

January 10, 2007

The Public Service Commission convened in the Commission Hearing Room, State Capitol, Bismarck, North Dakota, on January 10, 2007, 10:00 a.m. Present were Commissioners Wefald, Cramer, and Clark.

Reorganization of Commission  
Nomination of President

Mr. Clark: I move that Commissioner Wefald serve as President of the Public Service Commission for the next two years.

Mr. Cramer: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Executive Secretary/Executive Director  
Appointment

Mr. Cramer: I move that Illona Jeffcoat-Sacco be appointed Executive Secretary and Executive Director of the Commission.

Mr. Clark: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Acting Executive Secretary/  
Executive Director Authorization

Mrs. Wefald: I move that Bill Binek be authorized to act as Executive Secretary and Executive Director in the absence of the Executive Secretary/Executive Director.

Mr. Cramer: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Reassignment of Portfolios

Mrs. Wefald: I move that Commission portfolios for the next two years be allocated as follows:

Commissioner Wefald – electric utilities and transmission, weights and measures, abandoned mine land reclamation, consumer affairs.

Commissioner Cramer – gas utilities, active mine reclamation, pipeline companies.

Commissioner Clark – telecommunications, licensing (includes grain and auctioneers), railroads.

Mr. Cramer: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Minutes

Mr. Cramer: I move the minutes of December 29, 2006, be approved.

Mr. Clark: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Bills

Mr. Cramer: I move the following bills, as reviewed by the Commission, be approved and paid:

ND Newspaper Association	546.08
AAWCO	200.00
FedEx	40.14
AVI Systems	1,118.00
Thiem Drilling, Inc.	17,199.05
Material Testing Services, LLC	2,102.50
Josh Moch – refund auctioneer license	35.00

Wayne Grangaard	365.75
JP Robbins	240.00
William Dodd	96.75
Bruce Beechie	605.50
Stephan A. Schroeder	15.00
Melisa Toepke-Peterson	30.00
Mark Knell	7.50
Bruce Johnson	15.00
Timothy Erdmann	82.50
Rick Fillbrandt	27.50
Anthony T. Clark	165.42
OMB – 12/06 supplies	239.54
OMB – surplus property	30.00
ITD – 12/06 microfilm	504.15
ITD – 12/06 ph chgs	1,318.58
OMB – 12/06 postage	372.74
OMB – 11/06 ups	21.53

Mr. Clark: I second the motion.  
 Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. AU-07-5  
 Josh Moch  
 Auctioneer License  
 Cancellation

Mr. Cramer: I move the Commission issue an order in Case No. AU-07-5 canceling auctioneer license number 608 issued to Josh Moch, Napoleon, North Dakota, effective December 29, 2006.

Mr. Clark: I second the motion.  
 Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. RC-05-591  
 Reclamation  
 Rulemaking

Mr. Cramer: Having received approval from the Attorney General and the federal Office of Surface Mining, I move the Commission adopt the proposed amendments to Article 69-05.2 of the North Dakota Administrative Code, and forward them to the Legislative Council for publication, Case No. RC-05-591.

Mr. Clark: I second the motion.  
 Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-07-3  
 Otter Tail Corporation  
 Large Commercial Time of Day  
 Tariff

Mr. Cramer: I move the Commission suspend the effectiveness of Otter Tail Corporation's Large Commercial Time of Day tariff, Case No. PU-07-3.

Mr. Clark: I second the motion.  
 Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. AM-06-478  
 Public Service Commission - AML  
 Division  
 2007-2010 ND Reclamation Simplified  
 Grant  
 Application

Mr. Cramer: I move the Commission revise the approved AML construction projects for 2007 to delete the Beulah/Zap Phase 11 project.

Mr. Clark: I second the motion.  
 Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-06-506  
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a  
Division of MDU  
Alltel Network, Napoleon, ND  
Public Convenience & Necessity

Mr. Cramer: I move the Commission adopt the Order and issue a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity authorizing Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. to extend electric service to AllTel Network for a cell tower site near Napoleon, North Dakota, Case No. PU-06-506.

Mr. Clark: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. RC-06-456  
Dakota Westmoreland Corporation  
Notice of Violation No. 0604  
Violation

Mr. Cramer: I move the Commission adopt the order to affirm Notice of Violation No. 0604 issued to Dakota Westmoreland Corporation at the Beulah Mine, cancel the informal conference scheduled in the matter, and close the case.

Mr. Clark: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-05-546  
Qwest Corporation vs.  
Absaraka Co-operative Telephone Co.  
Inc. et al.  
Complaint

Mr. Clark: I move the Commission adopt the Order Dismissing Complaint in this proceeding.

Mr. Cramer: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. GE-07-6  
Plains Grain & Agronomy, LLC  
License No. 1115 - Fingal, ND  
Discontinue Business

Mr. Clark: I move the Commission issue an order in Case No. GE-07-6 granting the request of Plains Grain & Agronomy, LLC, Enderlin, North Dakota, to discontinue business at Fingal, North Dakota.

Mr. Cramer: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-06-481  
Otter Tail Corporation  
Advance Determination of Prudence  
Application

Mrs. Wefald: I move the Commission issue a Notice of Hearing in Otter Tail Corporation's Advance Determination of Prudence Application, Case No. PU-06-481.

Mr. Cramer: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-06-482  
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a  
Division of MDU  
Advance Determination of Prudence  
Application

Mrs. Wefald: I move the Commission issue a Notice of Hearing in Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. Advance Determination of Prudence Application, Case No. PU-06-482.

Mr. Cramer: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-06-528  
Otter Tail Power Company  
January 2007  
Fuel Cost Adjustment

Discussion Only

Case No. PU-06-529  
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a  
Division of MDU  
January 2007  
Fuel Cost Adjustment

Case No. PU-07-2  
Northern States Power Company  
January 2007  
Fuel Cost Adjustment

Case No. PU-06-217  
Northern States Power Company  
Rental Property Billing - Electric  
Tariff

Mrs. Wefald: I move the Commission approve Northern States Power Company's Electric Rental Property Billing tariff conditioned upon a review of the tariff status report to the Commission after the tariffs have been in effect for six months, Case No. PU-06-217.

Mr. Cramer: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-06-525  
Northern States Power Company  
Natural Gas Rate Increase  
Application

Mr. Cramer: I move the Commission issue a Notice of Public Input Session and Notice of Hearing in Northern States Power Company Natural Gas Rate Increase Application, Case No. PU-06-525.

Mrs. Wefald: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-06-531  
Northern States Power Company  
January 2007  
Cost of Gas Adjustment

Mr. Cramer: I move the Commission approve Northern States Power Company's Cost of Gas Adjustment for January 2007, Case No. PU-06-531.

Mrs. Wefald: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-07-7  
Great Plains Natural Gas Co.  
January 2007  
Cost of Gas Adjustment

Mr. Cramer: I move the Commission approve Great Plains Natural Gas Co.'s Cost of Gas adjustment for January 2007, Case No. PU-07-7

Mr. Clark: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-06-216  
Northern States Power Company  
Rental Property Billing - Gas  
Tariff

Mr. Cramer: I move the Commission approve Northern States Power Company's Gas Rental Property Billing tariff conditioned upon a review of the tariff status report to the Commission after the tariffs have been in effect for six months, Case No. PU-06-216.

Mr. Clark: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

2007 Testing & Safety Division  
Gas Pipeline Safety Inspection Plan

Mr. Clark: I move the Commission approve the 2007 Testing & Safety Division Gas Pipeline Safety Inspection Plan as a replacement to the Testing & Safety Division's Procedures and Enforcement Guides (Section I – Gas Pipeline Safety).

Mr. Cramer: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

OPS Audit Response Letter

Mr. Clark: I move the Commission approve and President Wefald sign the OPS audit response letter, dated January 10, 2007, to be sent to Ivan Huntoon, Director, OPS Central Region.

Mr. Cramer: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Salary Adjustment

Mr. Clark: I move that a salary increase be authorized for Position No. 5017, effective January 1, 2007, upon satisfactory completion of a six-month probationary period, in an amount consistent with the terms set forth in the Commission's June 29, 2006 offer of employment.

Mr. Cramer: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

ATTEST

THE COMMISSION ADJOURNED AT 11:30 A.M.

---

Executive Director

---

SUSAN E. WEFALD, PRESIDENT