

SECRETARY'S RECORD, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Minutes

July 28, 2026

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Notice was duly published July 20, 2026, 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 July 28, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. in the Commission Hearing Room, 300 The Atrium, 1200 N Street, Lincoln.

Chair Tim Schram called the regularly scheduled meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. with Commissioners Christian Mirch, Eric Kamler, 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. Dr. Thomas Janousek, Director of the Division of Behavioral Health, offered public comment regarding certain Transportation Department business. No announcements were made.

Attention was called to the following proceedings:

COMMUNICATIONS & NUSF DEPARTMENT

C-5712: In the Matter of the Application of Ruth Bender, St. Helena, seeking authority to receive telecommunications capability service from the Hartington Exchange of the Hartington Telephone Company. 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.

AD-751r: In the Matter of the Application of Niche Markets, Iowa City, Iowa, seeking authority to register the connection of an automatic dialing-announcing device in Reston, Virginia. 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.

CPF-1: In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its own motion, to administer federal Capital Projects Funds for broadband development in Nebraska. Motion made by Commissioner Christian Mirch, seconded by Commissioner Dan Watermeier, to enter an Order accepting Pinpoint's late-filed completion documents for its Brock, Lorton, and Otoe projects. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

CPF-2: In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its own motion, to administer the federal Capital Projects Funds for broadband development in Nebraska. Motion made by Commissioner Kevin Stocker, seconded by Commissioner Eric Kamler, to enter an Order granting Vistabeam's request for a further extension for its Morrill HWY 26 Project deadline to December 31, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. Central Time. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

NUSF-92.49: In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its Own Motion, to Administer the Nebraska Universal Service Fund Broadband Program: Application to the

Nebraska Broadband Program received from Allo Communications, LLC and Lincoln Public Schools. Motion made by Commissioner Dan Watermeier, seconded by Commissioner Eric Kamler, to enter an Order Closing Pilot Program. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

Citizens Telecommunications Company of Nebraska, et al., FCC Section 214 Application:

Motion made by Commissioner Kevin Stocker, seconded by Commissioner Eric Kamler, to approve Cullen Robbins request to file comments on the Section 214 Application filed with the FCC by Citizens Telecommunications Company of Nebraska, et al., to discontinue legacy copper services in Nebraska and other states. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

NATURAL GAS DEPARTMENT

NG-134: In the Matter of the Application of Coho Climate Advisors, LLC, Bethesda, Maryland, seeking authority to operate as an Aggregator in the State of Nebraska. 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.

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 Dan Watermeier, seconded by Commissioner Christian Mirch, to enter Progression Order No. 92. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

NG-101.1: 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-102: In the Matter of the Commission, on its own motion, seeking to review policies and practices relating to the administration of customer choice programs for natural gas service offered within the State of Nebraska; and

NG-128: In the Matter of the Joint Application of NorthWestern Energy Public Service Corporation, Sioux Falls, South Dakota; Black Hills Corporation, Rapid City, South Dakota, and NorthWestern Energy Group, Inc., Sioux Falls, South Dakota, seeking approval of a merger. Motion made by Commissioner Dan Watermeier, seconded by Commissioner Christian Mirch, to enter Assessment Orders CD-18, CD-4, and No. CD-16, respectively. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

E-2552: In the Matter of the Application of Nebraska Public Power District, Columbus, seeking authority to construct, operate and maintain an electric transmission line in Pawnee County. Motion made by Commissioner Dan Watermeier, seconded by Commissioner Eric Kamler, to enter an Order Granting the Application. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE, and Commissioner Kevin Stocker voting NAY.

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E-2553: In the Matter of the Application of Norris Public Power District, Beatrice, seeking authority to construct, operate and maintain an electric transmission line in Lancaster County. Motion made by Commissioner Dan Watermeier, seconded by Commissioner Eric Kamler, to enter an Order Granting the Application. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE, and Commissioner Kevin Stocker voting NAY.

E-2554: In the Matter of the Application of Loup River Public Power District, Columbus, seeking authority to construct, operate and maintain an electric transmission line in Platte County. Motion made by Commissioner Eric Kamler, seconded by Commissioner Dan Watermeier, to enter an Order Granting the Application. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE, and Commissioner Kevin Stocker voting NAY.

Nichole Mulcahy reported a total number of 15 Consumer complaints and inquiries received at the Commission during the second quarter of 2026. For each company: Black Hills Energy - 10; NorthWestern - 0; and Other Entities - 5.

TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

B-1912.01: In the Matter of the Commission, on its own motion, to require Grand Island Party Bus, LLC, Grand Island, to show cause why the Commission should not revoke or suspend its Certificate of Public Convenience of Necessity or assess an administrative fine. Motion made by Commissioner Kevin Stocker, seconded by Commissioner Eric Kamler, to enter an Order Sustaining Show Cause and Issuing a Cease and Desist from Certain Operations. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

B-2178: In the Matter of the Application of BioCargo, LLC, Omaha, seeking authority as a common carrier in Nebraska intrastate commerce in the transportation of passengers in Open Class service by van, in Douglas, Lancaster, and Sarpy counties over irregular routes. HHS Designation: yes. Motion made by Commissioner Christian Mirch, seconded by Commissioner Eric Kamler, to enter an Order Denying Application. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

MT-0006.01: In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its own motion, to collect and review data to compile the 2026 TNC Annual Report pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 75-343. Motion made by Commissioner Christian Mirch, seconded by Commissioner Eric Kamler, to enter an Order Requesting Additional Information from TNCs and Granting a Request for Extension of Time for River North Transit's submission of TNC data to September 18, 2026. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

MT-0007: In the Matter of the Commission on its own Motion examining the operations of RideCare under Neb. Rev. Stat. 75-303. Motion made by Commissioner Kevin Stocker, seconded by Commissioner Christian Mirch, to enter an Order Finding Exemption Under

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Neb. Rev. Stat § 75-303(16). Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

B-1351.03r: In the Matter of the Application of Midwest Special Services, Inc., Curtis, seeking to establish its rates and charges subject to the Provisions of Neb. Rev. Stat. Chapter 75, Articles 1 and 3. Emergency Action Requested. Motion made by Commissioner Kevin Stocker, seconded by Commissioner Eric Kamler, to enter an Order Denying Emergency Request. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

B-1861.05r: In the Matter of the Application of Nebraska Metro Transportation, d/b/a Metro Sedan & Limousine Services, Omaha, 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 Eric Kamler, seconded by Commissioner Christian Mirch, to enter an Order Amending 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 JTW Omaha Movers, Inc. d/b/a Two Men and a Truck ML-05.

GRAIN DEPARTMENT

GW-22: In the Matter of the Application of Ag Valley Cooperative, Non Stock, Arapahoe, Nebraska, requesting to terminate a Storage Contract in Accordance with the Provisions of Nebraska Rev. Stat § 88-544 and 291 Neb. Admin. Code § 8-002.13. 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.

GW-535/ GWC-471: In the Matter of Terri Fritz, Director, Grain Warehouse Department of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, Complainant, v. Farmers Union Cooperative Supply 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.

GW-1806/ GWC-470: In the Matter of Terri Fritz, Director, Grain Warehouse Department of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, Complainant, v. Tyson's Inc. dba Tyson Elevator, Respondent. Motion made by Commissioner Eric Kamler, 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.

GD-1806: In the Matter of the Application of Tyson's Inc. dba Tyson Elevator., Blair, NE, seeking approval of Grain Dealer License. Motion made by Commissioner Christian Mirch, seconded by Commissioner Eric Kamler, to enter an Order Granting Grain Dealer License.

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

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Executive Director's recommendation that the Commission enter into a contract with CostQuest Associates, LLC, for the purpose of updating the State Broadband Cost Model. Motion made by Commissioner Dan Watermeier, seconded by Commissioner Eric Kamler, to enter into the contract with CostQuest Associates, LLC. Motion passed with Commissioners Eric Kamler, Christian Mirch, Tim Schram, Kevin Stocker, and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

Webex to Teams Transition: Executive Director reports on the Commission's ongoing, agencywide transition from Webex to Teams.

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 August 4, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. with an agenda to be available in the office of the Executive Director at 10:00 a.m. on August 3, 2026.

Chair

Executive Director