

# SECRETARY'S RECORD, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

September 15, 2020

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Notice was duly published September 8, 2020 on page 6 of The Daily Record that the regular public meeting of the Commissioners of the Nebraska Public Service Commission would be held on September 15, 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:

Wednesday, September 16, 2020:

## **Service System Advisory Committee Meeting**

1:00 p.m. - Commission Hearing Room

Remote access to the meeting will be available via WebEx or by telephone. Information for connecting may be accessed at the following link: <http://tiny.cc/State911DeptWebex> (case sensitive). Those wishing to attend anonymously may use "anonymous" for their name and "a@b.com" for their email address. To attend by telephone, dial 415-655-0003, then enter 929 828 733 when prompted for an access code.

Tuesday, September 22, 2020:

NG-109      BHE Rate Case - **Town Hall**  
10:00 a.m. - Virtual Town Hall on Zoom  
Commissioner Dan Watermeier - Hearing Officer

NG-109      BHE Rate Case - **Town Hall**  
7:00 p.m. - Virtual Town Hall on Zoom  
Commissioner Dan Watermeier - Hearing Officer

Thursday, September 24, 2020:

NG-109      BHE Rate Case - **Town Hall**  
2:30 p.m. - Virtual Town Hall on Zoom  
Commissioner Dan Watermeier - Hearing Officer

Tuesday, September 29, 2020:

## **Commission Meeting**

10:00 a.m. - Commission Hearing Room

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Tuesday, September 29, 2020:

TNC-2            Annual Fee Determination - **Hearing**  
11:00 p.m. - Commission Hearing Room  
Commissioner Schram, Hearing Officer  
Remote access to the meeting will be available via WebEx or by telephone. Information for connecting may be accessed at the following link: <http://tiny.cc/State911DeptWebex> (case sensitive). Those wishing to attend anonymously may use "anonymous" for their name and "a@b.com" for their email address. To attend by telephone, dial 415-655-0003, then enter 929 828 733 when prompted for an access code.

Tuesday, September 29, 2020: (con't)

MANF-13        Manufactured Home Program - **Hearing**  
MODF-14        Modular Housing Program  
RVF-14         Recreational Vehicle Program  
1:30 p.m. - Commission Hearing Room  
Commissioner Rhoades, Hearing Officer  
Remote access to the meeting will be available via WebEx or by telephone. Information for connecting may be accessed at the following link: <http://tiny.cc/State911DeptWebex> (case sensitive). Those wishing to attend anonymously may use "anonymous" for their name and "a@b.com" for their email address. To attend by telephone, dial 415-655-0003, then enter 929 828 733 when prompted for an access code.

## COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

C-5152        In the Matter of the Application of AT&T Corp., Bedminster, New Jersey, seeking authority to discontinue residential local exchange services in Nebraska. Motion made by Commissioner Dan Watermeier, seconded by Commissioner Crystal Rhoades, to enter a Nunc Pro Tunc Order. Motion passed with Commissioners Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE, and Commissioner Rod Johnson excused not voting.

C-5160        In the Matter of the Application of Timberlake Ranch Camps, Inc., Marquette, seeking authority to receive telephone service from the Hordville exchange of the Hamilton Telephone Company. Motion made by Commissioner Tim Schram, seconded by Commissioner Crystal Rhoades, to enter an Order granting application. Motion passed with Commissioners Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE, and Commissioner Rod Johnson excused not voting.

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C-5163 In the Matter of the Application of Michael and Nancy Hochstein, Hartington, seeking authority to receive advanced telecommunications service from the Hartington exchange of Hartington Telecommunications Co., Inc. Motion made by Commissioner Dan Watermeier, seconded by Commissioner Crystal Rhoades, to enter an Order approving boundary change. Motion passed with Commissioners Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE, and Commissioner Rod Johnson excused not voting.

Cullen Robbins informed the Commission that a request was received by Glenwood Telecommunications, Inc., to override the denial by the Pooling Administrator for the 308-248-5 block of telephone numbers in the Holdrege 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 Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE, and Commissioner Rod Johnson excused not voting.

C-5158 In the Matter of the Application of Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink, QC, Denver, Colorado, seeking approval of a Collocation Cable Augment Quote Preparation Fee Rate Update Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement with Level 3 Communications, LLC, Broomfield, Colorado, previously approved in Docket C-2780.

C-5159 In the Matter of the Application of New Cingular Wireless PSC, LLC, Bedminster, New Jersey, seeking approval of an Amendment to the Traffic Exchange Agreement with Southeast Nebraska Communications, Inc., Falls City, Nebraska.

C-5161 In the Matter of the Application of Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink, QC, Denver, Colorado, seeking approval of a Resale Forbearance Amendment to their Interconnection Agreement with Level 3 Communications, LLC, Broomfield, Colorado, previously approved in Docket C-2780.

C-5162 In the Matter of the Application of Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC, Denver, Colorado, seeking approval of a Resale Forbearance Amendment to their Interconnection Agreement with CenturyLink Communications, LLC, Broomfield, Colorado, previously approved in Docket C-3286. Motion made by Commissioner Tim Schram, seconded by Commissioner Crystal Rhoades, to enter Orders approving applications C-5158, C-5159, C-5161 and C-5162. Motion passed with Commissioners Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE, and Commissioner Rod Johnson excused not voting.

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NUSF-99.133 In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its own Motion, to administer the Universal Service Fund High-cost Program: Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC Broadband Grant Request. Motion made by Commissioner Dan Watermeier, seconded by Commissioner Crystal Rhoades, to enter an Order granting application. Motion passed with Commissioners Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE, and Commissioner Rod Johnson excused not voting.

Cullen Robbins discussed Lifeline Awareness Week, September 14-18. The Commission issued a press release announcing Lifeline Awareness Week, and Governor Ricketts signed a proclamation proclaiming September 14-18 as Lifeline Awareness Week in Nebraska.

## NATURAL GAS DEPARTMENT

NG-107 In the Matter of the Application of Black Hills Nebraska Gas, LLC d/b/a Black Hills Energy for a deferred accounting order to record and preserve costs related to the Covid-19 pandemic.

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 Dan Watermeier, seconded by Commissioner Tim Schram, to enter assessment orders NG-107/BA-8 and NG-109/BA-5 and BA-6. Motion passed with Commissioners Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE, and Commissioner Rod Johnson excused not voting.

E-2478 In the Matter of the Application of Loup River Public Power District, Columbus, Nebraska, seeking authority to construct, operate and maintain an electric transmission line in Platte County. Motion made by Commissioner Dan Watermeier, seconded by Commissioner Tim Schram, to enter an order granting the application. Motion passed with Commissioners Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE, and Commissioner Rod Johnson excused not voting.

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. Nichole Mulcahy will inform the Commissioners of the three Town Hall Meetings set September 22nd at 10:00am, September 22nd at 7:00pm and September 24th at 2:30pm. These will be virtual and webconference instructions are on the PSC website. Public attendance is limited in Commission Hearing Room.

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## TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

B-1842 In the Matter of the Application of Schmidt Happens, LLC, Fairbury, seeking revocation and cancellation of its Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity issued in Docket No. B-1843. Motion made by Commissioner Tim Schram, seconded by Commissioner Crystal Rhoades, to enter an Order cancelling certificate. Motion passed with Commissioners Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE, and Commissioner Rod Johnson excused not voting.

DC-98 In the Matter of Jamie L. Reyes, Director of the Motor Transportation Department of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, Complainant. Union Pacific Railroad Company and Nebraska Central Railroad Company. Motion made by Commissioner Tim Schram, seconded by Commissioner Crystal Rhoades, to enter an Order dismissing complaint. Motion passed with Commissioners Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE, and Commissioner Rod Johnson excused not voting.

TR-217/ In the Matter of the Application of Fremont Cab Services, B-1702 LLC, Fremont, 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 Dan Watermeier, to enter an Order granting rates. Motion passed with Commissioners Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE, and Commissioner Rod Johnson excused not voting.

MR-1023/ In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on PI-234 its own motion, seeking to investigate the prescription of reasonable rates and charges for regulated motor carriers providing ground transportation for passengers at Eppley Airfield. Jamie Reyes reports that the Hearing Officer entered an Order rescheduling the workshop in this matter to Wednesday, October 7, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. at Eppley Airfield Conference Center Platte Room, Main Terminal Building 2nd Floor, 4501 Abbott Drive, Omaha. The workshop will also have WebEx access.

## GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

### 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 Dan Watermeier, seconded by Commissioner Tim Schram. Motion passed with Commissioners Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE, and Commissioner Rod Johnson excused not voting.

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The Commission entered into closed session at 10:18 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.

Open Session

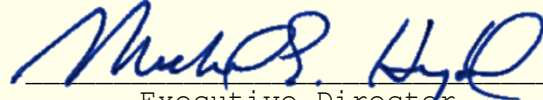
Executive Director's recommendation for a motion to return to open session. Motion made by Commissioner Tim Schram, seconded by Commissioner Crystal Rhoades. Motion passed with Commissioners Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier voting AYE, and Commissioner Rod Johnson excused not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

The Commission returned to open session at 10:31 AM.

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The meeting adjourned at 10:31 AM with Commissioners Rod Johnson, Crystal Rhoades, Mary Ridder, Tim Schram and Dan Watermeier present. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on September 29, 2020 at 10:00 AM with an agenda to be available in the office of the Executive Director at 10:00 AM on September 28, 2020.

  
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Chair

  
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Executive Director