for the week of November 8, 2010. Commissioner Toole seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Commissioner Jergeson voted Aye by proxy.

APPEARANCE
Jim Paine, Legal Division
Gary Duncan, Regulatory Division

(349) In the matter of D2010.5.55: IBEW Local 206 filed a Notice of Withdrawal from the CenturyLink/Qwest merger proceeding, Docket No. D2010.5.55, on October 29, 2010.

Commissioner Gutsche moved to APPROVE the withdrawal of IBEW Local 206 from Docket No. D2010.5.55. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Commissioner Jergeson voted Aye by proxy.

APPEARANCE
Scott Fabel, Regulatory Division

(350) In the matter of N2010.11.104: On November 3, 2010, Central Montana Communications requested changes to its tariffs.

Commissioner Vincent moved to APPROVE Central Montana Communications request to change its Tariff in Docket N2010.11.104. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Commissioner Jergeson voted Aye by proxy.

APPEARANCE
Eric Eck, Regulatory Division

(351) In the matter of D2010.11.103: On November 1, 2010, Montana Dakota Utilities Resources Group, Inc., applied for authority to issue over a two year period \$150,000,000 of short term financing in the form of unsecured promissory notes and/or commercial paper.

Commissioner Molnar moved to GRANT Montana Dakota Utilities Resources Group, Inc.'s application to issue up to \$150,000,000 of short term financing. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Commissioner Jergeson voted Aye by proxy.

APPEARANCE

Nickie Eck, Regulatory Division

(352) In the matter of TN2486: Mark A. Reavis & Nicole A. von Gaza d/b/a Butte Urban Safari Tours, Butte, Montana request permission to suspend PSC No. 9473 for a six month period, November 22, 2010 to May 22, 2011.

Commissioner Vincent moved to APPROVE the suspension as requested. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Commissioner Jergeson voted Aye by proxy.

APPEARANCE

Jim Paine, Legal Division

Gary Duncan, Regulatory Division

(353) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. D2010.5.55: Qwest/CenturyLink merger. Motion for ruling on hearing procedures.

Commissioner Gutsche moved to ACCEPT and issue the proposed order in Docket No. D2010.5.55. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Commissioner Jergeson voted Aye by proxy.

APPEARANCE

Justin Kraske, Legal Division

(354) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. D2010.9.90: Energy West Montana application to establish increased service rates. Motion for protective order.

Commissioner Vincent moved to GRANT Energy West Montana's request for protective order in Docket No. D2010.9.90. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Commissioner Jergeson voted Aye by proxy.

APPEARANCE

Kate Whitney, Administrator

Regulatory Division

Al Brogan, Administrator

Legal Division

Eric Eck, Regulatory Division

(355) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. D2008.8.95: NorthWestern Energy Mill Creek Generating Station. NorthWestern Energy's request for interim relief.

Commissioner Vincent moved to APPROVE NorthWestern Energy's request for interim relief including staff's additional language and to include a request to NorthWestern Energy to provide a separate flyer explaining the interim rate increase in its billing in Docket No. D2008.8.95. Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed 4-1. Commissioner Jergeson voted Aye by proxy. Commissioner Molnar voted no.

APPEARANCE

Nickie Eck, Regulatory Division

(356) In the matter of the Commission's discussion in Docket No. T-10.27.PCN: Shorty's Shuttle, LLC., certificate of public convenience and necessity.

Commissioner Vincent moved to APPROVE Shorty's Shuttle, LLC.'s, request for a PCN and grant the certificate with the following language:

Class B- Passengers in rate-regulated service 1) between all points and places in Musselshell County, and 2) between all points and places in Musselshell County and Billings Logan International Airport or medical facilities in Billings, Montana.
Limitation: All movements must originate or terminate in Musselshell County.

Commissioner Gutsche seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Commissioner Jergeson voted Aye by proxy.

APPEARANCE

Al Brogan, Administrator
Legal Division

(357) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of out of state staff travel.

Commissioner Gutsche moved to APPROVE out of state travel for Al Brogan to attend NARUC Winter Committee Meetings in Washington, D.C. on February 13-17, 2011 to participate in Subcommittee on Law planning for National Conference of Regulatory Attorneys to be held in Montana in June, 2011. Commissioner Vincent 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)