

SECRETARY'S RECORD, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

February 4, 2020

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Notice was duly published January 28, 2020 on page 5 of The Daily Record that the regular public meeting of the Commissioners of the Nebraska Public Service Commission would be held on February 4, 2020 at 10:00 AM in the Commission Hearing Room, 300 The Atrium, 1200 N Street, Lincoln.

Chair Mary Ridder called the regularly scheduled meeting to order at 10:00 AM. with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier present. Chair Ridder 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 comments were received. No announcements were made.

Attention was called to the following proceedings:

Tuesday, February 4, 2020:

MT-0001 Non-compliance with Annual Renewal Requirements - **Hearing**
11:00 a.m. Commission Hearing Room
Commissioner Rod Johnson - Hearing Officer

Wednesday, February 5, 2020:

10:00 Hall County Offices, Board Room, 121 S. Pine Street
PI-228 Grand Island, NE - **Hearing**
Investigation of railroad crossing blockage in Hall County. Commissioner Mary Ridder - Hearing Officer

Wednesday, February 12, 2020:

911 Wireless Advisory Board Meeting

10:00 a.m. Commission Hearing Room

911 Service System Advisory Committee Meeting

1:00 p.m. Commission Hearing Room

Wednesday, February 19, 2020:

Commission Meeting

10:00 a.m. - Commission Hearing Room

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

Cullen Robbins informed the Commission that a request was received from Great Plains Broadband, Inc., on January 20, 2020, to override the denial by the Number Pooling Administrator for one-thousand block of telephone numbers in the Omaha rate center. Motion made by Commissioner Crystal Rhoades, seconded by Commissioner Tim Schram, to approve sending a letter to the Pooling Administrator. Motion passed with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

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NUSF-1, PO #7 In the Matter of the Commission, on its own motion, seeking to establish guidelines for administration of the Nebraska Universal Service Fund: Selectel, Inc., Ooma, Inc., Network Billing Systems n/k/a Fusion LLC, MetroPCS Michigan, LLC, Telmate LLC, M5 Networks, LLC and Ooma, Inc. Motion made by Commissioner Tim Schram, seconded by Commissioner Dan Watermeier, to grant Selectel, Inc.'s extension request to March 30, 2020, MetroPCS Michigan, LLC's extension request to August 1, 2020, and Network Billing Systems, n/k/a Fusion LLC's extension request to March 31, 2020, to complete the 2018 remittance audit. Approval of an extension request to April 30, 2020, was received from Telmate, LLC, and an extension request to June 30, 2020, was received from M5 Networks, LLC, both for the 2016 data period's remittance audit. And, to approve Ooma Inc.'s second extension request to August 1, 2020, for the 2018 remittance audit. All requests were for audit reports otherwise due December 31, 2019. Motion passed with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

Cullen Robbins informed the Commission of the telecommunications complaints and outages received by the Communications Department during the preceding month.

Outages for January 2020							
Carrier	Area	Outage Date	Completion Date	Duration	Lines Affected	Primary Cause	Comments
Qwest Corporation	Omaha	Jan-10-20	Jan-11-20	1 d 4 h	346	Cable Cut	Locates were accurate. MP Nextlevel cut the lines. Working lines were back up on 1/11/2020. The techs are still splicing the non working lines, should finish 1/31/2020 or 2/3/2020.
Eastern Nebraska Telephone Company	North Eastern Nebraska	Jan-22-20	Jan-22-20	30 min	1000	Equipment	Trunk port on Ethernet switch (MetaSwitch) got into a protection state that caused the IP Phone traffic to stop working. Resolved the protection state on the Trunk port and enabled the port.
Blair Telephone Company	Winnebago, Emerson & Pender	Jan-23-20	Jan-23-20	30 min	384	Equipment	Failure of equipment for 911 trunks serving Pender and Emerson. This same equipment also provides all voice services to Winnebago Hospital. Replaced faulty equipment with spare.

STATE 911 DEPARTMENT

911-042.17 In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its own motion, seeking to administer funding for public safety answering points for the implementation and provision of Enhanced Wireless 911 service: Hitchcock County. Motion made by Commissioner Rod Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Tim Schram to enter an Order approving use of set-aside funds. Motion passed with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

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LEGISLATIVE

Nichole Mulcahy discussed pending legislation.

TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

MT-0001 In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its own motion, seeking to address certain carriers in non compliance with annual renewal requirements. Motion made by Commissioner Dan Watermeier, seconded by Commissioner Tim Schram, to enter an Order to dismiss in part. Motion passed with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

BR-550/
B-1976 In the Matter of the Application of Beautiful Life Medical Transport, 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 Tim Schram, seconded by Commissioner Rod Johnson, to enter an Order granting rates. Motion passed with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Executive Director's recommendation to approve Commission invoices. Motion made by Commissioner Rod Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Dan Watermeier. Motion passed with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE, and Commissioner Crystal Rhoades present not voting.

Crystal Rhoades	\$	702.13
Tim Schram		508.30

Open Session

Executive Director's recommendation for a motion to go into closed session to discuss personnel matters, the closed session being necessary for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual. Motion made by Commissioner Tim Schram, seconded by Commissioner Dan Watermeier. Motion passed with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE, and Commissioner Crystal Rhoades present not voting.

The Commission entered into closed session at 10:19 AM.

Closed Session

Chair Ridder restated that the purpose of the closed session is to discuss personnel matters. The closed session being necessary for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual. The closed session discussion will be so limited.

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Executive Director's recommendation for a motion to return to open session. Motion made by Commissioner Tim Schram, seconded by Commissioner Dan Watermeier. Motion passed with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE, and Commissioner Crystal Rhoades present not voting.

The Commission returned to open session at 10:29 AM.

Open Session

Motion made by Commissioner Tim Schram, seconded by Commissioner Dan Watermeier to terminate an employee. Motion passed with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE, and Commissioner Crystal Rhoades present not voting.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 AM with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier present. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on February 19, 2020 at 10:00 AM with an agenda to be available in the office of the Executive Director at 10:00 AM on February 18, 2020.


Chair


Executive Director