Minutes of the January 22, 2020 B&E Meeting

LOUISIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
MINUTES FROM JANUARY 22, 2020
OPEN SESSION

MINUTES OF JANUARY 22, 2020 OPEN SESSION OF THE LOUISIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION HELD IN BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA. PRESENT WERE CHAIRMAN MIKE FRANCIS, VICE CHAIRMAN FOSTER CAMPBELL, COMMISSIONER LAMBERT BOISSIERE, COMMISSIONER ERIC SKRMETTA, COMMISSIONER CRAIG GREENE, AND EXECUTIVE SECRETARY BRANDON FREY.

Open Session of January 22, 2020, convening at 9:18 A.M., and adjourning at 10:56 A.M., the Galvez Building, 602 North 5th Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, with the above-named members of the Commission and Executive Secretary Brandon Frey.

Ex. 1
Commissioner Skrmetta requested Entergy Louisiana, LLC to report back to the Commission at the February Business & Executive Session on the status of the construction of the Lake Charles Power Plant as it relates to the bankruptcy filing of McDermott International, Inc.

Vice Chairman Campbell requested that the May 2020 Business & Executive Session be held in Shreveport. Commissioner Skrmetta also requested that the December 2020 Business & Executive Session be held in the New Orleans Metro area. Chairman Francis reminded everyone that the April 2020 Business & Executive Session will be held on Toledo Bend at the Cypress Bend Resort.

Chairman Francis requested thoughts and prayers for Janice Perkins, his Executive Assistant, as her mother passed away. Commissioner Greene also requested thoughts and prayers for his wife who recently had surgery.

Audit Director Robin Pendergrass introduced two new Staff auditors, Peggy Schwander and Chassitty Williams.

Executive Counsel Kathryn Bowman announced that the Louisiana Chapter of the Energy Bar Association would be holding a CLE seminar on May 1, 2020, at the LSU Energy Center with additional details to come. Any questions regarding the event should be directed to Dana Shelton.

Executive Counsel Kathryn Bowman announced that it was Executive Secretary Frey’s 48th birthday.

Ex. 2
Election of 2020 Chair and Vice Chair.

On motion of Commissioner Greene, seconded by Commissioner Skrmetta, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to elect Chairman Francis as the 2020 Chairman of the Commission.

On motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Chairman Francis, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to elect Commissioner Greene as the 2020 Vice Chairman of the Commission.

Ex. 3
Election of ERSC Representative for 2020.

On motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Chairman Francis, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to elect Commissioner Boissiere as the 2020 ERSC Representative for the Commission.

Ex. 4
Election of OMS Representative for 2020.

On motion of Vice Chairman Greene, seconded by Chairman Francis, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to elect Commissioner Skrmetta as the 2020 OMS Representative for the Commission.

Ex. 5
Election of SPP Representative for 2020.

On motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Vice Chairman Greene, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to elect Chairman Francis as the 2020 SPP Representative for the Commission.
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T-35392 - Louisiana Public Service Commission vs. Arabie Trucking Services, LLC (Thibodaux, Louisiana), In re: Cancellation of Contract Carrier Permit Number 1585-C for failure to comply with LPSC Order T-34764 pursuant to La. R.S. 45:161 through 180.1 by not filing contracts with the Commission.

In re: Discussion and Possible Vote on ALJ Recommendation.

On motion of Vice Chairman Greene, seconded by Commissioner Skrmetta, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to adopt the ALJ’s Recommendation as follows:

1. Arabie Trucking Services, LLC, be found in violation of Permit 1585-C for failure to file contracts with the Commission;
2. Contract Carrier Permit 1585-C be cancelled;
3. Arabie Trucking Services, LLC, be ordered to pay a $25 citation fee to the Commission, in certified funds, within 30 days of the issuance of this Order; and
4. Arabie Trucking Services, LLC, be required to file contracts before its permit is reinstated.

R-35423 - Louisiana Public Service Commission, ex parte, In re: Rulemaking to Study Renewable Energy Tariff Options with a Focus of Bringing New Renewable Resources into Louisiana.

In re: Discussion and possible vote to hire Outside Consultant (RFP 19-23).

On motion of Vice Chairman Greene, seconded by Commissioner Skrmetta, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to retain London Economics International, LLC to assist Staff for a total not to exceed budget of $38,442.

U-35441 - Southwestern Electric Power Company, ex parte, In re: Application for Approval of a Change in Rates, Extension of Formula Rate Plan and Other Related Relief.

In re: Discussion and possible vote to hire Outside Consultant (RFP 19-24).

On motion of Commissioner Campbell, seconded by Vice Chairman Greene, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to retain J. Kennedy and Associates, Inc. to assist Staff for $122,000 in fees and $5,200 in expenses for a total not to exceed budget of $127,200.

U-35443 - Entergy Louisiana, LLC, ex parte, In re: Application for Authorization to Change Rates by Filing Market Value Demand Response Rider Schedule MVDR.

In re: Discussion and possible vote to hire Outside Consultant (RFP 19-25).

On motion of Vice Chairman Greene, seconded by Chairman Francis, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to retain Henderson Ridge Consulting, Inc. to assist Staff for $64,200 in fees and $3,600 in expenses for a total not to exceed budget of $67,800.

U-35385 - Entergy Louisiana, LLC, ex parte, In re: Application for Authorization to Implement an Experimental Interruptible Option, Rider EIO, and Related Relief.

In re: Discussion and possible vote to retain United Professionals Company.

On motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Vice Chairman Greene, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to retain United Professionals Company to assist Staff for $59,000 in fees and $1,000 in expenses for a total not to exceed budget of $60,000.

U-33323 - Louisiana Public Service Commission, ex parte, In re: Audit of Entergy Louisiana, LLC’s Charges Flowed through its Fuel Adjustment Charge, pursuant to Commission General Order U-21497 dated November 6, 1997, from the period beginning January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2013, consolidated with

In re: Discussion and possible vote on Joint Report on Global Settlement.

On motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Chairman Francis, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to accept the Global Settlement executed on November 8, 2019, and filed into the record on December 23, 2019, authorizing a refund to Legacy ELL customers of $2,254,000, inclusive of interest, through Legacy ELL’s fuel adjustment charge.


In re: Discussion and possible vote on Staff Recommendation on Final IRP Report.

On motion of Chairman Francis, seconded by Vice Chairman Greene, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to adopt the Staff recommendations filed November 26, 2019, and acknowledge Cleco Power’s Final IRP Report filed August 30, 2019, without the necessity of a proceeding for the resolution of disputed issues.

Ex. 13  U-35456 - Concordia Electric Cooperative, Inc., In re: Request for Approval of Replacement Advanced Metering System.

In re: Discussion and possible vote to retain Exeter & Associates, Inc.

On motion of Commissioner Campbell, seconded by Commissioner Skrmetta, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to retain Exeter & Associates, Inc. for a budget of $22,275 for professional services and $2,000 in expenses for a total not to exceed budget of $24,275.


In re: Discussion and possible vote on uncontested stipulated settlement pursuant to Rule 57.

On motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Vice Chairman Greene, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to assert its original and primary jurisdiction and take the matter up pursuant to Rule 57.

On motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Vice Chairman Greene, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to accept the uncontested stipulated settlement filed into the record of this proceeding on January 9, 2020, that resolves all issues in this matter.


On motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Vice Chairman Greene, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to approve the Proposed Order, accepting the Joint Report for the Test Year 2019 Rate Stabilization Plan filing submitted on January 8, 2020, which states that a reduction in rates in the amount of $33,736.29 is necessary in accordance with the terms and provisions of the SCG Rate Stabilization Plan.

Ex. 16  FERC Docket No. EL01-88-022 - Louisiana Public Service Commission v. Entergy Services, Inc.

In re: Possible Executive Session to discuss litigation strategy pursuant to La. R.S. 45:16, et seq.

On motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Vice Chairman Greene, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to enter executive session.

On motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Chairman Francis, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to exit executive session.
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In re: Possible Executive Session to discuss litigation strategy pursuant to La. R.S. 45:16, et seq.

On motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Vice Chairman Greene, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to enter executive session.

On motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Chairman Francis, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to exit executive session.

Ex. 18

1) Reports
   - Staff status report regarding robocalls.

   Executive Secretary Frey reported that President Trump signed into law the Telephone Robocall Abuse Criminal Enforcement and Deterrence Act, or TRACED Act, and summarized the Act’s provisions. Executive Secretary Frey also reported on a recent Federal Trade Commission settlement involving robocalls.

2) Resolutions

3) Discussions

4) ERSC/OMS/SPP

   On motion of Chairman Francis, seconded by Vice Chairman Greene, with Commissioner Boissiere and Commissioner Campbell concurring, and Commissioner Skrmetta abstaining, the Commission voted to ratify Commissioner Skrmetta’s vote taken on December 19, 2019, as the LPSC Representative to the OMS Board of Directors.

5) Directives

Ex. 19


In re: Discussion and possible vote pursuant to Rule 57 to accept Affidavit and Stipulation executed by the Carrier.

On motion of Commissioner Campbell, seconded by Chairman Francis, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to assert its original and primary jurisdiction and take the matter up pursuant to Rule 57.

On motion of Commissioner Campbell, seconded by Commissioner Boissiere, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to accept the Affidavit and Stipulation executed on December 30, 2019, for fines and fees totaling $1,025.00.

Ex. 20


In re: Discussion and possible vote pursuant to Rule 57 to accept Affidavit and Stipulation executed by the Carrier.

On motion of Commissioner Campbell, seconded by Chairman Francis, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to assert its original and primary jurisdiction and take the matter up pursuant to Rule 57.

On motion of Commissioner Campbell, seconded by Commissioner Boissiere, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to accept the Affidavit and Stipulation executed on January 9, 2020, for fines and fees totaling $52,025.00.
On motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Vice Chairman Greene, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to adjourn.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The next Business and Executive Session will be held on Wednesday, February 19, 2020, at 9:00AM at the Galvez Building in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.