

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Monday, May 5, 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

(182) In the matter of MCI TELECOMMUNICATIONS CORP. - Docket N97.4.75; On April 18, 1997, MCI Telecommunications filed Transmittal Letter No. 97-05 - Supplement, proposing:

(1) To introduce a promotional offering entitled Vnet Short Haul Promotion to Vnet customers that enroll in the program and use dedicated access-switched termination to access the MCI network. MCI will offer the new rate of 0.0204 on Intralata traffic originating and terminating within the 0-15 mileage band, (in lieu of rates specified in Section C-1.091). The Short Haul Intralata rates are available throughout the remainder of the customer's current Vnet contract. The promotional period begins May 5, 1997 and ends July 14, 1997; (2) The following text changes have also been filed: the per minute rates for Prime Time Option and MCI Sure Saving Option; and the fees of Option K (Commercial Dial 1 Service), are being deferred to MCI's FCC Tariff No. 1. Commissioner Rowe moved to approve Transmittal Letter No. 97-05 - Supplement. Commissioner McCaffree seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(183) In the matter of US WEST - Docket N97.4.71; On April 16, 1997, US WEST filed Tariff Transmittal 97-AC01, to eliminate the Service Date Change Charge for Switched Access Services and to introduce a Dispatch Charge for Switched Access Services. The new tariff pages for the Special Access Tariff were not filed with the previously approved Tariff Transmittal 97-14 (3/24/97), Private Line Transport Tariff revisions. Commissioner McCaffree moved to approve Tariff Transmittal 97-AC01. Commissioner Oberg seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(184) In the matter of US WEST - Docket N97.4.72; On April 17, 1997, US WEST Communications filed Tariff Transmittal 97-15 to introduce the "Phone improvement" multi-product promotion for residential and business customers. The promotion period is from May 12, 1997 through June 20, 1997. Residential customers will be offered Custom Calling Services and CLASS Features, US WEST Custom Ringing, Voice Messaging Service and the Real Deal Package. The non-recurring charge for these features will be waived during the promotion period. Business customers offerings will include Additional Lines, StandBy Line, Custom Calling Services, CLASS Features, Customized Call Management Services, Hunting, US WEST Custom Ringing, and Business Voice Messaging Service. Waivers are as follows: \$25.00 reduction in the nonrecurring charge for the purchase of one additional exchange access line per customer location. Also included is the second line for customers ordering new service. The regrade charge when upgrading to a Flat Rate Business line will be waived. The nonrecurring charge for features will be waived. Commissioner Rowe moved to approve Tariff Transmittal 97-15. Commissioner McCaffree seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(185) In the matter of CENTRAL MONTANA COMMUNICATIONS - Docket N97.3.52; On April 21, 1997, Central Montana Communications filed to add a new category for commercial accounts to its detariffed internet services. Commissioner McCaffree moved to approve the filing. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(186) In the matter of US WEST - Docket N97.4.73; On April 16, 1997, US West Communications filed to withdraw Customized Intercept Service and to clarify the terms and conditions for Basic, New and Split Referral Intercept services. Commissioner Rowe moved to approve the withdrawal and the clarification. Commissioner McCaffree seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(187) ADDITIONAL ITEM: In the matter of Linda Vista Water Service - Docket No. D97.4.62; Commissioner Rowe moved to approve the Procedural Order by staff to treat the filing as an application for rate increase. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Wayne Budt, Administrator  
Transportation & Centralized Services Division

(188) In the matter of TN1857 - John B. Toenyas dba Great Falls Historic Trolley, Great Falls, Montana requests authorization to continue the suspension of PSC No. 9382 for a final six month period, May 1, 1997 to November 1, 1997.

Class B - Passengers within the City of Great Falls, Montana and a ten (10) mile radius thereof. Limitations: Transportation is restricted to that provided by replica motorized trolley. Carrier is restricted from additionally providing off-vehicle guided tours of historical and natural attractions in conjunction with the transportation fare.

Commissioner Anderson moved to suspend PSC No. 9382 for a final six month period. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE  
Laura Calkin  
Centralized Services

(189) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes; Commissioner Rowe moved to approve the Commission Minutes for the week of April 28, 1997. Commissioner McCaffree seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(190) In the matter of the approval of Commission Calendar; Commissioner McCaffree moved to approve the draft June, 1997 calendar. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

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

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DAVE FISHER, Chairman

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NANCY McCAFFREE, Vice Chair

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BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

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DANNY OBERG, Commissioner

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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, May 6, 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, David Burchett

(191) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Montana Dakota Utilities Company and its various natural gas filings - Docket Nos. D95.7.90, D96.4.52, D96.10.167; Commissioner McCaffree moved to issue the staff draft of a Final Order in these dockets. Commissioner Oberg seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Karen Hammel, Bonnie Lorang

(192) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of U S West Communications, Inc., 1-800-4US-WEST Tariff filing - N96.12.218; Commissioner Rowe moved to approve the filing on an interim basis subject to FCC ruling on similar Bill Operating Company complaints and further require USWC to disclose Frontier may be the telecommunications carrier providing long distance service. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Laura Calkin

(193) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of its out-of-state travel; Commissioner Anderson moved to approve out-of-state travel for 1 staff member to attend the Separations Conference in Phoenix, Arizona, May 18 and 19, 1997. Commissioner McCaffree seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

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

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DAVE FISHER, Chairman

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NANCY McCAFFREE, Vice Chair

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BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

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DANNY OBERG, Commissioner

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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, May 12, 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

(194) In the matter of SPRINT COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY - Docket N97.4.78; On April 25, 1997, Sprint Communications Co. Filed minor text changes purposing to add LEC card agreement text to the current Foncard Service. Commissioner Rowe moved to approve the text changes. Commissioner McCaffree seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(195) In the matter of CITIZENS TELECOM - Dockets N97.4.66 and N97.4.67; On April 29, 1997, Citizens Telecom filed tariff pages to replace the ones filed April 15 in which the company proposed to change the name under which it does business in Montana. "Citizens Telecommunications Company of Montana" will be changed to "Citizens Communications Company of Montana." Two filings were made -- one to change the name in the local exchange tariff and the other to change it in the access tariff. Citizens requests the name change become effective on May 14, 1997. Commissioner Rowe moved to approve the tariff changes. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Wayne Budt, Administrator  
Transportation & Centralized Services Division

(196) In the matter of TN1858 - Charles R. Irvin, Shelby, Montana requests authorization to continue the lease of PSC No. 1086 to Dick Irvin, Inc., Shelby, Montana for one year, May 25, 1997 to May 25, 1998.

Class C - Property in Oilmont, Montana, and to or from points tributary thereto, but not exceeding fifty (50) miles in any direction from said city.  
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, waste, refuse, rubbish and garbage is prohibited.

Commissioner Oberg moved to grant permission to the application to continue to lease PSC No. 1086 for a period of one year. Commissioner McCaffree seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Laura Calkin  
Centralized Services

(197) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes; Commissioner McCaffree moved to approve the Commission Minutes for the week of May 5, 1997. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

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

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DAVE FISHER, Chairman

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NANCY McCAFFREE, Vice Chair

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BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

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DANNY OBERG, Commissioner

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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, May 15, 1997, the following members were present:

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

Vice Chair McCaffree was absent due to surgery. She submitted her votes via E-mail to the Commissioners and Commission Secretary.

APPEARANCE

Robin McHugh, Dan Elliott, Martin Jacobson

(198) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Montana Dakota Utilities Gas Tracking Procedure - Docket No. D97.3.43; Commissioner Oberg moved to defer action on the process and direct staff to schedule and notice a meeting with MDU to further discuss the procedure. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed 4-1. Commissioners Fisher, Oberg, Anderson and Rowe voted aye. Commissioner McCaffree dissented.

APPEARANCE

Martin Jacobson, Dan Elliott

(199) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Montana Power Company's Natural Gas Filing - Docket No. D96.2.22; Commissioner Rowe moved to grant MPC's motion to suspend procedural schedule and schedule stipulation presentation notice. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Commissioner Rowe moved to direct staff to begin drafting rules on supplier licensing and abusive practices as required in Senate Bill 396. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed 4-1. Commissioners Fisher, Anderson and Rowe voted aye. Commissioner McCaffree voted aye via E-mail submission. Commissioner Oberg dissented.

APPEARANCE

Martin Jacobson

(200) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of motor carrier bus insurance requirements; Commissioner Rowe moved to adopt the rules as noticed and published. Commissioner Oberg seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.



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

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DAVE FISHER, Chairman

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NANCY McCAFFREE, Vice Chair

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BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

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DANNY OBERG, Commissioner

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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, May 15, 1997, the following members were present:

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

Commissioner McCaffree was absent due to surgery. She did not leave her votes on the following items.

APPEARANCE

Robin McHugh, Denise Peterson, Dan Elliott, Martin Jacobson

(201) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Senate Bill 390 and its implementation; Commissioner Anderson moved to direct staff to prepare preliminary notices and suggested procedural schedules for processing transition schedules. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Robin McHugh, Kate Whitney

(202) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of US West Communications, Inc./PSC Service Quality Settlement; Commissioner Anderson moved to amend the service agreement to rectify reporting problems of violations. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

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

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DAVE FISHER, Chairman

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BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

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DANNY OBERG, Commissioner

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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, May 19, 1997, the following members were present:

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

Vice Chair McCaffree was absent due to surgery but voted on the following items via telephone to Edie Wheat.

APPEARANCE

Dan Elliott, Administrator  
Utility Division

(203) In the matter of U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS - Docket N97.4.82; On May 5, 1997, U S West Communications filed Tariff Transmittal 97-18, "Correction-Index Page Release Number". This filing corrects Section 5, Index pages Release Numbers, due to the timing of approvals on filing packages. Commissioner Rowe moved to approve the tariff corrections. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Commissioner McCaffree voted aye.

(204) MONTANA POWER COMPANY - Docket D97.2.29; Power Procurement Group (PPG) filed a late Petition to Intervene. PPG is a broker for retired energy consumers. PPG agrees not to broaden or delay the proceedings. Commissioner Oberg moved to approve the request for late intervention. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Commissioner McCaffree voted aye.

APPEARANCE

Wayne Budt, Administrator  
Transportation & Centralized Services Division

(205) In the matter of Docket T-97.17.ST - Jan Hanson & Brenda SerVoss dba Sunshine Shuttle, Missoula, Montana have filed an application for transfer of Montana Intrastate Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity, PSC No. 9380, to Sunshine Shuttle, Inc., Missoula, Montana.

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 approve the transfer of PSC No. 9380. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Commissioner McCaffree voted aye.

APPEARANCE

Laura Calkin  
Centralized Services

(206) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes; Commissioner Oberg moved to approve the Commission Minutes for the week of May 12, 1997. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Commissioner McCaffree voted aye.

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

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DAVE FISHER, Chairman

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NANCY McCAFFREE, Vice Chair

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BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

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DANNY OBERG, Commissioner

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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, May 19, 1997 the following members were present:

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

Vice Chair McCaffree was absent due to surgery and did not vote on the following item.

APPEARANCE

Wayne Budt, Robin McHugh, Laura Calkin

(207) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of its budget and certain travel expenses and travel policies; Commissioner Rowe moved to approve out-of-state travel for one staff to attend the Rutgers Current Economics Issues Conference in San Diego, California, July 9-11; 1 staff to attend the NARUC Summer Meetings in San Francisco, California, July 20-24; and 2 staff to attend the JNARUC Annual Regulatory Studies Program in Lansing, Michigan, August 3-15. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

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

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DAVE FISHER, Chairman

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BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

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DANNY OBERG, Commissioner

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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, May 20, 1997 the following members were present:

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

Vice Chair McCaffree was absent due to surgery but left her proxy to Commissioner Rowe on the following item.

APPEARANCE  
Denise Peterson

(208) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Docket No. T-6.116.PCN - First Class Limousine Service, request for motor carrier operating authority; Commissioner Rowe moved to approve the Final Order partially granting operating authority. Commissioner Oberg seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

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

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DAVE FISHER, Chairman

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NANCY McCAFFREE, Vice Chair

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BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

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DANNY OBERG, Commissioner

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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, May 20, 1997, the following members were present:

Dave Fisher, Chairman  
Danny Oberg, Commissioner  
Bob Rowe Commissioner

Vice Chair McCaffree was absent due to surgery but voted as noted on the following items. Commissioner Anderson was absent, but left his written vote on this item with the Commission Secretary.

APPEARANCE

Martin Jacobson, David Burchett

(209) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Montana Dakota Utility Company's Gas Tracking Case - Docket No. D97.3.56; Commissioner Oberg moved to approve the interim order subject to editing. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed 4-1. Commissioners Fisher, Oberg, Anderson and Rowe voted aye. Commissioner McCaffree dissented via telephone conference call into the meeting.

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

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DAVE FISHER, Chairman

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NANCY McCAFFREE, Vice Chair

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BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

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DANNY OBERG, Commissioner

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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, May 20, 1997, the following members were present:

Dave Fisher, Chairman  
Danny Oberg, Commissioner  
Bob Rowe Commissioner

Vice Chair McCaffree was absent due to surgery and did not vote on the following item. Commissioner Anderson was absent, but left his proxy to Commissioner Rowe via the Commission Secretary.

APPEARANCE

Robing McHugh, Dan Elliott, Martin Jacobson

(210) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of natural gas restructuring; Commissioner moved to reconsider our previous action on directing staff to draft gas restructuring rules. Commissioner Oberg seconded the motion, which passed 4-0. Commissioner McCaffree did not vote on this item.

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

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DAVE FISHER, Chairman

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BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

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DANNY OBERG, Commissioner

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BOB ROWE, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Kathlene M. Anderson  
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)