

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Monday, January 6, 1997, the following members were present:

Dave Fisher, Chairman
Nancy McCaffree, Vice Chair
Bob Anderson, Commissioner
Danny Oberg, Commissioner
Bob Rowe Commissioner

(1) In the matter of the election of a new Chairman; Chair McCaffree moved to nominate Vice Chair Fisher for Chairman. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion. Commissioner Oberg moved to cast an unanimous ballot for Vice Chair Fisher to be elected as Chairman. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Chairman Fisher then began presiding over the meeting.

(2) In the matter of the election of a new Vice Chairman; Commissioner Oberg moved to nominate Commissioner McCaffree for Vice Chair. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(3) In the matter of the appointment of the Commission Secretary; Commissioner Oberg moved to appoint Kathy Anderson as Commission Secretary and in her absence Ann Purcell as her backup. Commissioner McCaffree seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Dan Elliott, Administrator
Utility Division

(4) In the matter of MCI TELECOMMUNICATIONS CORP., Docket N96.12.209. On December 13, 1996, MCI Telecommunications filed Transmittal Letter No. 96-08, proposing textual changes to its Montana Tariff No. 2, Section C - Option L (MCI Phone Cash, Unit Value); and Option P (MCI Masters); Commissioner McCaffree moved to approve Transmittal Letter No. 96-08. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(5) In the matter of US WEST COMMUNICATIONS, Docket N96.11.192. On November 18, 1996, US West Communications filed a proposed tariff to implement a new policy for termination of entrance facilities in new buildings and reinforcement of entrance facilities in existing buildings that will give property owners options for selecting the demarcation point between regulated company facilities and deregulated premises wiring for which the customer is responsible; Commissioner Rowe moved to approve the proposed tariff. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Wayne Budt, Administrator
Transportation Division

(6) In the matter of Docket TN1821 - the Commission approved the lease of PSC No. 9371 between David E. Marshall dba Elkhorn Excursions, Boulder, Montana and Patricia Lewis dba Free Enterprise Health Mine, Boulder, Montana on October 28, 1996. To date no compliance has been received. Notification was sent to the owner and the lessee by certified mail advising that compliance must be met to avoid termination of the lease. No response has been received.

Class B - Passengers between radon health mines located in Jefferson County and points located within Jefferson, Lewis & Clark, Powell & Silver Bow Counties. Limitations: (1) Transportation is limited to that provided with vehicles having a rated seating capacity of twelve (12) passengers or less. (2) Transportation of passengers in charter service is prohibited. (3) Transportation of railroad crews is prohibited. (4) Transportation by limousines is prohibited.

Commissioner Anderson moved to approve the termination of the lease of PSC No. 9371. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(7) In the matter of Docket TN1838 - Winter Sports, Inc., dba The Big Mountain Ski and Summer Resort, Whitefish, Montana requests authorization to lease PSC No. 9387 to Jill Michelle Richards dba Whitefish Taxi & Kiddie Cab, Whitefish, Montana for the period January 6, 1997 to April 15, 1997.

Class B - Passengers and baggage within the City of Whitefish, Montana and a fifteen (15) mile radius thereof. Limitations: Carrier is prohibited from operating vehicles with a passenger capacity above eight (8).

Commissioner Rowe moved to approve the lease of PSC No. 9387 for a period of six months. Commissioner McCaffree seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(8) In the matter of Docket TN1839 - Dick Irvin, Inc., Shelby, Montana requests authorization to lease PSC No. 1649, Subs F, L & M, only to Irvin, Inc. & Mico, Inc., dba I & T Transfer, Shelby, Montana for a one year period, January 1, 1997 to January 1, 1998 (Specified sub authorities to be reissued under PSC 9392 for leasing purposes).

Class B - Property within the town of Fairfield, Montana, and to or from points tributary thereto, but within a distance not exceeding 50 miles in any direction from said town, and the transportation of building materials only within a distance not exceeding 150 miles in any direction from said town of Fairfield. Limitation: Transportation of ashes, trash, waste, refuse, rubbish and garbage is prohibited.

Class B - Property in Oilmont, Montana, and in the oil fields tributary thereto, but within a distance not exceeding 50 miles in any direction from said town. Limitations: The transportation of property between points served by rail carriers, or between points served by a motor carrier operating between fixed termini or over a regular route, is prohibited. Transportation of ashes, trash, waste, refuse, rubbish and garbage is prohibited.

Class B - Property within the City of Conrad, Montana, and to or from points tributary thereto, but within a distance not exceeding fifty (50) miles in any direction from said town. Limitations: The transportation of property between points served by rail carriers, or between points served by a motor carrier operating between fixed termini, or over a regular route, is prohibited. Transportation of ashes, trash, waste, refuse, rubbish and garbage is prohibited.

Commissioner Oberg moved to approve the lease of PSC No. 1649 for a period of one year.

Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned.

DAVE FISHER, Chairman

NANCY MCCAFFREE, Vice Chair

BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

DANNY OBERG, Commissioner

ATTEST:

BOB ROWE, Commissioner

Kathlene M. Anderson
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Monday, January 6, 1997, the following members were present:

Dave Fisher, Chairman
Nancy McCaffree, Vice Chair
Bob Anderson, Commissioner
Danny Oberg, Commissioner
Bob Rowe Commissioner

APPEARANCE

Karen Hammel, Will Rosquist

(9) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of a complaint filed by Flathead Valley Business Association v PTI, Docket D96.9.152 ; Commissioner Oberg moved to deny the request for interim relief without prejudice from Flathead Valley Business Association, to direct staff to prepare further discovery and meet with attorneys of record to determine how record will be submitted. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(10) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of (US West) Centrex Plus/Digitrex (PTI); Commissioner Anderson moved to direct staff to draft an order which grants the withdrawal of said service, but grandfathers present customers. Commissioner McCaffree seconded the motion, which passed with a vote of 4 to 1 with Commissioners Anderson, Fisher, McCaffree and Oberg voting aye and Commissioner Rowe dissenting.

APPEARANCE

Robin McHugh, Mike Lee

(11) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Montana Power Company Rate Design and the MPSC Order approving a stipulation between Montana Power Company and the Montana Consumer Counsel, Docket 96.3.33; Commissioner Anderson moved to grant Montana Power Company's motion for reconsideration and revise the limitation on real time pricing as requested by Montana Power and to direct staff to draft an order. Commissioner Oberg seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Martin Jacobson, Joel Tierney, Dennis Crawford

(12) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of rulemaking associated with the Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Program; Commissioner Rowe moved to deny Montana-Dakota Utilities' motion for hearing and overrule Montana Dakota Utilities' objections to the proposed rules. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Karen Hammel, Robin McHugh

(13) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of US West Communications' constitutional challenge to imputation of yellow page revenues; Commissioner Oberg moved to direct staff to file legal documents in defense of the regulatory practice of imputing yellow page revenues. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Karen Hammel, Mike Lee

(14) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of motions for reconsideration from AT&T and MCI of the Carrier Common Line, Docket D96.4.70; Commissioner Rowe moved to deny the joint motion of AT&T and MCI for reconsideration and stay of the Commission's final order in the Carrier Common Line Docket. Commissioner Oberg seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Karen Hammel, Robin McHugh, Mike Lee

(15) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of US West Communication's rate restructuring and rebalancing docket and pending motions - Docket No. D96.12.220; Commissioner McCaffree moved to issue a protective order as drafted by staff. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Commissioner Oberg moved to issue a notice of application and opportunity for hearing. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Martin Jacobson

(16) In the matter of PSC No. 9379 - Classy Cab; Commissioner Rowe moved to suspend the authority and transfer at a date certain subject to compliance requirements and consideration of any objections by original owner. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned.

DAVE FISHER, Chairman

NANCY MCCAFFREE, Vice Chair

BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

DANNY OBERG, Commissioner

BOB ROWE, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Kathlene M. Anderson
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Monday, January 13, 1997, the following members were present:

Dave Fisher, Chairman
Nancy McCaffree, Vice Chair
Bob Anderson, Commissioner
Danny Oberg, Commissioner
Bob Rowe Commissioner

APPEARANCE

Dan Elliott, Administrator
Utility Division

(17) In the matter of Citizens Telecommunications, Docket N96.12.213. On December 19, 1996, Citizens Telecommunications filed an entire replacement of its existing local exchange tariff to make content and format changes. Content changes in the new tariff (as directed by Commission Order #5731c) are removal of all text and rates pertaining to multi-party service, mileage charges, Eureka-Rexford Suburban Rate Area, and base rate areas. The rest of the tariff revisions are formatting and minor corrections. Commissioner Rowe moved to approve the replacements. Commissioner McCaffree seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(18) In the matter of U S West Communications, Docket N96.12.215. On December 20, 1996, U S West Communications filed Tariff Transmittal 96-43, "Start-Up Business Packages," which provides telecommunication services tailored to meet the specific needs of new businesses. The proposed packages are "solutions" based and provide flexibility for new businesses to add features to their access lines. These packages replace the temporary offerings for Start Up Businesses offered from March 11, 1996 through March 7, 1997. Customers who subscribe to new business service, have a choice from three packages to meet their communications needs and to receive a one-time credit on their bill.

Commissioner McCaffree moved to approve Tariff Transmittal 96-43. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(19) In the matter of U S West Communications, Docket N96.12.216. On December 20, 1996, U S West Communications filed Tariff Transmittal 96-44, "Free Installation Celebration," for the introduction of promotional offerings for business and residence customers of multiple products. Promotional offerings will be made to both residential and business customers during the period January 6, 1997 through February 14, 1997. The promotion will be available to new and existing customers who subscribe to any of the referenced service on new, change, transfer and record orders during the period. Commissioner Rowe moved to approve Tariff Transmittal 96-44. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Wayne Budt, Administrator
Transportation Division

(20) In the matter of Docket TN1840 - C.B. Geier, Helena, Montana, requests the suspension of PSC No. 3584, January 13, 1997 to July 13, 1997.

Class C - Property within the City of Helena, Montana and to or from points tributary thereto, but within a distance not exceeding fifty (50) miles thereof. Limitations: Transportation service as an intermediate carrier between two line haul carriers, except pickup and delivery service within the City of Helena, Montana is prohibited. Transportation of ashes, trash, waste, refuse, rubbish and garbage is prohibited.

Commissioner Anderson moved to approve the suspension of PSC No. 3584. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned.

DAVE FISHER, Chairman

NANCY McCAFFREE, Vice Chair

BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

DANNY OBERG, Commissioner

BOB ROWE, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Kathlene M. Anderson

Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Tuesday, January 14, 1997, the following members were present:

Dave Fisher, Chairman
Nancy McCaffree, Vice Chair
Bob Anderson, Commissioner
Danny Oberg, Commissioner
Bob Rowe Commissioner

APPEARANCE

Denise Peterson, Mike Lee

(21) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Advanced Silicon Materials filing - Docket No. D96.6.106; Commissioner Anderson moved to direct staff to draft an order which approves the Advanced Silicon Materials filing with certain qualifying provisions. Commissioner McCaffree seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Martin Jacobson, Dan Elliott

(22) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Montana Power Company's Natural Gas Case, Docket D96.2.22; Commissioner Oberg moved to continue suspension of the procedural schedule for further consideration at a work session the week of January 27, 1997 with the expectation that parties notify the Commission of progress following the January 21, 1997 negotiation session. Commissioner McCaffree seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Martin Jacobson, Mike Sheard

(23) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Extended Area Service, Dockets D95.10.146 and D95.10.147; Commissioner McCaffree moved to direct staff to draft an order which approves a stipulation between the Montana Consumer Counsel and US West Communications and approves the offering of extended area of service at a statewide incremental cost of approximately \$2.55. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed 4 to 1. Commissioners Fisher, McCaffree, Oberg and Rowe voted aye and Commissioner Anderson dissented.

(24) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Extended Area Service, Dockets D95.10.146 and D95.10.147; Commissioner Rowe moved to notice a rule which would allow Extended Area Service to be optional. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion which failed 3 to 2. Commissioners Anderson and Rowe voted aye. Commissioners Fisher, Oberg and McCaffree dissented.

APPEARANCE

Karen Hammel, Mike Sheard, Ron Woods

(25) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of AT&T and US West Communications arbitration, Docket D96.11.200; Commissioner Rowe moved to issue a Notice of Commission Action requiring parties to file a joint prehearing memorandum. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Karen Hammel, Ron Woods, Mike Sheard

(26) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Citizens and Montana Communications Interconnection and resale agreements with US West Communications, Dockets D96.11.191 and D96.11.198; Commissioner Oberg moved to vacate the hearing and revise the procedural schedule. Commissioner McCaffree seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Robin McHugh, Dan Elliott, Laura Calkin

(27) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of out-of-state travel and the travel budget; Commissioner Rowe moved to approve out of state travel for Eric Eck to attend the NARUC Staff Subcommittee on Accounts meeting in Savannah, Georgia, March 8-13, 1997. Commissioner

Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned.

DAVE FISHER, Chairman

NANCY McCAFFREE, Vice Chair

BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

DANNY OBERG, Commissioner

BOB ROWE, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Kathlene M. Anderson
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Wednesday, January 15, 1997, the following members were present:

Dave Fisher, Chairman
Nancy McCaffree, Vice Chair
Bob Anderson, Commissioner

Danny Oberg, Commissioner

Commissioner Rowe was traveling to a Transportation Division hearing in Kalispell, Montana and therefore did not participate in the following work session.

APPEARANCE

Karen Hammel, Ron Woods, Mike Sheard

(28) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of US West Communications, Inc. objections to AT&T's second set of data requests - Docket No. D96.11.200; Commissioner Anderson moved to grant USWC's objection for information in AT&T #29 in part and further sustained USWC's objections to AT&T #52. Commissioner McCaffree seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Oberg moved to direct USWC to respond to AT&T's motion to compel and request for sanctions by 5:00 p.m., January 20, 1997. Commissioner McCaffree seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned.

DAVE FISHER, Chairman

NANCY McCAFFREE, Vice Chair

BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

ATTEST: DANNY OBERG, Commissioner

Kathlene M. Anderson
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Tuesday, January 21, 1997, the following members were present:

Dave Fisher, Chairman
Bob Anderson, Commissioner
Danny Oberg, Commissioner
Bob Rowe Commissioner

Commissioner McCaffree was absent due to illness and did not vote on the following items.

APPEARANCE

Dan Elliott, Administrator

Utility Division

(29) In the matter of SPRINT COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY - Docket N96.12.212; Sprint Communications has filed text changes to Foncard and Operator Services tariffs. Other revisions increase rates for Sprint Sense Operator Services Off-Peak usage and Foncard service. Commissioner Rowe moved to approve the text changes. Commissioner Oberg seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(30) In the matter of US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - Docket N96.12.217; USWC has filed Tariff Transmittal 96.45 proposing restructuring of the Business Voice Messaging Service offering. The changes were proposed after experience with the product in market. Commissioner Rowe moved to approve the restructuring tariff. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(31) In the matter of RONAN TELEPHONE - Docket N97.1.1; Ronan Telephone Co. filed a promotional rate reduction for residential second line service. The filing has been amended to become effective during the month of February. Commissioner Rowe moved to approve the promotional rate reduction. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(32) In the matter of SOUTHERN MONTANA TELEPHONE - Docket N97.1.2; Southern Montana Telephone has filed a tariff revision to implement a late payment penalty on delinquent accounts. Commissioner Rowe moved to approve the tariff revision. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

ADDITIONAL ITEM

(33) In the matter of US West Communications Rate Restructure - Docket No. D96.12.220; Commissioner Oberg moved to grant USWC until 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 22, 1997 to respond to Montana Consumer Council, AT&T and MCI objections to the adequacy of the filing. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Laura Calkin
Centralized Services

(34) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes; Commissioner Rowe moved to approve the Commission Minutes for the weeks of December 23, 1996 and January 6, 1997. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned.

DAVE FISHER, Chairman

BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

DANNY OBERG, Commissioner

BOB ROWE, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Kathlene M. Anderson
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Wednesday, January 22, 1997, the following members were present:

Dave Fisher, Chairman
Nancy McCaffree, Vice Chair
Bob Anderson, Commissioner
Danny Oberg, Commissioner
Bob Rowe Commissioner

APPEARANCE

Wayne Budt

(35) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Snowy Mountain Charters, Inc. Request for Temporary Authority - Docket No. T97.3.PCN; Commissioner Oberg moved to grant the applicant Class B temporary authority. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Martin Jacobson, Wayne Budt

(36) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Moonlight Medicab - Docket No. T96.58.PCN; Commissioner McCaffree moved to approve Final Order No. 6423, denying the grant of requested Class B operating authority. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Karen Hammel

(37) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of USWC & AT&T Arbitration, pending motions - Docket No. D96.11.200; Commissioner Rowe moved to direct USWC to supply information and/or instructions for use of supplied information. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Martin Jacobson

(38) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of PSC ethical guidelines; Commissioner Rowe moved to direct staff to amend the PSC's ethical guidelines (Blue Book) to conform with the 1995 legislation and Department of Administration model rules. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned.

DAVE FISHER, Chairman

NANCY McCAFFREE, Vice Chair

BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

DANNY OBERG, Commissioner

BOB ROWE, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Kathlene M. Anderson
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Thursday, January 23, 1997, the following members were present:

Dave Fisher, Chairman
Nancy McCaffree, Vice Chair
Bob Anderson, Commissioner
Danny Oberg, Commissioner
Bob Rowe Commissioner

APPEARANCE

Karen Hammel, Ron Woods, Mike Sheard

(39) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of the proposed adoption of rules pertaining to local exchange competition and dispute resolution in negotiations between Telecommunication Providers for Interconnection Services and Network Elements - Docket No. D96.2.16; Commissioner Oberg moved to amend Rule XIV to strike XIV(2). XIV(2) deals with participation by parties other than the two parties requesting arbitration Montana Consumer Counsel. Commissioner McCaffree seconded the motion, which passed 4-1. Commissioners Fisher, McCaffree, Anderson and Oberg voted aye. Commissioner Rowe dissented.

Commissioner Oberg moved to direct staff to prepare rules for final approval by the Commission. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned.

DAVE FISHER, Chairman

NANCY McCAFFREE, Vice Chair

BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

DANNY OBERG, Commissioner

BOB ROWE, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Kathlene M. Anderson
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Friday, January 24, 1997, the following members were present:

Dave Fisher, Chairman
Nancy McCaffree, Vice Chair
Bob Anderson, Commissioner
Danny Oberg, Commissioner
Bob Rowe Commissioner

APPEARANCE

Karen Hammel, Mike Sheard, Mike Lee, Ron Woods

(40) In the matter of US West Communications Arbitration - Presentation by Staff - Docket No. D96.12.220; Commissioner Oberg moved to waive the filing of A through H, to deny the waiver of In or 38.5.2807 and directed staff to hold a technical conference to discuss a procedural order for considering the docket a full cost of service case. Commissioner McCaffree seconded the motion, which passed 4-1. Commissioners Fisher, McCaffree, Oberg and Anderson voted aye. Commissioner Rowe dissented.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned.

DAVE FISHER, Chairman

NANCY McCAFFREE, Vice Chair

BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

DANNY OBERG, Commissioner

BOB ROWE, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Kathlene M. Anderson
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Monday, January 27, 1997, the following members were present:

Dave Fisher, Chairman
Nancy McCaffree, Vice Chair
Bob Anderson, Commissioner
Danny Oberg, Commissioner
Bob Rowe Commissioner

APPEARANCE

Dan Elliott, Administrator
Utility Division

(41) In the matter of PACIFIC POWER & LIGHT - Docket N96.10.180; On November 7, 1996, PP&L filed Advice No. 96-112 proposing to discontinue its residential weatherization and zero interest loan program due to low participation and high program costs. Commissioner Rowe moved to authorize the discontinuation of this PP&L project. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(42) In the matter of PACIFICORP - Docket D97.1.5; On January 13, 1997, PP&L filed an application seeking authority to issue and sell not more than 10,000,000 additional shares of its Common Stock under its Dividend Reinvestment and Stock Purchase Plan, as amended. This is an expansion of authority granted by the Commission in Docket No. 90.8.47, Default Order No. 5492. Based on the current rate of sales under the Plan, the Company anticipates that the new shares will be issued over a four-year period. A default order has been drafted. Commissioner Rowe moved approve Default Order No. 5969. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(43) In the matter of BLACK HILLS POWER & LIGHT - Docket D96.12.219; On December 26, 1996, BHP&L filed a Quarterly Fuel Rate Rider application. A Notice of Opportunity for Public Hearing was issued on October 3, 1996. Requests for hearing were due by January 27, 1997. No requests have been received. This application will increase rates by \$19,486 over the base cost of fuel approved in Docket No. 83.4.25. A default order has been drafted. Commissioner McCaffree moved to approve Default Order No. 5968. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(44) In the matter of U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS - Docket N97.1.3; On January 8, 1997, US WEST Communications filed a proposal for a new project area in O'Rea Creek area in the Livingston Exchange. Commissioner Anderson moved to approve the new project area. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Wayne Budt, Administrator
Transportation Division

(45) In the matter of Docket No. TN1841 - Vern Reum and Shane E. Reum dba Tires-R-Us, Polson, Montana request authorization to lease PSC No. 9360 to Vern Reum dba Tire Depot, Polson, Montana for a one year period, January 22, 1997 to January 22, 1998.

CLASS D - Used tires and wheels between all points and places in Flathead, Lake, and Missoula Counties, Montana, to points in Lake County, Montana.

Commissioner Rowe moved to approve the lease request for a period of one year. Commissioner McCaffree seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Laura Calkin
Centralized Services

(46) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes; Commissioner McCaffree moved to approve the Commission Minutes for the weeks of January 13, 1997 and January 21, 1997. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned.

DAVE FISHER, Chairman

NANCY McCAFFREE, Vice Chair

BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

DANNY OBERG, Commissioner

BOB ROWE, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Kathlene M. Anderson
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Monday, January 27, 1997, the following members were present:

Dave Fisher, Chairman
Nancy McCaffree, Vice Chair
Bob Anderson, Commissioner

Danny Oberg, Commissioner
Bob Rowe Commissioner

APPEARANCE

Karen Hammel, Robin McHugh

(47) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Local Competition Rules - Docket No. D96.2.16 - the adoption of rules pertaining to local exchange competition and dispute resolution in negotiations between telecommunication providers for interconnection services and network elements; Commissioner Oberg moved to adopt the rules as presented subject to proofreading and editing corrections. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned.

DAVE FISHER, Chairman

NANCY McCAFFREE, Vice Chair

BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

DANNY OBERG, Commissioner

BOB ROWE, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Kathlene M. Anderson
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Tuesday, January 28, 1997, the following members were present:

Dave Fisher, Chairman
Nancy McCaffree, Vice Chair
Bob Anderson, Commissioner
Danny Oberg, Commissioner
Bob Rowe Commissioner

APPEARANCE

Martin Jacobson, Wayne Budt

(48) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Classy Cabs - Docket No. T97.1.OTH; Commissioner Rowe moved to transfer PSC Operating Authority No. 9379 from David Wheeler to Shaun and Richard Gwynmon. Compliance is to be met per rules. Commissioner Oberg seconded the motion, which passed 4-1. Commissioners Fisher, Rowe, Anderson and Oberg voted aye. Commissioner McCaffree dissented.

APPEARANCE

Martin Jacobson, Joel Tierney

(49) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of West Yellowstone Gas Company - Docket No. D96.11.187; Commissioner Anderson moved to approve the applicant's no interest loan proposal. Commissioner McCaffree seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(50) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Cascade Gas Company - Docket No. D96.11.188; Commissioner Anderson moved to approve the applicants no interest loan surcharge proposal. Commissioner seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(51) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Montana Power Company's natural gas docket - Docket No. D96.2.22; Commissioner McCaffree moved to grant the motion of MPC for continued suspension and review of suspension the week of February 3, 1997. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Robin McHugh, Ron Woods

(52) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of US West Communication's application for rate increase for residential local and exchange services to reflect an increase in depreciation rates - Docket No. D96.8.131; Commissioner McCaffree moved to accept the stipulation between Montana Consumer Council and USWC and directed staff to draft a final order concluding the docket. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed 4-1. Commissioners Fisher, McCaffree, Anderson and Oberg voted aye. Commissioner Rowe dissented.

APPEARANCE

Karen Hammel, Mike Sheard, Ron Woods

(53) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of AT&T and US West Communication's arbitration and pending motions - Docket No. D96.11.200; Commissioner Oberg moved to defer ruling on pending motions and issue a Notice of Commission action stating concerns. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned.

DAVE FISHER, Chairman

NANCY McCAFFREE, Vice Chair

BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

DANNY OBERG, Commissioner

BOB ROWE, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Kathlene M. Anderson
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Thursday, January 30, 1997, the following members were present:

Dave Fisher, Chairman
Nancy McCaffree, Vice Chair
Bob Anderson, Commissioner
Danny Oberg, Commissioner
Bob Rowe Commissioner

APPEARANCE
Robin McHugh

(54) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of the application of US West Communication, Inc. to increase the rates for residential local exchange services to reflect an increase in depreciation rates - Docket No. D96.8.131; Commissioner Anderson moved to approve Order No. 5937b subject to editing as the Commission's final order and finding of facts. Commissioner McCaffree seconded the motion, which passed 4-1. Commissioners Fisher, McCaffree, Anderson and Oberg voted aye. Commissioner Rowe dissented.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned.

DAVE FISHER, Chairman

NANCY McCAFFREE, Vice Chair

BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

DANNY OBERG, Commissioner

BOB ROWE, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Kathlene M. Anderson
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)