

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
UTILITIES DIVISION

MINUTES OF THE UTILITIES BOARD

A meeting was held on September 15, 2015, commencing at 1:02 p.m. in the Iowa Utilities Board (IUB) Hearing Room, 1375 East Court Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa. Board Members attending were Chair Geri Huser, Libby Jacobs, and Nick Wagner. Staff members in attendance were Mike Balch, Scott Bents, Brenda Biddle, Judi Cooper, Rob Hillesland, Kerri Johannsen, Leighann LaRocca, David Lynch, Teresa McConnell, Cynthia Munyon, Ellen Shaw, Don Stursma, Suzanne Smith, Gary Stump, Jennifer Johnson, Don Tormey, Mary Whitman, and Cecil Wright.

Consent, administrative, and action items listed on the meeting agenda were considered first and four informational items were presented by Board staff. Board Member Jacobs made a motion to approve the Board's August 18, 2015, meeting minutes and August 11, 2015, decision meeting minutes (Docket No. RPU-2015-0002). Board Member Wagner seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved the minutes of both August 2015 meetings.

Board Staff Scott Bents discussed an EGEAS Version 11.0 license agreement for new Board staff software that would upgrade its Version 10 software at no additional cost to the Board as an active member of the Organization of MISO States (OMS). Board Member Jacobs made a motion to approve the new software agreement. Board Member Wagner seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Kerri Johannsen discussed the agency's Continuity of Operations - Continuity of Government (COOP-COG) Plan, noting that she and Deputy Executive Secretary Judi Cooper had reviewed and approved it and that Chair Huser's approval was still required. Chair Huser said she had seen the document and would proceed with signing it, minus any objections.

Board Member Jacobs motioned, Board Member Wagner seconded, and the Board unanimously approved the following administrative items:

- EAC-2014-0027: Interstate Power and Light Company, Rider Report.
- EAC-2015-0023: Interstate Power and Light Company, August EAC Filing.
- PGA-2015-0028: MidAmerican Energy Company, Annual Purchased Gas Adjustment Filing.
- PGA-2015-0030: Black Hills Energy Company, Annual Purchased Gas Adjustment Filing.
- PGA-2015-0031: Interstate Power and Light Company, Annual Purchased Gas Adjustment Filing.
- TF-2015-0308: East-Central Iowa Rural Electric Cooperative, Tariff Revision.
- TF-2015-0309: MidAmerican, Gas Tariff Revision – Franchise Fee for Akron, Iowa.
- TF-2015-0310: MidAmerican, Gas Tariff Revision – Franchise Fee for Van Meter, Iowa.
- TF-2015-0311: MidAmerican Energy Company, Electric Tariff Revision – Franchise Fee for Van Meter, Iowa.
- TF-2015-0312: Eastern Iowa Light and Power Cooperative, Tariff Revision.
- TF-2015-0314: MidAmerican Energy Company, Tariff Revision – Residential Master Metered Service.

Board Staff Mike Balch and Jennifer Johnson updated the Board on Docket No. RMU-2014-0003, which is a rule making proceeding for proposed amendments to telephone service regulations. Balch said that after discussing the 199 Iowa Administrative Code (IAC) Chapter 22 rules with the Board at its last monthly meeting, Board staff sought the final authorization of the Board after providing the Board with a memo containing its final amendments to the Board,

which the Board signed, and with the adopted rules and filed notice prepared to go to the code editor's office on September 18, 2015. Chair Huser asked for any comments or objections to the Board's adopted rules. John Pietila of the Iowa Communications Alliance said he appreciated the opportunity to be a part of the Board's rule making process. However, he proposed that IAC 199.22(16) requiring at least two days of notice to the Board and the Office of Consumer Advocate before discontinuance of utility service might cause confusion or raise unnecessary concerns or complaints from residential customers regarding the notice requirement, even if it is intended for the utilities' wholesale relationships. Chair Huser asked Board staff for its feedback on the noted concerns and asked whether it had similar concerns. Balch said IAC 199.22(16) involves utility to utility discontinuance of service and staff's understanding is that it pertains strictly to a wholesale type of relationship. Balch further stated that the rule was never intended to subject retail customers being disconnected from service, which is clearly addressed in IAC 199.22(4), to the new two-day notice requirements under 22(16). Board Member Jacobs made a motion to approve the proposed adopted rules that were included in staff's memo to the Board and Board Member Wagner seconded the motion, which the Board unanimously approved.

Deputy Executive Secretary Judi Cooper presented the agency's 2017 fiscal year budget to the Board, which she said totals \$9.43 million, including federal grants and civil penalty funds.

Board Staff Jim Langenberg discussed the Board's annual letter regarding state certification of Universal Service High Cost Support for telecommunications companies will authorize receipt of assistance funding starting in January 2016. Langenberg stated that the letter is due to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and Universal Service Administrative Company by October 1, 2015. Board Member Jacobs motioned to approve the letter, to be signed by the Telecom manager. Board Member Wagner seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved the motion.

Board staff presented several informational items. Cooper provided the monthly financial report, noting nothing caused her concern. Safety and Engineering Section Manager Don Stursma and Staff Cynthia Munyon talked about Federal Pipeline Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) grants that are applied for and received annually by Board staff, including reimbursement for the costs associated with its federal natural gas pipeline safety inspection program, enforcement and educational activities of the Iowa Attorney General pertaining to the Iowa One Call law, and a state damage prevention grant obtained in partnership with Common Ground Iowa. Staff also discussed its processes for compiling and submitting Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration and Damage Information Reporting Tool reports.

Board Staff Kerri Johannsen and Board Member Jacobs provided an update on Iowa's collaborative effort to understand and develop a state plan to comply with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Section 111(d) rules pertaining to carbon emissions standards for existing power plants. .

Board Staff Brenda Biddle provided information to the Board regarding summer 2016 energy internship opportunities.

Chair Huser asked for public comments on items not listed on the meeting agenda and, hearing none, she adjourned the meeting at 2:16 p.m. Recorded by Rob Hillesland.

ATTEST:

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Executive Secretary, Designee