# GENERAL ADMINISTRATION AGENDA February 11, 2025 10:00 AM

Executive Director's recommendation to approve the Commission Meeting minutes for January 2025.

Executive Director's recommendation to approve Commissioner Christian Mirch to travel to and attend the 2025 NARUC Winter Policy Summit in Washington, D.C. from February 23, 2025 to February 27, 2025 with all expenses to be paid by the Commission.

# January 7, 2025

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Notice was duly published December 23, 2024, on page 8 of <u>The Daily</u> <u>Record</u> that the regular public meeting of the Commissioners of the Nebraska Public Service Commission would be held on January 7, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. in the Commission Hearing Room, 300 The Atrium, 1200 N Street, Lincoln.

Chair Commissioner Dan Watermeier called the regularly scheduled meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. with Commissioners Tim Schram, Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, and Kevin Stocker present in the Commission Hearing Room. Chair Watermeier stated that a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is posted in the meeting room and invited the public to address the Commission. No public comment was offered. No announcements were made.

Attention was called to the following proceedings:

# ELECTION OF COMMISSION OFFICERS

Election of Commission Chair. Motion made by Commissioner Dan Watermeier, seconded by Commissioner Kevin Stocker to elect Commissioner Tim Schram as Commission Chair. Motion passed with Commissioners Christian Mirch, Kevin Stocker, Tim Schram, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE, and Commissioner Eric Kamler present not voting.

Election of Commission Vice Chair. Motion made by Commissioner Christian Mirch, seconded by Commissioner Tim Schram to elect Commissioner Kevin Stocker as Commission Vice Chair. Motion passed with Commissioners Christian Mirch, Kevin Stocker, and Tim Schram voting AYE, Commissioner Dan Watermeier voting NAY, and Commissioner Eric Kamler present not voting.

At this point, Commissioner Schram accepted the gavel and chaired the remainder of the meeting.

# COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

**C-5069/ PI-226:** In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its own motion, to implement LB 641 (2019). Motion made by Commissioner Christian Mirch, seconded by Commissioner Eric Kamler to enter an Order approving 211 information and referral network grant, to United Way of the Midlands. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

**C-5609:** In the Matter of the Application of ImOn Communications, LLC, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, seeking authority to provide competitive local exchange and interexchange telecommunications services within the State of Nebraska. Motion made by Commissioner Kevin Stocker, seconded by Commissioner Christian Mirch to enter an Order approving CLEC and IXC application of ImOn Communications, LLC. Motion passed with

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Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

**C-5616:** In the Matter of the Application of Northeast Nebraska Telephone Company of Jackson, Nebraska, seeking authority to provide competitive local exchange and interexchange telecommunications services within the State of Nebraska. Motion made by Commissioner Eric Kamler, seconded by Commissioner Christian Mirch to enter an Order granting application. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

**C-5619:** In the Matter of the Application of Brian Samuelson, Polk, seeking authority to receive advanced telecommunications capability service from the Hordville Exchange of the Hamilton Telephone Company. Motion made by Commissioner Kevin Stocker, seconded by Commissioner Eric Kamler to enter an Order granting application. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

**C-5620:** In the Matter of the Application of Jared & Kelli Hodgson, Ayr, seeking authority to receive advanced telecommunications capability service from the Blue Hill Exchange of Glenwood Telephone Membership Corporation. Motion made by Commissioner Christian Mirch, seconded by Commissioner Eric Kamler to enter an Order granting application. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

NUSF-1, PO #6: In the Matter of the Commission, on its own Motion, seeking to establish guidelines for administration of the Nebraska Universal Service Fund: Consolidated Telephone Company. Motion made by Commissioner Kevin Stocker, seconded by Commissioner Christian Mirch Cullen Robbins seeks Commission approval to grant audit extension request to January 31, 2025 for the 2023 NUSF payment audit, otherwise due December 31, 2024. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

NUSF-33/ PI-68: In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its own motion, seeking to investigate the audit requirements related to the Nebraska Universal Service Fund. Motion made by Commissioner Eric Kamler, seconded by Commissioner Christian Mirch to enter an Order granting audit waiver requests. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

NUSF-92.62: In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its own motion, seeking to administer the Nebraska Universal Service Fund's Broadband Program: Application to the Nebraska Broadband Program received from N.E. Colorado Cellular, Inc. d/b/a Viaero Wireless. Motion made by Commissioner Eric Kamler, seconded by Commissioner Christian Mirch to enter an Order granting request to

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cancel awarded project. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

Report on telecommunications Complaints and Outages received by the Communications Department during the preceding month. Cullen Robbins informs the Commission of the Complaints and Outages received for December 2024.

# TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

**B-2113:** In the Matter of the Application of Comfort Cruise Mobility, LLC, Omaha, seeking authority as a common carrier in Nebraska intrastate commerce in the transportation of passengers in Open Class and service by sedan and SUV and in Charter service by bus, in and between points in Douglas and Sarpy counties over irregular routes. HHS Designation: Yes;

**B-2115:** In the Matter of the Application of Trusted Transit NEMT, LLC, Bellevue, seeking authority as a common carrier in Nebraska intrastate commerce in the transportation of passengers in Open Class service by sedan, SUV, and van between all points in Nebraska over irregular routes. HHS Designation: Yes; and

**B-2123:** In the Matter of the Application of ZOGAR Wheels, LLC, Omaha, seeking authority as a contract carrier in Nebraska intrastate commerce in the transportation of passengers in Open Class service by van between all points in Nebraska over irregular routes, pursuant to a contract with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, a medicaid-managed care organization under contract with NDHHS, or another agent working on behalf of NDHHS. HHS Designation: Yes. Motion made by Commissioner Christian Mirch, seconded by Commissioner Kevin Stocker to enter an Order of Pending Dismissal. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

**B-2125:** In the Matter of the Application of MEC Consulting, LLC, Bellevue, seeking authority as a common carrier in Nebraska intrastate commerce in the transportation of passengers in Open Class service by sedan, van, and SUV, in and between points in Cass, Douglas, Sarpy, and Washington counties over irregular routes. HHS Designation: No. Motion made by Commissioner Dan Watermeier, seconded by Commissioner Eric Kamler to enter an Order Granting Application. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

**B-2106.01r**: In the Matter of the Application of Lincoln VIP Rides, LLC, Lincoln, seeking to establish its rates and charges subject to the Provisions of Neb. Rev. Stat. Chapter 75, Articles 1 and 3. Motion made by Commissioner Christian Mirch, seconded by Commissioner Kevin Stocker to enter an Order Granting Rates. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

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In the Matter of railroad employee carrier license renewals for 2025. Dillon Keiffer-Johnson reports that Railcrew Xpress, LLC and Renzenberger, Inc. completed their renewals.

In the Matter of completed Household Goods Mover License renewals. Dillon Keiffer-Johnson reports on the renewals of Maxx Moving Hauling & Delivery LLC ML-56 and Flat Rate Movers Black Belt Movers ML-19.

#### GRAIN DEPARTMENT

**GW-19:** In the Matter of the Application of J.E. Meuret Grain Co., Inc., Brunswick, Nebraska requesting a deductible on its stock insurance higher than \$10,000;

**GW-405:** In the Matter of the Application of Farmers Cooperative, Pilger, Nebraska requesting a deductible on its stock insurance higher than \$10,000;

**GW-697:** In the Matter of the Application of Ochsner Grain Co., Inc., Madison, Nebraska requesting a deductible on its stock insurance higher than \$10,000; and

**GW-2190:** In the Matter of the Application of Manning Grain Company, Burress, Nebraska requesting a deductible on its stock insurance higher than \$10,000. Motion made by Commissioner Kevin Stocker, seconded by Commissioner Christian Mirch to enter an Order granting application. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

**GWC-461:** In the Matter of Terri Fritz, Director, Grain Warehouse and Grain Dealer Departments of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, Complainant, v. NSG Logistics, LLC & The Anderson's Inc., Respondents. Motion made by Commissioner Dan Watermeier, seconded by Commissioner Eric Kamler Terri Fritz, requests Commission approval to open Complaint against NSG Logistics, LLC & The Anderson's Inc. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

**GW-697:** In the Matter of Ochsner Grain Co., Inc. Madison, Nebraska: Terri Fritz reports on the shortage of soybeans.

**GW-1119:** In the Matter of Trotter, Inc., Arcadia, Nebraska: Terri Fritz reports on the shortage of Oats.

**GW-1036 et al.:** In the Matter of the attached list of completed grain warehouse license renewals for 4th Quarter of 2024. Terri Fritz reports on the 4th Quarter grain warehouse license renewals.

**GD-3067/GDC-460:** In the Matter of Terri Fritz, Grain Director, Grain Warehouse Department, Nebraska Public Service Commission, Complainant, vs. Home City Grain, Inc., Respondent. Motion made by Commissioner Christian Mirch, seconded by Commissioner Kevin Stocker to enter an Order Dismissing Complaint. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

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**GD-3075/GDC-462:** Terri Fritz, Grain Director, Grain Dealer Department of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, Complainant, v. Bay State Milling Company, Respondent. Motion made by Commissioner Kevin Stocker, seconded by Commissioner Eric Kamler Terri Fritz, requests Commission approval to open Complaint against Bay State Milling Company. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

**GD-1036 et al.:** In the Matter of the attached list of completed grain dealer license renewals for the 4th Quarter of 2024. Terri Fritz reports on the 4th Quarter grain dealer license renewals.

GDC-459/GD-2675: In the Matter of Robert Leigh, Senior Grain Inspector of the Nebraska Public Service Commission Grain Dealer Department, Complainant, vs. G B B Grain Co., Respondent. Motion made by Commissioner Dan Watermeier, seconded by Commissioner Christian Mirch to enter an Order approving motion to withdraw, and dismissing Complaint. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

### LEGISLATIVE

Discussion on pending legislation. No Motion was made.

#### GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Executive Director's recommendation to approve Nathan Wolfgang to travel to and attend the FRA General Fundamentals Training in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma from January 13, 2025 to January 17, 2025 with expenses to be paid by the Commission. Motion made by Commissioner Eric Kamler, seconded by Commissioner Christian Mirch. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

Executive Director's recommendation to approve Greg Walklin to travel to and attend the NARUC Winter Policy Summit in Washington, D.C. from February 22, 2025 to February 25, 2025 with expenses to be paid by the Commission. Motion made by Commissioner Kevin Stocker, seconded by Commissioner Christian Mirch. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

Executive Director's recommendation to approve Commissioner Dan Watermeier to travel to and attend the NARUC Winter Policy Summit in Washington, D.C. from February 22, 2025 to February 26, 2025 with expenses to be reimbursed by the Commission. Motion made by Commissioner Kevin Stocker, seconded by Commissioner Christian Mirch. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

Executive Director's recommendation to approve the Commission Meeting minutes for December 2024. Motion made by Commissioner Dan Watermeier, seconded by Commissioner Christian Mirch. Motion passed with

# SECRETARY'S RECORD, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

## Minutes

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Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

Commissioners' directive to the Executive Director to return staff to pre-pandemic office work policies, subject to necessary revisions and exceptions. Motion made by Commissioner Christian Mirch, seconded by Commissioner Kevin Stocker. Motion passed with Commissioners Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE, and Commissioner Eric Kamler present not voting.

The meeting adjourned at 10:32 a.m. with Commissioners Tim Schram, Dan Watermeier, Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, and Kevin Stocker present. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on January 14, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. with an agenda to be available in the office of the Executive Director at 10:00 a.m. on January 13, 2025.

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Chair

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Executive Director

January 14, 2025

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Notice was duly published January 10, 2025, on page 8 of <u>The Daily</u> <u>Record</u> that the regular public meeting of the Commissioners of the Nebraska Public Service Commission would be held on January 14, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. in the Commission Hearing Room, 300 The Atrium, 1200 N Street, Lincoln.

Chair Commissioner Tim Schram called the regularly scheduled meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier present in the Commission Hearing Room. Chair Schram stated that a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is posted in the meeting room and invited the public to address the Commission. No public comment was offered. No announcements were made.

Attention was called to the following proceedings:

# COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

**C-5561:** In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its own motion, to administer the Nebraska Broadband Bridge Program in the 2024 program year. Motion made by Commissioner Kevin Stocker, seconded by Commissioner Eric Kamler to enter an Order issuing NBBP grant awards. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

**C-5564/ PI-250:** In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its own motion, to review and consider modifications to the Commission's service outage reporting requirements. Motion made by Commissioner Christian Mirch, seconded by Commissioner Dan Watermeier to enter an Order granting Motion for Reconsideration, in part. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

**C-5618:** In the Matter of the Application of Chris Tramp, Crofton, seeking authority to receive telecommunications service from the Hartington Exchange of Hartington Telecommunications Co., Inc. Motion made by Commissioner Dan Watermeier, seconded by Commissioner Christian Mirch to enter an Order granting boundary change application. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

**C-5621:** In the Matter of the Application of FiberComm, L.C., Charlotte, North Carolina, seeking authority to add the trade name ImOn. Motion made by Commissioner Kevin Stocker, seconded by Commissioner Eric Kamler to enter an Order granting application. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

**C-5622:** In the Matter of the Application of John Schwader, Crofton, seeking authority to receive telecommunications service from the Hartington Exchange of Hartington Telecommunications Co., Inc. Motion made by Commissioner Christian Mirch, seconded by Commissioner Eric

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Kamler to enter an Order granting application. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

NUSF-37.448: In the Matter of Cullen Robbins, Director, Nebraska Universal Service Fund Department of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, Complainant, v. CallTower, Inc., Respondent. Motion made by Commissioner Dan Watermeier, seconded by Commissioner Christian Mirch to enter an Order dismissing the Complaint. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

NUSF-139: In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its own motion, to consider appropriate modifications to the high-cost distribution and reporting mechanisms in its Universal Service Fund program, in light of federal and state infrastructure grants. Motion made by Commissioner Kevin Stocker, seconded by Commissioner Christian Mirch to enter an Order of Findings and Conclusions and authorizing payments. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

## STATE 911 DEPARTMENT

**911-075/PI-248:** In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its own motion, conducting an investigation into the 911 service outage that began on August 31, 2023 in areas of Nebraska served by Lumen and its affiliates; and.

**911-077/C-5581/PI-252:** In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its own motion, conducting an investigation into 911 service outages occurring in areas of Nebraska served by Lumen and its affiliates. Motion made by Commissioner Dan Watermeier, seconded by Commissioner Christian Mirch to enter an Order Issuing Findings and Closing Investigation. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

## NATURAL GAS DEPARTMENT

NG-122: In the Matter of Northwestern Corporation, d/b/a NorthWestern Energy, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, seeking approval of a natural gas general rate increase for Nebraska. Motion made by Commissioner Dan Watermeier, seconded by Commissioner Kevin Stocker to enter an order approving the loan fund application. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

NG-122: In the Matter of NorthWestern Energy Public Service Corporation d/b/a NorthWestern Energy, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, seeking approval of a natural gas general rate increase for Nebraska. Nichole Mulcahy informed the Commission a notice of extension was received from the parties that they have agreed to extend the negotiation deadline to March 5, 2025.

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Nichole Mulcahy reported a total number of 6 consumer complaints and inquiries received at the Commission during the fourth quarter of 2024. For each company: Black Hills Energy - 3; NorthWestern - 1; and Other Entities - 2.

## TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

MT-0001.05: In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its own motion, seeking to address certain carriers in noncompliance with annual renewal requirements. Motion made by Commissioner Kevin Stocker, seconded by Commissioner Christian Mirch to enter an Order to Show Cause and Schedule Hearing. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

MT-0001.05: In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its own motion, seeking to address certain carriers in noncompliance with annual renewal requirements. Motion made by Commissioner Dan Watermeier, seconded by Commissioner Eric Kamler to enter an Order to Dismiss, In Part. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

**B-2128.01r:** In the Matter of the Application of Zum Services, Inc., Redwood City, California, seeking to establish its rates and charges subject to the Provisions of Neb. Rev. Stat. (Reissue 2014), Chapter 75, Articles 1 and 3. Motion made by Commissioner Christian Mirch, seconded by Commissioner Kevin Stocker to enter an Order Granting Rates on an Emergency Basis. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

In the Matter of completed Household Goods Mover License renewals. Dillon Keiffer-Johnson reports on the renewal of Paid in Full Transportation LLC ML-37.

#### GRAIN DEPARTMENT

**GW-852:** In the Matter of the Application of Country Partners Cooperative, Gothenburg, Nebraska requesting a deductible on its stock insurance higher than \$10,000. Motion made by Commissioner Kevin Stocker, seconded by Commissioner Eric Kamler to enter an Order granting application. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

#### LEGISLATIVE

Discussion on pending legislation. No Motion was made.

#### GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

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Executive Director's recommendation to approve Commissioner Tim Schram to travel to and attend the NARUC Winter Policy Summit in Washington, D.C. from February 22, 2025 to February 26, 2025 with lodging expenses to be paid by the Commission and registration and travel expenses to be reimbursed by the Commission. Motion made by Commissioner Christian Mirch, seconded by Commissioner Kevin Stocker. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

Executive Director's recommendation to approve Cullen Robbins to travel to and attend the NARUC Winter Policy Summit in Washington, D.C. from February 22, 2025 to February 26, 2025 with expenses to be paid by the Commission. Motion made by Commissioner Kevin Stocker, seconded by Commissioner Christian Mirch. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

The meeting adjourned at 10:34 a.m. with Commissioners Tim Schram, Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier present. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on January 22, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. with an agenda to be available in the office of the Executive Director at 10:00 a.m. on January 21, 2025.

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Chair

Executive Director

January 22, 2025

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Notice was duly published January 17, 2025, on page 8 of <u>The Daily</u> <u>Record</u> that the regular public meeting of the Commissioners of the Nebraska Public Service Commission would be held on January 22, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. in the Commission Hearing Room, 300 The Atrium, 1200 N Street, Lincoln.

Chair Commissioner Tim Schram called the regularly scheduled meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier present in the Commission Hearing Room. Chair Schram stated that a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is posted in the meeting room and invited the public to address the Commission. No public comment was offered. No announcements were made.

Attention was called to the following proceedings:

# COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

**C-5624:** In the Matter of the Application of Sirius Computer Solutions, LLC, San Antonio, Texas, seeking authority to withdraw its local and interexchange certificates of authority and cancel its tariffs. Motion made by Commissioner Kevin Stocker, seconded by Commissioner Eric Kamler to enter an Order granting application. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

**C-5625:** In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its own motion, to determine the surcharge for the statewide Telecommunications Relay System, to be effective July 1, 2025. Motion made by Commissioner Eric Kamler, seconded by Commissioner Dan Watermeier to enter an Order opening docket and setting a Hearing for Tuesday, March 11, 2025 at 11:30 a.m. CDT in the Commission Hearing Room, Lincoln. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

# TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

**B-2120:** In the Matter of the Application of Always At Home Supportive Living, LLC, seeking authority as a contract carrier in Nebraska intrastate commerce in the transportation of passengers in Open Class service by van in and between points in Douglas, Sarpy, and Lancaster counties, on the one hand, and, on the other hand, points in Nebraska over irregular routes pursuant to contracts with the League of Human Dignity, Eastern Nebraska Office on Aging, and the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, a medicaid-managed care organization under contract with NDHHS, or another agent working on behalf of NDHHS. HHS Designation: Yes. Motion made by Commissioner Christian Mirch, seconded by Commissioner Eric Kamler to enter an Order Granting Application as Amended. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

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**B-2135:** In the Matter of the Application of Bill on Air Ride, LLC, Lincoln, seeking authority as a common carrier in Nebraska intrastate commerce in the transportation of passengers in Limousine service by SUV and luxury and stretch limousine between all points in Nebraska over irregular routes. HHS Designation: No. Motion made by Commissioner Eric Kamler, seconded by Commissioner Christian Mirch to enter an Order Granting Application. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

MT-0001.05: In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its own motion, seeking to address certain carriers in noncompliance with annual renewal requirements. Motion made by Commissioner Kevin Stocker, seconded by Commissioner Christian Mirch to enter an Order to Dismiss, In Part. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

**B-1733.02r**: In the Matter of the Application of Papio Transport Service, Inc., Papillion, seeking to amend its rates and charges subject to the Provisions of Neb. Rev. Stat. Chapter 75, Articles 1 and 3. Motion made by Commissioner Christian Mirch, seconded by Commissioner Kevin Stocker to enter an Order Approving Rates on an Emergency Basis. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

In the Matter of railroad employee carrier license renewals for 2025. Dillon Keiffer-Johnson reports that Professional Transportation, Inc. completed its renewal.

In the matter of completed Household Goods Mover License renewals. Dillon Keiffer-Johnson reports on the renewal of Rojoli Services Inc. d/b/a Mo's Moving in ML-40.

#### LEGISLATIVE

**LB 362:** Discussion and action on pending legislation. Motion made by Commissioner Christian Mirch, seconded by Commissioner Kevin Stocker to support the bill and provide testimony. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

## GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Executive Director's recommendation to approve Sallie Dietrich to travel to and attend the NARUC Winter Policy Summit in Washington, D.C. from February 22, 2025 to February 26, 2025 with expenses to be paid by the Commission. Motion made by Commissioner Kevin Stocker, seconded by Commissioner Eric Kamler. Motion passed with Commissioners

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## Minutes

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Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

Executive Director's recommendation to approve Alex Timperley to travel to and attend the NARUC Rate School in Coronado, California from May 11, 2025 to May 16, 2025 with expenses to be paid by the Commission. Motion made by Commissioner Dan Watermeier, seconded by Commissioner Christian Mirch. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m. with Commissioners Tim Schram, Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier present. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on January 28, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. with an agenda to be available in the office of the Executive Director at 10:00 a.m. on January 27, 2025.

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Chair

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Executive Director

January 28, 2025

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Notice was duly published January 21, 2025, on page 8 of <u>The Daily</u> <u>Record</u> that the regular public meeting of the Commissioners of the Nebraska Public Service Commission would be held on January 28, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. in the Commission Hearing Room, 300 The Atrium, 1200 N Street, Lincoln.

Chair Commissioner Tim Schram called the regularly scheduled meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier present in the Commission Hearing Room. Chair Schram stated that a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is posted in the meeting room and invited the public to address the Commission. No public comment was offered. No announcements were made.

Attention was called to the following proceedings:

# COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

**C-5626:** In the Matter of the Application of Anne Bohan, Wood River, seeking authority to receive advanced telecommunications capability service from the Doniphan exchange of the Hamilton Telephone Company. Motion made by Commissioner Kevin Stocker, seconded by Commissioner Eric Kamler to enter an Order Granting Application. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

NUSF-99: In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its own motion, seeking to administer the Nebraska Universal Service Fund's Broadband Program: Application to the Nebraska Broadband Program received from Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC. Motion made by Commissioner Dan Watermeier, seconded by Commissioner Christian Mirch to grant extension request to submit reimbursement documentation. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

Estech Systems, Inc., Skye Telecom, LLC and Greenfly Networks, Inc. Motion made by Commissioner Christian Mirch, seconded by Commissioner Eric Kamler Cullen Robbins requests Commission approval to open NUSF Remittance Complaints against Estech Systems, Inc., Skye Telecom, LLC and Greenfly Networks, Inc. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

Dalton Telephone Company, LLC. Motion made by Commissioner Kevin Stocker, seconded by Commissioner Eric Kamler Cullen Robbins requests Commission approval to open a TRS Remittance Complaint against Dalton Telephone Company, LLC. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

NATURAL GAS DEPARTMENT

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NG-13: In the Matter of the Commission, on its own motion, to evaluate and establish, on a quarterly basis, an assessment for jurisdictional utilities pursuant to the State Natural Gas Regulation Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. §66-1801 et seq. Motion made by Commissioner Kevin Stocker, seconded by Commissioner Christian Mirch to enter Progression Order #86. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

**E-2510:** In the Matter of the Application of Nebraska Public Power District, Columbus, seeking authority to construct, operate and maintain electric transmission lines in Pawnee County. Motion made by Commissioner Christian Mirch, seconded by Commissioner Dan Watermeier to enter an order cancelling the application. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

**E-2538:** In the Matter of the Application of Nebraska Public Power District, Columbus, seeking authority to construct, operate and maintain electric transmission lines in Madison and Stanton Counties. Motion made by Commissioner Eric Kamler, seconded by Commissioner Kevin Stocker to enter an order granting the application. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

#### TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

**B-2060.02:** In the Matter of the Application of West O Limo Club, LLC, Omaha, seeking cancellation and revocation of its Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity issued in Docket No. B-2060. Motion made by Commissioner Christian Mirch, seconded by Commissioner Kevin Stocker to enter an Order Approving Cancellation and Revoking the Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity issued in B-2060. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

**B-2083:** In the Matter of the Application of Stacked S Services, LLP, Kearney, seeking authority as a common carrier in Nebraska intrastate commerce in the transportation of passengers in Open Class service by van between all points in Nebraska over irregular routes. HHS Designation: No. Motion made by Commissioner Kevin Stocker, seconded by Commissioner Christian Mirch to enter an Order of Pending Dismissal. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

**B-2139:** In the Matter of the Application of SeniorLine Transportation, LLC, Omaha, seeking authority as a contract carrier in Nebraska intrastate commerce in the transportation of passengers in Open Class service by sedan in and between points in Dodge, Washington, Douglas, Sarpy and Lancaster counties over irregular routes pursuant to a contract with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, a medicaid-managed care organization under contract with NDHHS, or another agent working on behalf of NDHHS. HHS Designation: Yes. Motion

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made by Commissioner Christian Mirch, seconded by Commissioner Eric Kamler to enter an Order Granting Application. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

**B-2140:** In the Matter of the Application of Sedic Group, LLC, Omaha, seeking to acquire, through transfer, the authority held by Harmony Transportation Services, in Certificate B-1878. Motion made by Commissioner Eric Kamler, seconded by Commissioner Dan Watermeier to enter an Order Denying Temporary Operating Authority. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

MT-0001.05: In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its own motion, seeking to address certain carriers in noncompliance with annual renewal requirements. Motion made by Commissioner Christian Mirch, seconded by Commissioner Kevin Stocker to enter an Order to Dismiss, in Part. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

**B-2133.01r:** In the Matter of the Application of Peaceful Ride, LLC, Omaha, seeking to establish its rates and charges subject to the Provisions of Neb. Rev. Stat. Chapter 75, Articles 1 and 3. Motion made by Commissioner Christian Mirch, seconded by Commissioner Eric Kamler to enter an Order Granting Rates. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

# GRAIN DEPARTMENT

**GW-244:** In the Matter of the Application of Ely's Inc, Guide Rock, Nebraska requesting a deductible on its stock insurance higher than \$10,000. Motion made by Commissioner Christian Mirch, seconded by Commissioner Eric Kamler to enter an Order approving application. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

**GD-3075/GDC-462:** In the Matter of Terri Fritz, Grain Director, Grain Dealer Department of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, Complainant, vs. Bay State Milling Company, Respondent. Motion made by Commissioner Kevin Stocker, seconded by Commissioner Eric Kamler to enter an Order dismissing complaint. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

**GD-3081/GDC-463:** In the Matter of Terri Fritz, Grain Director, Grain Dealer Department of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, Complainant, vs. PA, LLC a/k/a Producer Ag, LLC, Respondent. Motion made by Commissioner Eric Kamler, seconded by Commissioner Kevin Stocker Terri Fritz requests Commission approval to open Complaint against PA, LLC a/k/a Producer Ag, LLC. Motion passed with

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Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

# LEGISLATIVE

LB 191: Discussion on pending legislation. No Motion was made.

**LB 347:** Discussion and action on pending legislation. Motion made by Commissioner Dan Watermeier, seconded by Commissioner Eric Kamler support and provide testimony. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

LB 666: Discussion on pending legislation. No Motion was made.

LB 4: Discussion on pending legislation. No Motion was made.

# GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Executive Director's recommendation to approve Commissioner Kevin Stocker to travel to and attend the NARUC Winter Policy Summit in Washington, D.C. from February 23, 2025 to February 26, 2025 with expenses to be paid by the Commission. Motion made by Commissioner Christian Mirch, seconded by Commissioner Dan Watermeier. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE, and Commissioner Kevin Stocker present not voting.

Executive Director's recommendation to approve and adopt updates to the Commission's Schedule of Fees. Motion made by Commissioner Eric Kamler, seconded by Commissioner Kevin Stocker. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

The meeting adjourned at 10:34 a.m. with Commissioners Tim Schram, Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier present. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on February 4, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. with an agenda to be available in the office of the Executive Director at 10:00 a.m. on February 3, 2025.

Sch.

Chair

Executive Director