

LOUISIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
MINUTES FROM APRIL 29, 2020
OPEN SESSION

MINUTES OF APRIL 29, 2020 OPEN SESSION OF THE LOUISIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION HELD VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE FROM BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA. PRESENT IN BATON ROUGE WERE CHAIRMAN MIKE FRANCIS AND EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, BRANDON FREY. VICE CHAIRMAN CRAIG GREENE, COMMISSIONER FOSTER CAMPBELL, COMMISSIONER LAMBERT BOISSIERE, AND COMMISSIONER ERIC SKRMETTA PARTICIPATED REMOTELY.

In accordance with Executive Proclamation 41 JBE 2020 issued by Governor John Bel Edwards, the Commission gave notice certifying its inability to otherwise operate in accordance with the Louisiana Open Meetings Law due to state offices closed to the public and a lack of quorum as a result of the COVID-19 public health emergency. Given this inability, the Commission provided notice, and an opportunity for public participation, that its April Business and Executive Session will be conducted via videoconference, specifically Zoom. Therefore, the Open Session of April 29, 2020, convened at 10:46 a.m., and adjourned at 12:14 p.m., via videoconferencing from the Galvez Building, 602 North 5th Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, with Chairman Francis and Executive Secretary Brandon Frey present and the remaining above-named members of the Commission participating remotely.

Ex. 1	<p>Executive Counsel Kathryn Bowman asked for thoughts and prayers from the Commission community for the family of Jessica Aucoin who passed away on March 31, 2020. Jessica was the Administrative Assistant for the Office of Executive Counsel/Legal and started working for the Commission in January 2020. Jessica was the mother of two young children.</p> <p>Commissioner Eric Skrmetta announced that the sister of Amy Henry and aunt of Tori Vaughn passed away April 28, 2020. Amy Henry and Tori Vaughn are staff members of Commissioner Eric Skrmetta.</p>
Ex. 2	<p>Undocketed, LPSC, ex parte, In re: Executive Order dated March 13, 2020 creating Emergency Suspension of Disconnection of Utility Services in Areas Under a State of Emergency/ Health Emergency related to COVID-19.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and Possible Vote to ratify Executive Order and Adopt Draft Special Order.</p> <p>On motion of Vice Chairman Greene, seconded by Commissioner Skrmetta, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to ratify the Executive Order and adopt the Draft Special Order.</p> <p>Vice Chairman Greene directed Staff to post his proposed edits to the Special Order on the Commission website and requests that the proposed edits be placed on the May 2020 meeting agenda for Commission consideration.</p>
Ex. 3	<p>Undocketed, LPSC, ex parte, In re: Executive Order dated March 24, 2020 creating Emergency Electronic Filings due to COVID-19.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and Possible Vote to ratify Executive Order and Adopt Draft Special Order.</p> <p>On motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Chairman Francis, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to ratify the Executive Order and adopt the Draft Special Order.</p>
Ex. 4	<p>Undocketed, LPSC, ex parte, In re: Commission Annual Reporting Requirements</p> <p>In re: Discussion and Possible Vote to Adopt Draft Special Order extending filing deadlines.</p> <p>On motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Vice Chairman Greene, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to adopt Draft Special Order extending filing deadlines.</p>

<p>Ex. 5</p>	<p>U-35531 – Concordia Electric Cooperative, Inc., ex parte, In re: 2019 Formula Rate Plan Test Year Annual Report Filing.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and Possible Vote to hire Henderson Ridge Consulting.</p> <p>On motion of Chairman Francis, seconded by Vice Chairman Greene, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to hire Henderson Ridge Consulting for a not to exceed budget of \$28,050 in fees and \$1,200 in expenses for a total not to exceed budget of \$29,250.</p>
<p>Ex. 6</p>	<p>X-35500 – Jefferson Davis Electric Cooperative, Inc. and Dixie Electric Membership Cooperation, ex parte. In re: Notice of Intent to Conduct 2020 Request for Proposals for Long-Term Power Purchase Contracts and/or Generating Capacity Pursuant to the Commission’s Market Based Mechanisms General Order.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and Possible Vote to hire Consultant.</p> <p>On motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Chairman Francis, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to hire United Professionals Company, LLC for a not to exceed budget of \$75,000 in fees and \$2,500 in expenses for a total not to exceed budget of \$77,500.</p>
<p>Ex. 7</p>	<p>R-35462- Louisiana Public Service Commission, ex parte. In re: Rulemaking to Research and Evaluate Customer-Centered Options for all Electric Customer Classes as well as Other Regulatory Environments.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and Possible Vote to hire outside counsel.</p> <p>Vice Chairman Greene made a motion to hire Stone Pigman Walther Wittmann, LLC., which was seconded by Chairman Francis.</p> <p>Commissioner Skrmetta made a substitute motion to hire Patrick Miller, LLC, which was seconded by Commissioner Campbell. Vice Chairman Greene objected, with Chairman Francis, and Commissioner Boissiere also opposing, the substitute motion failed 3:2.</p> <p>Vice Chairman Greene’s original motion to hire Stone Pigman Walther Wittmann, LLC, seconded by Chairman Francis was considered with Commissioner Boissiere concurring and Commissioners Campbell and Skrmetta opposing, the original motion passed 3:2.</p>
<p>Ex. 8</p>	<p>U-35421 – Pointe Coupee Electric Membership Corporation, ex parte. In re: Application for Approval of Formula Rate Plan Extension and Letter of Non-Opposition to Renew Line of Credit.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and Possible Vote on Uncontested Proposed Stipulated Settlement.</p> <p>On motion of Vice Chairman Greene, seconded by Commissioner Skrmetta, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to adopt the Uncontested Proposed Stipulated Settlement granting the application subject to terms and conditions.</p>
<p>Ex. 9</p>	<p>S-35415 – BellSouth Telecommunications, LLC, ex parte. In re: Application of BellSouth Telecommunications, LLC for Waiver of Sections 501(A)(1)(e) of the Regulations for Competition in the Local Telecommunications Market.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and Possible Vote on Staff Report and Recommendation.</p> <p>On motion of Chairman Francis, seconded by Commissioner Skrmetta, with Vice Chairman Greene concurring and Commissioners Boissiere and Campbell opposing, the Commission voted to adopt the Staff Report and Recommendation granting the application subject to terms and conditions.</p>

<p>Ex. 10</p>	<p>S-35496 – Louisiana Water Company, ex parte. In re: Request for a Letter of Non Opposition to issue Senior Unsecured Notes in Series totaling up to \$25,000,000 with a maturity up to 30 years.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and Possible Vote on Staff Recommendation.</p> <p>On motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Chairman Francis, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to adopt the Staff Recommendation granting the letter non-opposition subject to terms and conditions.</p>
<p>Ex. 11</p>	<p>U-35122 – Atmos Energy Corporation, ex parte. In re: Application Requesting Consolidation of Atmos Energy Corporation’s Louisiana Rate Divisions, Trans Louisiana Gas and Louisiana Gas Service and Related Amendments to Rates Schedules and Tariffs.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and Possible Vote to Re-consider Order No. U-35122</p> <p>At the request of Commissioner Campbell</p> <p>On motion of Commissioner Campbell, seconded by Commissioner Skrmetta, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to reconsider Order No. U-35122.</p> <p>On motion of Commissioner Campbell, seconded by Commissioner Skrmetta, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to continue to allow the consolidation of Atmos Energy, but with the rate restructuring associated with former contract customers, and agriculture/farming customers phased in over a five-year period.</p>
<p>Ex. 12</p>	<p>1) Reports</p> <p>2) Resolutions</p> <p>3) Discussions</p> <p>Commissioner Skrmetta gave notice that the Louisiana Supreme Court has allowed all Continuing Legal Education credits for 2020 to be achieved via online courses.</p> <p>Commissioner Campbell indicated that due to the pandemic, the May B&E should not be held in Shreveport as previously anticipated.</p> <p>4) ERSC/OMS/SPP</p> <p>5) Directives</p>
<p>Ex. 13</p>	<p>U-34742 – Community Utilities of Louisiana, Inc. and Utilities, Inc. of Louisiana. In re: Request for Statewide Consolidation of Assets, Request for Uniform Rate Structure, Request for the Establishment of Formula Rate Plans, Application for Adjustment in Retail Rates Pursuant to the Global Settlement Agreement Contained in Orders Nos. U-34206 and U-34287, as well as Reservation of Rights to Request Interim Rates.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and Possible Vote on Staff Recommendation on Motion for Extension of Time.</p> <p>On motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Chairman Francis, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to adopt Staff Recommendation on Motion for Extension of Time.</p>

Ex. 14	<p>Undocketed, Louisiana Public Service Commission, ex parte.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and Possible Vote to issue a letter to the Louisiana Congressional Delegation consistent with the April 20, 2020 NARUC letter.</p> <p>At the request of Chairman Francis</p> <p>On motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Commissioner Boissiere, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to authorize Staff to issue a letter to the Louisiana Congressional Delegation consistent with the April 20, 2020 NARUC letter sent to the Congressional Leadership.</p>
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On motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Vice Chairman Greene and Chairman Francis, with Commissioner Campbell, and Commissioner Boissiere concurring, the Commission voted to adjourn.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The next Business and Executive Session will be held at the Galvez Building in Baton Rouge, LA should a public meeting be called.