

SECRETARY'S RECORD, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Minutes

July 26, 2022

Page 1

Notice was duly published July 14, 2022 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 26, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. 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 a.m. with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier 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 comments were received. No announcements were made.

Attention was called to the following proceedings:

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

C-5405: In the Matter of the Application of Larry Fogleman, Doniphan, seeking authority to receive advanced telecommunications capability service from the Doniphan exchange of the Hamilton Telephone Company. Motion made by Commissioner Rod Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Mary Ridder, to enter an Order granting application. Motion passed with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

C-5413: In the Matter of the Joint Application of Lingo Telecom, LLC, Atlanta, Georgia, and BullsEye Telecom, Inc., Southfield Michigan, seeking 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.

C-5408: In the Matter of the Application of Cozad Telephone Company of Cozad, Nebraska, seeking approval of an Interconnection Agreement with Level 3 Communications, LLC, Broomfield, Colorado. Motion made by Commissioner Mary Ridder, 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-37.408: In the Matter of Cullen Robbins, Director, Nebraska Universal Service Fund Department of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, Complainant, v. Crexendo Business Solutions, Inc., Respondent. Motion made by Commissioner Mary Ridder, seconded by Commissioner Tim Schram, to enter an Order dismissing the Complaint. Motion passed with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

NUSF-131: In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its own motion, to establish reverse auction procedures and

SECRETARY'S RECORD, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Minutes

July 26, 2022

Page 2

requirements. Motion made by Commissioner Mary Ridder, seconded by Commissioner Rod Johnson, to enter an Order releasing list of qualified bidders. Motion passed with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE, and Commissioner Crystal Rhoades voting NAY.

Cullen Robbins discussed NUSF Late-Filed Carrier Remittances: Inmate Calling Solutions. Motion made by Commissioner Crystal Rhoades, seconded by Commissioner Rod Johnson, that a Complaint be opened against Inmate Calling Solutions. Motion passed with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

NATURAL GAS DEPARTMENT

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 Mary Ridder, seconded by Commissioner Tim Schram, to enter progression order #76. Motion passed with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

NG-114: In the Matter of the Application of NorthWestern Corporation d/b/a NorthWestern Energy, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, seeking approval of corporate restructuring. Motion made by Commissioner Tim Schram, seconded by Commissioner Crystal Rhoades, to enter an order granting the application. Motion passed with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

NG-116: In the Matter of the Application of CoAxis Energy Company, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, seeking authority to operate as a competitive natural gas provider in the State of Nebraska. Motion made by Commissioner Mary Ridder, seconded by Commissioner Rod Johnson, to enter an order granting the application. Motion passed with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

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;

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;

NG-111.1: In the Matter of the Commission, on its own motion, seeking to investigate the effect of the February 2021 cold weather event upon the cost of gas supply purchased by Nebraska gas utilities. Black Hills Nebraska Gas, LLC;

NG-113: In the Matter of the Commission, on its own motion, seeking

SECRETARY'S RECORD, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Minutes

July 26, 2022

Page 3

to investigate whether jurisdictional utilities should add a tariff provision addressing customer requests for voluntary removal or relocation of natural gas facilities; and

NG-114: In the Matter of the Application of NorthWestern Corporation d/b/a NorthWestern Energy, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, seeking approval of corporate restructuring. Motion made by Commissioner Tim Schram, seconded by Commissioner Rod Johnson, to enter assessment orders NG-102/BA-5; NG-109/BA-22; NG-111.1/BA-25 and BA-26; NG-113/BA-2 and NG-114/BA-1. Motion passed with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

E-2504: In the Matter of the Application of Nebraska Public Power District, Columbus, Nebraska, seeking authority to construct, operate and maintain an electric transmission line in Adams County. Motion made by Commissioner Rod Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Crystal Rhoades, to enter an order granting the application. Motion passed with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

Nichole Mulcahy reported a total number of 20 consumer complaints and inquiries received at the Commission during the second quarter of 2022. For each company: Black Hills Energy - 12; NorthWestern - 3; and Other Entities - 5.

TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

B-1771.01r: In the Matter of the Application of Larry Schmidt d/b/a Your Own Limousine, Kearney, seeking to amend its rates and charges subject to the Provisions of Neb. Rev. Stat. Chapter 75, Articles 1 and 3. to enter an Order granting rates on an emergency basis; and

B-1930.01r: In the Matter of the Application of Your Own Limousine Lite, LLC, Kearney, 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 Mary Ridder, seconded by Commissioner Rod Johnson, 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.

B-2022.01r: In the Matter of the Application of Lifeline Transportation, Inc. d/b/a Lifeline Transportation, 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 Mary Ridder, seconded by Commissioner Tim Schram, to enter an Order granting rates. Motion passed with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

SECRETARY'S RECORD, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Minutes

July 26, 2022

Page 4

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Executive Director's recommendation to enter into a contract with CenturyLink Communications, LLC to provide for delivery of Text-to-911 calls to the EISNet via the Intrado Text Control Center for routing to all Nebraska PSAPs statewide. 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 voting NAY.

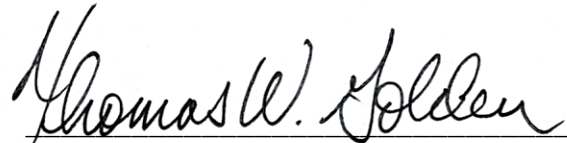
Executive Director's recommendation to modify the Schedule of Fees to increase Moisture Meter Inspection fees, effective immediately. Motion made by Commissioner Mary Ridder, seconded by Commissioner Tim Schram. Motion passed with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

Executive Director's recommendation to order 36 months of WestLaw access from the Statewide Contract with West Publishing Corporation. Motion made by Commissioner Mary Ridder, seconded by Commissioner Tim Schram. Motion passed with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE.

The meeting adjourned at 10:31 a.m. with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier present. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on August 16, 2022 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 15, 2022.



Chair



Executive Director