

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Monday, March 3, 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

(91) In the matter of SPRINT - Docket N97.2.22; On February 12, 1997, Sprint proposed text changes to its tariff to rename the Option A Calling Plan to The Most. Included in the same filing, but not requiring Commission action, were: a change in The Most's discount; introduction of VisaPhone Calling Card Services and Optional Calling Plan; price changes for Sprint/Sam's Club prepaid calling cards; introduction of the \$100 Spree Instant FONCARD; and introduction of a \$4000 commitment level for the Business Sense product. Commissioner McCaffree moved to approve the text changes. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(92) In the matter of MONTANA POWER COMPANY - Docket N97.2.20; On February 7, 1997, Montana Power Company filed a Motion to Waive the Requirement to File a Least Cost Plan in 1997 pursuant to ARM 38.5.2012. On February 11, 1997 the PSC granted interested persons an opportunity to submit written comments on MPC's Motion by February 21, 1997. No comments were received. If MPC's Motion is granted the Company will file, by March 15, 1997, a status report describing implementation activities associated with its 1995 Least Cost Plan. Commissioner Rowe moved to grant MPC's motion with three conditions attached. Those conditions are:

- 1) Report from MPC should reference where additional information is filed;
- 2) Not precedential for future years;
- 3) Note representations that the Least Cost Planning Advisory Committee does not oppose.

Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Wayne Budt, Administrator
Transportation and Centralized Services Division

(93) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes; Commissioner McCaffree moved to approve the Commission Minutes for the weeks of February 10, February 18, and February 24, 1997.

Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(94) In the matter of the Commission's approval of the April, 1997 calendar; Commissioner Rowe moved to approve the calendar as drafted. 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

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, March 4, 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 Lee

(95) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of US West Communications, Inc. Rate Restructuring filing - Docket No. D96.12.220 ; Commissioner Rowe moved to grant USWC's request to file a response to comments of intervenors by 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 5, 1997 and defer further consideration until Thursday, March 6, 1996 at the 1:30 p.m. work session. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed 4-1. Commissioners Fisher, McCaffree, Rowe and Anderson voted aye. Commissioner Oberg dissented.

APPEARANCE

Karen Hammel, Mike Sheard, Ron Woods

(96) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of AMCOM and Max-Tel resale agreements and possible consolidation of the dockets - Docket Nos. D97.2.31 and D97.2.32; Commissioner Rowe moved to consolidate the dockets and issue a Notice of Receipt of Filing with procedural dates and opportunity for hearing if requested. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Robin McHugh, Kate Whitney

(97) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of a request from the Montana Power Company - N97.2.25 - for a waiver of certain termination rules regarding notification after payment with insufficient fund checks or failure to meet deferred payment agreements; Commissioner McCaffree moved to grant the waiver and issue a Notice of Commission Action as amended in discussion. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Karen Hammel, Mike Sheard, Kate Whitney

(98) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of a motion from Northwest Payphone Association to suspend PAL/coinline filings of various local exchange carriers - Docket No. D97.2.33; Commissioner Rowe moved to grant the motion, consolidate the pending filings and issue a Notice of Inquiry of issue associated with payphones and granting intervention of Northwest Payphone Association in consolidated dockets. Commissioner McCaffree seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner McCaffree moved to direct staff to draft an order granting interim approval of certain payphone tariff filings. 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, March 10, 1997, the following members were present:

Dave Fisher, Chairman
Danny Oberg, Commissioner
Bob Rowe Commissioner

Commissioner Anderson was absent but left his votes with the Commission Secretary of the following issues. Commissioner McCaffree was absent due to illness and did not leave votes on the following issues.

APPEARANCE

Robin McHugh, Administrator
Legal Division

(99) In the matter of Big Sky Network Tech vs. US West Communications, Inc. - Docket No. D97.3.37; Commissioner Rowe moved to approve the Notice of Complaint. Commissioner Oberg seconded the motion, which passed 3-0. Commissioners Fisher, Oberg and Rowe voted aye. This was additional item, therefore Commissioners Anderson and McCaffree did not vote on this item.

APPEARANCE

Wayne Budt, Administrator
Transportation & Centralized Services Division

(100) In the matter of Docket T-97.12.AR - City of Helena, Helena, Montana, PSC No. 9377, has submitted a Verified Statement. A determination must be made if the Verified Statement is acceptable for the 1996 annual report filing.

Class D - Ashes, waste, trash, rubbish and garbage in the City of Helena, Montana, and to and from points within a radius of 35 miles of Helena, Montana. Carrier is allowed to transport authorized commodities to certified landfills from territory authorized. Limitations: Transportation between points served by rail carrier or by a Class "A" motor carrier for distances beyond the radius of ten (10) miles from the City of Helena, is prohibited.

Commissioner Rowe moved to accept the verified statement. Commissioner Oberg seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Commissioner Anderson voted aye.

APPEARANCE

Laura Calkin
Centralized Services

(101) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes; Commissioner Rowe moved to approve the Commission Minutes for the week of March 3, 1997. Commissioner Oberg seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Commissioner Anderson voted aye.

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, March 12, 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, Martin Jacobson, Dan Elliott, Will Rosquist

(102) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of its position on an Electric Restructuring bill; Commissioner Anderson moved to oppose SB 390 at the Senate hearing on March 13, 1997. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed failed on a vote of 2-3. Commissioners Anderson and Rowe voted aye. Commissioners Fisher, McCaffree and Oberg dissented.

Commissioner Oberg moved to direct staff to assist the Chair in developing testimony for presentation in support of SB 390. Commissioner McCaffree seconded the motion, which passed 3-2. Commissioners Fisher, McCaffree and Oberg voted aye. Commissioners Anderson and 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 Friday, March 14, 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

(103) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Montana Power Company's Gas Case - Docket No. D96.2.22; Commissioner McCaffree moved to set April 11, 1997 as the date for the stipulation hearing, with written comments due April 2, 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, March 17, 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

(104) In the matter of PacifiCorp, Docket D97.2.24. On February 18, 1997, PP&L filed an application seeking authority to issue and sell or exchange not more than \$100,000,000 of its subordinated debt. On February 25, 1997, PP&L filed an amendment to the application seeking authority to issue and sell or exchange not more than \$135,000,000 of its subordinated debt. The proceeds will be used for the acquisition of property, improvement of facilities, improvement of service, the discharge or refunding of obligations, or to reimburse the Company for funds expended from income or from other treasury funds that were not derived from the issuance of securities. Commissioner Rowe moved to approve Default Order No. 5971 as drafted Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

(105) In the matter of Citizens Telecom - Docket N97.2.27; on February 19, 1997, Citizens Telecom filed revised pages to the Montana Local Tariff which adds rates, terms and conditions for Distinctive Ringing and Call Screening Options. Commissioner Rowe moved to approve the revised Tariff pages. Commissioner McCaffree seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

(106) In the matter of Citizens Telecom - Docket N97.2.30; on February 21, 1997, Citizens Telecom filed revised pages to the Montana Local Tariff, effective March 21, 1997. The filing 1) combines Cancel Call Waiting with Call Waiting as one feature; 2) Adds a new revised Custom Calling Premium Package (combining Call Forwarding, Call Waiting Plus, Third Party Add On and Speed Calling 8) which reduces residential rates and increases business rates; and 3) extends a promotional offering to waive the non-recurring charges associated with Custom Calling features for all customers from April 1, 1997 to July 1, 1997. Commissioner Rowe moved to approve the revised Tariff pages. Commissioner McCaffree seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

(107) In the matter of U S WEST Communications - Docket N97.2.28; on February 20, 1997, US WEST Communications filed Tariff Transmittal 97-10, introducing a new package of Custom Calling features which will be marketed as the "Call Manager Connection" to business customers. The package will include the following custom calling features: Caller ID-Name and Number; Call Rejection; Call Forwarding-Variable; Continuous Redial; Priority Calls; and Three-Way Calling. The package features will sell for \$19.95 per month. Customers may add Call Waiting to the package at no additional cost. Commissioner McCaffree moved to approve Tariff Transmittal 97-10 as filed. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Wayne Budt, Administrator
Transportation & Centralized Services Division

(108) In the matter of Docket TN1845 - Johnnie M. Cook dba Lincoln County Medical Transport, Libby, Montana requests authorization to suspend operation of PSC No. 9364 for six months, March 17, 1997 to September 17, 1997.

Class B - Non emergency medical and psychiatric patients to and from medical appointments at health care facilities within the following counties: Flathead, Lake, Lincoln, Missoula, and Sanders. Limitations: Transportation must originate or terminate in Lincoln County.

Class B - Passengers, baggage and express between all points and places in Lincoln and Sanders Counties. Limitations: Transportation of railway crews is prohibited. Transportation by limousine is prohibited.

Commissioner Rowe moved to suspend PSC No. 9364 for a period of six months. Commissioner McCaffree seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

(109) In the matter of Docket TN1846 - Michels Trucking, Inc., Plentywood, Montana requests authorization to suspend operation of PSC No. 1351 for six months March 17, 1997 to September 17, 1997.

Class C - Property within the town of Plentywood, Montana, and to or from points tributary thereto, but not exceeding a distance of fifty (50) miles in any direction from said city. Limitations: Transportation of ashes, trash, waste, refuse, rubbish and garbage is prohibited.

Class C - Equipment used in the production of oil and gas, including tubular goods, tanks, tank batteries, treaters, pumping units and similar equipment, materials, and supplies used in the production of oil and gas, EXCLUDING the transportation of oil drilling rigs, or components thereof between all points and places within the town of Plentywood and a 50 mile radius thereof.

Class B - Wrecked or disabled trucks and trailers over 10,000 pounds and heavy equipment 1) between all points and places in Sheridan, Daniels, Valley and Roosevelt Counties, and 2) to and from Billings, Montana, on the one hand, and points in Sheridan, Daniels, Valley and Roosevelt Counties on the other.

Commissioner McCaffree moved to suspend PSC No. 1351 for a period of six months. 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, March 18, 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, Will Rosquist

(110) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Montana Power Company's market based filing - Docket No. D97.2.29; Commissioner moved to approve Order No. 5972 as the procedural schedule and Notice of Request and Intervention Deadline. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Eric Eck, Scott Fabel

(111) In the matter of the Commission's post hearing discussion of issues involved in Great Falls Gas Company's general rate case - Docket No. D96.7.123; Commissioner McCaffree moved to direct staff to draft an order which 1) uses Great Falls Gas Company's capital structure; 2) sets an ROE of 11.5%; 3) sets a 15% "LIEAP" discount, based on four income groups and 4) approves the Montana Consumer Counsel-Great Falls Gas Company stipulation. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed 3-0 with Commissioners Fisher and Oberg abstaining..

APPEARANCE

Martin Jacobson, Joel Tierney

(112) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of the Pipeline Safety Rules; Commissioner Rowe moved to direct staff to write the Code Committee responding to the Committee's concern over the two hour notice. Commissioner McCaffree seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Martin Jacobson, Mike Sheard

(113) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of motions for reconsideration and other matters as related to EAS - Docket Nos. D95.10.146 and D95.10.147; Commissioner Oberg moved to deny the AT&T motion for reconsideration. Commissioner McCaffree seconded the motion which passed with

Commissioners Fisher, McCaffree and Oberg voted aye. Commissioner Anderson

APPEARANCE
Kate Whitney

(114) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of pay phone tariff filings - Docket Nos. N97.1.9, N97.1.6, N97.1.7 and N96.12.214; Commissioner Rowe moved to issue a Notice of Inquiry and a Notice of Commission Action on certain pay phone related issues. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE
Robin McHugh

(115) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of an amendment to the US WEST Communications - Public Service Commission Settlement Agreement; Commissioner Anderson moved to approve the addendum to the settlement agreement on response time to service orders and authorize the Chairman to sign said addendum. Commissioner McCaffree seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE
Martin Jacobson, Wayne Budt

(116) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of insurance requirements for large buses; Commissioner Anderson moved to issue a Notice of Proposed Rule Change increasing insurance requirements for large buses. 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

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, March 19, 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

(117) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of USWC / AT&T Arbitration - Docket No. D96.11.200; Commissioner Rowe moved to approve the arbitration order (subject to editing) between USWC and AT&T. 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, March 24, 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

(118) In the matter of U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS - Docket N97.3.38; On March 5, 1997, U S West Communications filed Tariff Transmittal 97-11, "Multi-Product Spring Promotion," introducing a promotional offering of several residential and business services as follows: 1) to waive the applicable non-recurring charge and the first month's recurring charge for Business Voice Messaging, Residential Voice Messaging, Installation of U S West Receptionist Service for both business and residential customers, Call Forwarding Products for business customers; and 2) to waive the non-recurring charge for business customers who subscribe to Message Waiting Indication - Audible, Visual, or Audible /Visual. These promotions are available on orders placed and/or completed during the promotion period from April 1, 1997 through May 9, 1997. Proprietary financial justification has been filed.

Commissioner Rowe moved to approve Tariff Transmittal 97-11. Commissioner McCaffree seconded the motion, which passed 4-0. Commissioner Oberg did not vote on this item.

(119) In the matter of MONTANA POWER COMPANY DOCKET D95.7.97 - On February 26, 1997, Montana Power Company filed for final approval of the rates for propane vapor service in Townsend. The Company filed a compliance filing according to Order 5867c which authorized rates on an interim basis. A memo and draft order were circulated, staff recommends approval.

Commissioner Anderson moved to grant final approval of the rates. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed 5-0. Commissioner Oberg voted aye after the business meeting.

(120) In the matter of US WEST - Docket N97.3.40 - On March 5, 1997, US WEST filed Tariff Transmittal 97-13, introducing a usage pricing fee of \$.75/activation for Three Way Calling with a cap of \$6.00/line for any one month. Customers who activate the service during the first 30 days will not be charged.

Commissioner Rowe moved to approve Tariff Transmittal 97-13. Commissioner McCaffree seconded the motion, which passed 4-0. Commissioner Oberg did not vote on this item.

(121) In the matter of US WEST - Docket N97.3.41 - On March 5, 1997, US WEST filed Tariff Transmittal 97-14 with revisions to Private Line Transport tariff. The filing eliminates the fee for a changed service date for switched or special access services (\$13.72). It adds a \$100 dispatch charge when a customer fails to notify the company that service cannot be accepted and a technician is dispatched to the customer's premise.

Commissioner Rowe moved to approve Tariff Transmittal 97-14. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed 3-1. Commissioners Rowe, Anderson and Fisher voted aye. Commissioner McCaffree dissented. Commissioner Oberg did not vote on this item.

(122) In the matter of US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - Docket N97.3.39; On March 5, 1997, US WEST Communications filed a promotional offering for the period of April 1 through April 30, 1997, called "Twelve for Ten". The customer is billed in advance for 10 months of service and receives 12 months. The promotion includes the following business services: Business Voice Messaging Service; Caller ID Name and Number and Number only; Call Waiting; Call Forwarding Busy Line Don't Answer (Expanded); Call Forwarding Busy Line Don't Answer (External); and Customized Call Management Services. If a customer pays for the ten months billing and disconnects their service prior to the tenth month, they will receive a refund for the unused portion of the billed charges. Commissioner McCaffree moved to approve the promotional offering. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed 4-0. Commissioner Oberg did not vote on this item.

(123) In the matter of WILLIAMS WATER WORKS - Docket D96.10.175; On October 23, 1996, Williams Water Works filed for authority to increase rates and charges for water service to its customers in and around the Phillips Addition of Flathead County, Montana. A Notice of Application and Opportunity for Public Hearing was issued and the Commission received no requests for a hearing. A default order has been drafted. Staff recommends approval.

Commissioner Rowe moved to approve the request for an increase in rates and charges. Commissioner McCaffree seconded the motion, which passed 5-0. Commissioner Oberg voted aye after the business meeting.

Wayne Budt, Administrator
Transportation & Centralized Services Division

(124) Docket T-97.9.ST - City Taxi, Inc., Bozeman, Montana filed an application for the transfer of Montana Intrastate Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity, PSC No. 303 to Karst Stage, Inc., Bozeman, Montana.

Class A - Persons, within the City of Bozeman, Montana.

Class B - Persons by charter, from any point authorized to be served in regular Class "A" service to any and all points in the State of Montana. This certificate is incident to certificate of public convenience and necessity, MRC No. 303, authorizing Class "A" service and may not be separately sold or leased. Limitations: a.) The hiring of charter service must be for the entire vehicle and solicitation of individual passengers to constitute a load is prohibited. b.)

The charter trip must originate or terminate in the area authorized to be served by the carrier in regular Class "A" service. c.) Charter service, except to schools, churches, lodges or community and service organizations, is prohibited unless the one way trip is in excess of ten

(10) miles.

No protests were received.

Commissioner McCaffree moved to grant the transfer of PSC No. 303. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed 4-0. Commissioner Oberg did not vote on this item.

(125) In the matter of TN1847 - Jan Hanson & Brenda SerVoss dba Sunshine Shuttle, Missoula, Montana request authorization to lease PSC No. 9380 to Sunshine Shuttle, Inc., Missoula, Montana for a six month period March 24, 1997 to September 24, 1997 pending completion of a sale and transfer proceeding between the same parties.

Class B - Passengers (children age fourteen (14) and under) between points and places in the City of Missoula, Montana, and a five (5) mile radius thereof. Limitations:

Transportation is restricted to children age fourteen (14) and under. 2) Transportation is restricted to service in vehicles with a rated seating capacity of twelve (12) passengers or less. 3) Transportation of passengers in motor coaches, buses, and limousines is prohibited. 4) Transportation service and tariff rates must be by individual fares only and operations as a charter service is prohibited.

Commissioner Rowe moved to grant permission to lease PSC No. 9380 for six months. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed 4-0. Commissioner Oberg did not vote on this item.

(126) In the matter of TN1848 - Fred M. Zweifel dba Circle Z Enterprises, Virginia City, Montana requests authorization to continue the suspension of PSC No. 9270 for the period March 15, 1997 to June 7, 1997.

Class B - Passengers within the City of Virginia City and a two mile radius thereof.

Commissioner McCaffree moved to grant permission to lease PSC No. 9370 for three months. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed 4-0. Commissioner Oberg did not vote on this item.

(127) In the matter of TN1849 - Dan Kautz dba V.I.P. Limousine, Billings, Montana requests authorization to suspend PSC No. 8920 for the final three months available to him, February 3, 1997 to May 3, 1997.

Class B - Passengers between all points and places in Yellowstone and Sweetgrass Counties. Limitations: 1) Transportation of Burlington Northern train crews is

prohibited. 2) Transportation is limited to five (5) passengers or less per vehicle and further limited to limousine transportation only. 3) Reservations for limousine service must be made at least 24 hours in advance. 4) Transportation as a taxi or jitney is prohibited.

Commissioner McCaffree moved to grant permission to lease PSC No. 8920 for three months. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed 4-0. Commissioner Oberg did not vote on this item.

APPEARANCE
Laura Calkin
Centralized Services

(128) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes; Commissioner McCaffree moved to approve the Commission Minutes for the weeks of March 10 and March 17, 1997. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed 4-0. Commissioner Oberg did not vote on this item.

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, March 25, 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

(129) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of the AMCOM and Max-Tel request for interim approval and expedited service - Docket No. D97.2.31; Commissioner Rowe moved to deny the request for interim approval. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed 3-2. Commissioner Fisher, Anderson and Rowe voted aye. Commissioners Oberg and McCaffree dissented.

APPEARANCE

Karen Hammel, Bonnie Lorang, Mike Sheard

(130) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Universal Service Issues and associated FCC proceedings; Commissioner Rowe moved to draft ex parte comments for filing with the Federal Communications Commission on Universal Service Issues supporting use of combined Inter/Intra State funding and other issues of interest to rural states. Commissioner McCaffree seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Wayne Budt, Dan Elliott, Robin McHugh

(131) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of its budget; Commissioner Rowe moved to authorize out-of-state travel for 3 persons to attend the Attorneys Conference, 2 to US West ROC (Regional Oversight Committee) meetings and 1 to the National Transportation Committee meeting. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. Commissioner McCaffree moved to amend the original motion to authorize only 1 staff member to attend the ROC meeting. Commissioner Oberg seconded the motion, which passed 3-2. Commissioners Fisher, McCaffree and Oberg voted aye. Commissioners Anderson and Rowe dissented. Vote reverted to the original motion as amended and passed unanimously.

(132) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of its budget; Commissioner Anderson moved to subscribe, for 2 years, to the Billings Gazette, Great Falls Tribune and the Missoulian newspapers. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion. Commissioner Rowe offered a substitute motion to subscribe to the Great Falls Tribune only. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which failed on a 2-3 vote. Commissioners Anderson and Rowe voted aye. Commissioners Fisher, McCaffree and Oberg voted aye.

Vote reverted to the original motion, which failed on a 1-4 vote. Commissioner Anderson voted aye. Commissioners Fisher, McCaffree, Oberg and 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, March 31, 1997, the following members were present:

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

Commissioner Oberg was absent and did not vote on the following items.

APPEARANCE

Dan Elliott, Administrator
Utility Division

(133) In the matter of CLARK FORK TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC. - Docket N97.3.42; On March 12, 1997, Clark Fork Telecommunications filed tariff revisions to expand the exchange boundaries for Drummond and Superior and to change the pricing structure of its Internet offering for public schools. Text changes were also made to the Off Premise Extensions offering. Commissioner Rowe moved to approve the tariff revisions. Commissioner McCaffree seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Wayne Budt, Administrator
Transportation & Centralized Services Division

(134) In the matter of Docket No. T-97.10.RI; On February 21, 1997, Montana Tariff Bureau, Agent, Helena, Montana 59624 (for and on behalf of Suhr Transport in an independent action) filed a request for increased Distance Commodity Rates of 10%. This increase would only apply when other carriers, booking agents, brokerage firms or others not holding Montana intrastate household goods operating authority tender third party shipments with the understanding that they expect a commission or fee for their participation.

No protests were received. The rate increase will become effective April 14, 1997 Commissioner Rowe moved to approve the rate increase. 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

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, April 1, 1997, the following members were present:

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

APPEARANCE
Kate Whitney

(135) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of a U S West tariff filing know as Combination Line Service - N96.11.193; Commissioner Rowe moved to grandfather Arrangements II and III and direct USWC to give Arrangements I customers the option of converting to similar services or be grand fathered under this tariff. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE
Martin Jacobson, Wayne Budt

(136) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of a federal court decision in Burlington Northern Santa Fe vs PSC; Commissioner Rowe moved to not appeal the decision of Judge Lovell, U.S. District Court, Civil Action No. 96-55-H-CCL, issued March 21, 1997, declaring that state regulation of railroad agencies has been pre-empted by the ICC Termination Act of 1995. Commissioner McCaffree seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE
Robin McHugh, Wayne Budt

(137) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Electricity Restructuring - HB 614; Commissioner Anderson moved to testify in support of HB 614. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed 4-1. Commissioners McCaffree, Oberg, Anderson and Rowe voted aye. Commissioner Fisher 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)