

LOUISIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
MINUTES FROM MARCH 15, 2023
OPEN SESSION

MINUTES OF MARCH 15, 2023 OPEN SESSION OF THE LOUISIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION HELD IN BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA. PRESENT WERE CHAIRMAN FOSTER CAMPBELL, VICE CHAIRMAN MIKE FRANCIS, COMMISSIONER ERIC SKRMETTA, COMMISSIONER CRAIG GREENE, COMMISSIONER DAVANTE LEWIS AND EXECUTIVE SECRETARY BRANDON FREY.

Open Session of March 15, 2023, convening at 9:25 a.m., and adjourning at 11:03 a.m., the Galvez Building, 602 North 5th Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, with the above-name members of the Commission and Executive Secretary Brandon Frey present.

Ex. 1	<p>Chairman Campbell asked for thoughts and prayers for the families of David Guerry and Katherine King on the passing of their respective mothers. He also asked for thoughts and prayers for the family of former Commissioner, Ed Kennon who recently passed away.</p> <p>Chairman Campbell welcomed former Senator Don Cravins to the meeting.</p> <p>Chairman Campbell asked Staff to research Federal programs regarding providing the Commission with personnel to assist in train inspections amidst recent safety concerns due to train accidents.</p> <p>Commissioner Skrmetta announced SEARUC will be in New Orleans June 4th through 7th at the Higgins Hotel and proposed moving the June Business & Executives Session to New Orleans to coincide with SEARUC.</p> <p>Commissioner Lewis welcomed and introduced his new Executive Assistant, Charlotte Cravins and his new Technical Assistant, Edward Yeilding for his District 3 office.</p> <p>Executive Counsel Kathryn Bowman announced that the April Business & Executive Session will be held Wednesday, April 26th, 2023 at the Grand Opera House of the South in Crowley, Louisiana. She also wished Commissioner Lewis a Happy Belated Birthday.</p>
Ex. 2	<p>T-36556 - Louisiana Public Service Commission vs. Exquisite Diamond Transportation, LLC. Alleged violation of Louisiana Revised Statutes Title 45:1177 and 1179 for failure to pay to the state proper fees for the years 2018, 2019 and 2020 for the inspection, control, and supervision of its business service and rates authorized in Common Carrier Certificate Number 8045 pursuant to General Order dated November 22, 2011.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote pursuant to Rule 57 on Affidavit and Stipulation executed by the Carrier.</p> <p>On motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Chairman Campbell, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to assert its original and primary jurisdiction and take matter up pursuant to Rule 57.</p> <p>On motion of Vice Chairman Francis, seconded by Commissioner Skrmetta, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to accept the Affidavit and Stipulation executed on February 10, 2023.</p>

<p>Ex. 3</p>	<p>T-36608 - Louisiana Public Service Commission vs. Bolgiano & Shotwell Properties, LLC dba A & L Movers. In re: Cancellation of Common Carrier Certificate Number 8056 for failure to obtain 2022 vehicle identification stamps, as required by La. R.S. 45:161 through 180.1 and to pay a citation fee of \$25.00.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote on Recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge.</p> <p>On motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Commissioner Greene, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to approve the ALJ's recommendation filed on February 22, 2023.</p>
<p>Ex. 4</p>	<p>R-36226 - Louisiana Public Service Commission, ex parte. In re: Evaluation of Louisiana's electric grid regarding status, maintenance, and whether there is more that could have been done and can be done to benefit Louisiana customers.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote on budget increase for Stone Pigman due to scope expansion.</p> <p>After discussion, on motion of Commissioner Greene, seconded by Commissioner Skrmetta, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to approve the budget increase of \$149,000 to Stone Pigman.</p>
<p>Ex. 5</p>	<p>S-35903 - Lafayette City-Parish Government, City of Lafayette d/b/a LUS Fiber, ex parte. In re: Application for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote on Staff Report and Recommendation.</p> <p>DEFERRED</p>
<p>Ex. 6</p>	<p>S-36601 - Advanced Tel, L.L.C. d/b/a REV, ex parte. In re: Petition for designation as a Lifeline-Only Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) on a statewide basis.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote on Staff Report and Recommendation.</p> <p>After discussion, on motion of Commissioner Lewis, seconded by Commissioner Skrmetta, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to accept the Staff Report and Recommendation filed into the record on February 22, 2023.</p>
<p>Ex. 7</p>	<p>U-36542 - CenterPoint Energy Entex, ex parte. in re: Report of Earnings and Return on Equity for the Louisiana Division for the twelve months ending June 30, 2022, as adjusted.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote on Joint Report and Draft Order.</p> <p>On motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Chairman Campbell, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to accept the Joint Report and issue the Draft Order filed into the record on March 3, 2023.</p>
<p>Ex. 8</p>	<p>U-36541 - CenterPoint Energy Arkla, ex parte. In re: Report of Earnings and Return on Equity for the Louisiana Division for the twelve months ending June 30, 2022, as adjusted.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote on Joint Report and Draft Order.</p> <p>On motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Commissioner Greene, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to accept the Joint Report and issue the Draft Order filed into the record on March 3, 2023.</p>

<p>Ex. 9</p>	<p>U-36625 - Entergy Louisiana, LLC, ex parte. In re: Application for approval of the Entergy Future Ready Resilience Plan (Phase I).</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote to retain an engineering consultant.</p> <p>After discussion, on motion of Commissioner Greene, seconded by Commissioner Skrmetta, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to retain CSRS for \$123,500 in fees and \$6,000 in expenses for a total budget not to exceed of \$129,500.</p>
<p>Ex. 10</p>	<p>U-36658 - Atmos Energy Corporation, ex parte. In re: Application for renewal of Rate Stabilization Clause Rider.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote to retain an outside consultant.</p> <p>After discussion, on motion of Commissioner Greene, seconded by Commissioner Lewis, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to retain Henderson Ridge Consulting & United Professionals Company for \$337,050 in fees and \$10,000 in expenses for a total budget not to exceed of \$347,050.</p>
<p>Ex. 11</p>	<p>X-35764 - Louisiana Public Service Commission, ex parte. In re: Cybersecurity Monitoring for Commission-Jurisdictional Utilities.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote on budget increase for the McQ Group due to scope expansion.</p> <p>After discussion, on motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Vice Chairman Francis, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to approve the budget increase for the McQ Group in the amount of \$71,500 in fees and \$1,950 in expenses for a total budget not to exceed of \$73,450 for an additional two years of monitoring cybersecurity issues.</p> <p>Further, after discussion, on motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Commissioner Greene, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to retain the McQ Group for \$67,150 in fees and \$1,600 in expenses for a total budget of \$68,750 for assistance in other Commission dockets where cybersecurity issues are raised.</p>
<p>Ex. 12</p>	<p>X-36643 - Louisiana Public Service Commission, ex parte. In re: Audit of Fuel Adjustment Clause filings for Entergy Louisiana, LLC for the period of January 2020 through December 2022.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote to retain an outside consultant.</p> <p>On motion of Commissioner Greene, seconded by Commissioner Lewis, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to retain London Economics International for \$58,845 in fees and \$3,608 in expenses for a total budget not to exceed of \$62,453.</p>

<p>Ex. 13</p>	<p>X-36644 - Louisiana Public Service Commission, ex parte. In re: Audit of Fuel Adjustment Clause filings for Cleco Power LLC for the period of January 2020 through December 2022.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote to retain an outside consultant.</p> <p>On motion of Commissioner Greene, seconded by Chairman Campbell, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to retain London Economics International for \$58,845 in fees and \$3,608 in expenses for a total budget not to exceed of \$62,453.</p>
<p>Ex. 14</p>	<p>X-36645 - Louisiana Public Service Commission, ex parte. In re: Audit of Fuel Adjustment Clause filings for Southwestern Electric Power Company for the period of January 2021 through December 2022.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote to retain an outside consultant.</p> <p>On motion of Commissioner Greene, seconded by Commissioner Skrmetta, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to retain United Professionals Company for \$66,000 in fees and \$1,500 in expenses for a total budget not to exceed of \$67,500.</p>
<p>Ex. 15</p>	<p>X-36646 - Louisiana Public Service Commission, ex parte. In re: Audit of Purchased Gas Adjustment filings for the natural gas division of Entergy Louisiana, LLC for the period of January 2021 through December 2022.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote to retain an outside consultant.</p> <p>On motion of Commissioner Greene, seconded by Commissioner Skrmetta, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to retain United Professionals Company for \$26,000 in fees and \$500 in expenses for a total budget not to exceed of \$26,500.</p>
<p>Ex. 16</p>	<p>X-36647 - Louisiana Public Service Commission, ex parte. In re: Audit of Purchased Gas Adjustment filings for CenterPoint Arkla for the period of January 2021 through December 2022.</p> <p>and</p> <p>X-36648 - Louisiana Public Service Commission, ex parte. In re: Audit of Purchased Gas Adjustment filings for CenterPoint Entex for the period of January 2021 through December 2022.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote to retain an outside consultant.</p> <p>After discussion, on motion of Commissioner Greene, seconded by Commissioner Skrmetta, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to retain United Professionals Company for \$33,000 in fees and \$500 in expenses for a total budget not to exceed of \$33,500.</p>
<p>Ex. 17</p>	<p>TBD - Cleco Power LLC's Upcoming Rate Proceeding to be Filed in March 2023 as Required by Commission Order No. U-35299.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote to retain an outside consultant.</p> <p>After discussion, on motion of Commissioner Greene, seconded by Commissioner Skrmetta, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to retain United Professionals Company for \$267,500 in fees and \$5,000 in expenses for a total budget not to exceed of \$272,500.</p>

<p>Ex. 18</p>	<p>FERC Docket No. EL21-56 - Louisiana Public Service Commission, et al vs. System Energy Resources, Inc., et al.</p> <p>In re: Possible Executive Session to discuss litigation strategy pursuant to La. R.S. 42:16 et seq.</p> <p>On motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Chairman Campbell, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to enter into Executive Session.</p> <p>On motion of Commissioner Lewis, seconded by Commissioner Skrmetta, with Chairman Campbell and Vice Chairman Francis concurring and Commissioner Greene temporarily absent, the Commission voted to exit Executive Session.</p>
<p>Ex. 19</p>	<p>1) Reports 2) Resolutions 3) Discussions 4) ERSC/OMS/SPP</p> <p>- Discussion and possible vote to ratify interventions of Louisiana Public Service Commission in RTO or ERSC-Related or other Federal Energy Regulatory Proceedings.</p> <p>On motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Vice Chairman Francis, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to ratify the interventions taken on February 22, 2023 and March 1, 2023.</p> <p>5) Directives</p>
<p>Ex. 20</p>	<p>U-35299 - Cleco Power LLC, ex parte. In re: Application for Implementation of Changes in Rates to be Effective July 1, 2020 and Extension of Existing Formula Rate Plan.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote on extension of filing date.</p> <p>At the request of Commissioner Skrmetta.</p> <p>On motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Chairman Campbell, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to extend the filing date of Cleco Power's 2023 rate case from March 31, 2023 to June 30, 2023.</p>
<p>Ex. 21</p>	<p>U-35982 - Jamie Ponville Trucking, LLC d/b/a Ridgeway Oxidation Pond, ex parte. In re: Petition for Approval to Increase Sewer Rates.</p> <p>In re: Discussion and possible vote on Uncontested Stipulated Settlement pursuant to Rule 57.</p> <p>At the request of Commissioner Lewis.</p> <p>On motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Commissioner Lewis, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to assert its original and primary jurisdiction and take matter up pursuant to Rule 57.</p> <p>After discussion, on motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Commissioner Lewis, and unanimously adopted, the Commission voted to accept the Uncontested Stipulated Settlement filed into the record on March 10, 2023 with the modifications that the increase occur over 90 days, and prior to implementing the rates, Ridgeway shall provide written notice to its customers explaining the increase.</p>

On motion of Commissioner Skrmetta, seconded by Commissioner Lewis, with Chairman Campbell and Vice Chairman Francis concurring and Commissioner Greene absent and, the Commission voted to adjourn.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The next Business and Executive Session will be held on Wednesday, April 26, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. at the Grand Opera House of the South in Crowley, Louisiana.