

SECRETARY'S RECORD, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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Notice was duly published February 16, 2021 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 23, 2021 at 10:00 AM in the Commission Hearing Room, 300 The Atrium, 1200 N Street, Lincoln.

Chair Dan Watermeier 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 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 comments were received. No announcements were made.

Attention was called to the following proceedings:

Tuesday, February 23, 2021:

Rule & Recreational Vehicle Rule Update - **Hearing**
Reg #205 1:30 p.m. - Commission Hearing Room and WebEx
Commissioner Crystal Rhoades - Hearing Officer

Wednesday, February 24, 2021:

B-2002 Oceans Enterprise, LLC d/b/a Oceans Drive
Transportation - **Hearing**
10:00 a.m.- Commission Hearing Room and WebEx
Commissioner Mary Ridder- Hearing Officer

Tuesday, March 2, 2021:

Commission Meeting

10:00 a.m. - Commission Hearing Room

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

C-5193 In the Matter of the Application of BCM One, Inc., New York, New York, for authority to obtain debt financing. Motion made by Commissioner Tim Schram, seconded by Commissioner Rod Johnson, to enter an Order granting application. Motion passed with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

NUSF-92, In the Matter of the Commission, on its own Motion, seeking PO #10 to administer the Nebraska Universal Service Fund's Broadband Program: Motion made by Commissioner Mary Ridder, seconded by Commissioner Rod Johnson, to enter a Reimbursement Order. Motion passed with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

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NUSF-108, In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on PO #5 its own Motion, seeking to make adjustments to its high-cost distribution mechanism and make revisions to its reporting requirements. Motion made by Commissioner Mary Ridder, seconded by Commissioner Tim Schram, to enter an Order Adopting Findings and Conclusions. Motion passed with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

NATURAL GAS DEPARTMENT

NG-101 In the Matter of the Commission, on its own motion, opening an investigatory docket for the purpose of general monitoring of issues regarding the natural gas industry and jurisdictional utilities in Nebraska;

NG-101.1 Black Hills/Nebraska Gas Utility Company, LLC, and Black Hills Gas Distribution, LLC, d/b/a Black Hills Energy; and

NG-109 In the Matter of the Application of Black Hills Nebraska Gas, LLC d/b/a Black Hills Energy, Rapid City, South Dakota, seeking approval of a general rate increase; Motion made by Commissioner Tim Schram, seconded by Commissioner Rod Johnson, to enter assessment orders NG-101.1/BA-14, NG-109/BA-15 and NG-109/BA-16. Motion passed with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

E-2463 In the Matter of the Application of Nebraska Public Power District, Columbus, Nebraska, seeking authority to construct, operate, and maintain electric transmission lines in Lincoln, Logan, Thomas, Blaine, Loup, Garfield, Holt, and Wheeler Counties. Motion made by Commissioner Tim Schram, seconded by Commissioner Rod Johnson, to enter an order granting an extension. Motion passed with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

LEGISLATIVE

Nichole Mulcahy discussed pending legislation.

TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

B-2022 In the Matter of the Application of Lifeline Transportation, Inc. d/b/a Lifeline Transportation, Omaha, seeking authority as a common carrier in Nebraska intrastate commerce in the transportation of passengers by sedan and van in open class service between points in Douglas and Sarpy counties, and between said counties, over irregular routes. RESTRICTIONS: The transportation of railroad train crews and their baggage is not authorized. HHS Designation: Yes. Motion made by Commissioner Rod Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Tim Schram, to enter an Order granting the application. Motion passed with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

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MT-0001.01 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 Mary Ridder, seconded by Commissioner Rod Johnson, to enter an Order dismiss, in part. Motion passed with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

TR-219/
B-1969,
B-1970,
B-1971,
B-1972,
B-1973,
B-1974

In the Matter of the Application of WHC NE, LLC d/b/a Airport Transportation d/b/a My Sedan and zTrip; WHC NE, d/b/a Cornhusker Cab Company and zTrip; WHC NE, LLC d/b/a Happy Cab and zTrip; WHC NE, LLC d/b/a Checker Cab Company zTrip; WHC NE, LLC d/b/a Yellow Cab Company and zTrip; and NE, LLC d/b/a Safeway Cabs and zTrip, Omaha, seeking to establish rates and charges subject to the Provisions of Neb. Rev. Stat. Chapter 75, Articles 1 and 3. Motion made by Commissioner Mary Ridder, seconded by Commissioner Crystal Rhoades, to enter an Order granting rates on an emergency basis. Motion passed with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

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 Rod Johnson. Motion passed with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

The Commission entered into closed session at 10:30 AM.

Closed Session

Chair Watermeier 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.

Open Session

Executive Director's recommendation for a motion to return to open session. Motion made by Commissioner Tim Schram, seconded by Commissioner Rod Johnson. Motion passed with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

The Commission returned to open session at 10:37 AM.

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Executive Director's recommendation to terminate an employee. Motion made by Commissioner Tim Schram, seconded by Commissioner Mary Ridder. 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 10:40 AM with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier present. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on March 2, 2021 at 10:00 AM with an agenda to be available in the office of the Executive Director at 10:00 AM on March 1, 2021.

Chair



Executive Director