

March 9, 2005

The Public Service Commission convened in the Commission Hearing Room, State Capitol, Bismarck, North Dakota, on March 9, 2005, 10:00 a.m. Present were Commissioners Clark, Wefald, and Cramer.

Minutes

Mr. Cramer: I move the minutes of February 22, 2005, 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	436.63
Ronald G. Harnden, Inc.	100.00
Cellular One	250.41
Bill Eide	643.90
Leo D. Praus	673.13
Phyllis G. Richter	274.00
Wayne Grangaard	474.05
JP Robbins	719.39
Bernath-Coakley Associates Architects, Inc.	21.37
Bruce Beechie	495.05
William E. Dodd	12.00
Jensen Travel	661.00
Susan Wefald	69.95
Bruce Johnson	18.00
David Bickel	12.00
Guy Welch	12.00
Larry L. Larson	18.00
Stephan A. Schroeder	18.00
Rick Fillbrandt	214.32
Timothy Erdmann	572.10
Regional Oversight Committee	300.00
Brown & Saenger	3,799.80
UND	97.50
DOT	6,326.12
OMB – 2/05 postage	408.93
OMB – 1/05 ups	18.76
ITD – 2/05 phone chgs	1,299.92

Mr. Clark: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-04-545
Midcontinent Communications
Long Distance/Local Exchange
Reseller
Application

Mr. Cramer: I move the Commission issue Certificates of Registration to Midcontinent Communications to resell interexchange and local exchange telecommunications services in North Dakota, Case No. PU-04-545.

Mr. Clark: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. AU-05-116
Charles Edward Beckedahl -
Auctioneer
License Application

Mr. Cramer: I move the Commission approve the auctioneer license application for Charles Edward Beckedahl, Devils Lake, ND.

Mr. Clark: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. AU-05-117
Charles Edward Beckedahl - Auction
Clerk
License Application

Mr. Cramer: I move the Commission approve the auction clerk license application for Charles Edward Beckedahl, Devils Lake, ND.

Mr. Clark: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. AU-05-118
Lee A. Sagvold - Auctioneer
License Application

Mr. Cramer: I move the Commission approve the auctioneer license application for Lee A. Sagvold, McLeod, ND.

Mr. Clark: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. AU-05-119
Jeff M. Erhardt - Auction Clerk
License Application

Mr. Cramer: I move the Commission approve the auction clerk license application for Jeff M. Erhardt, dba Erhardt Auctions, New Salem, ND.

Mr. Clark: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. GE-05-133
Heartland Feed, Inc. - Hay Buyer
License Application

Mr. Cramer: I move the Commission approve the hay buyer license application for Heartland Feed, Inc., Tioga, North Dakota, effective February 28, 2005.

Mr. Clark: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. GE-05-134
Great Western Malting Co. - Roving
Grain Buyer
License Application

Mr. Cramer: I move the Commission approve the roving grain buyer license application for Great Western Malting Co., Vancouver, Washington.

Mr. Clark: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. AU-05-140
Solheim Auctions, Inc. - Auction Clerk
License Application

Mr. Cramer: I move the Commission approve the auction clerk license application for Solheim Auctions, Inc., Williston, ND.

Mr. Clark: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-05-131
Otter Tail Corporation
Cost of Energy Adjustment Clause
Tariff
Suspend

Mr. Cramer: I move the Commission suspend Case No. PU-05-131, Otter Tail Corporation's Cost of Fuel Adjustment Clause tariff.

Mr. Clark: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-05-135
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a
Division of MDU
Cost of Energy Adjustment Clause
Tariff
Suspend

Mr. Cramer: I move the Commission suspend
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.'s Cost of Fuel Adjustment
Clause tariff, Case No. PU-05-135.

Mr. Clark: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. GE-05-132
Equity Elevator & Trading Co.
License No. 1049 - Sterling, ND
Discontinue Business

Mr. Clark: I move the Commission issue an order in
Case No. GE-05-132 granting the request of Equity
Elevator & Trading Co. to discontinue business at
Sterling, North Dakota.

Mr. Cramer: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-05-47
PPM Energy, Inc.
Rugby Wind Farm - Pierce County
Siting Application

Mrs. Wefald: I move the Commission acknowledge
PPM Energy, Inc.'s Letter of Intent and shorten the one
year waiting period between filing a letter of intent and a
siting application to one day in Case No. PU-05-47, PPM
Energy, Inc.'s Rugby Wind Farm in Pierce County, North
Dakota.

Mr. Cramer: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-05-87
Otter Tail Corporation
March 2005
Fuel Cost Adjustment

Mrs. Wefald: I move the Commission approve Case
No. PU-05-87, Otter Tail Corporation's Electric Fuel Cost
Adjustment for March 2005.

Mr. Clark: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-05-113
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a
Division of MDU
March 2005
Fuel Cost Adjustment

Mrs. Wefald: I move the Commission approve
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.'s fuel cost adjustment for
March 2005, Case No. PU-05-113.

Mr. Cramer: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-05-123
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a
Division of MDU
Annual Margin Sharing Adjustment -
Electric
Approval

Mrs. Wefald: I move the Commission approve
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.'s Annual Margin Sharing
Adjustment, Case No. PU-05-123.

Mr. Cramer: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-05-124
Otter Tail Corporation
Transfer Siting Auth. for Balta
Switching Station
Application
Notice of Opportunity

Mrs. Wefald: I move the Commission issue a Notice
of Opportunity for Hearing in this proceeding.

Mr. Cramer: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-05-137
Northern States Power Company
March 2005
Fuel Cost Adjustment

Mrs. Wefald: I move the Commission approve Northern States Power Company's fuel cost adjustment for March 2005, Case No. PU-05-137.

Mr. Cramer: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. PU-05-138
Northern States Power Company
March 2005
Cost of Gas Adjustment

Mr. Cramer: I move the Commission approve Northern States Power Company's cost of gas adjustment for March 2005, Case No. PU-05-138.

Mr. Clark: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. RC-04-663
GeoResources, Incorporated
Notice of Violation 0401
Violation

Mr. Cramer: I move the Commission cancel the informal conference and adopt a final order in Case No. RC-04-663, Notice of Violation No. 0401 issued to GeoResources, Inc., that affirms the violation and a civil penalty of \$400.

Mr. Clark: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Completion of Probation
Salary Adjustment

Mrs. Wefald: I move that Annette Bendish receive a salary increase effective March 27, upon her satisfactory completion of a six-month probationary period, in an amount consistent with the terms set forth in the Commission's September 3, 2004, offer of employment.

Mr. Cramer: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

Case No. RR-05-153
Public Service Commission
Local Rail Freight Assistance
PSC Comments/Letters

Mr. Clark: I move the Commission approve the Department of Transportation's submittal of an application for federal Local Rail Freight Assistance (LRFA) project funds.

Mr. Cramer: I second the motion.

Roll Call: All voting "Aye."

ATTEST

THE COMMISSION ADJOURNED AT 11:05 A.M.

Executive Secretary

TONY T. CLARK, PRESIDENT