

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

MINUTES OF REGULAR COMMISSION STAFF CONFERENCE

September 19, 2022

The Regular Commission Staff Conference of the North Carolina Utilities Commission was held on Monday, September 19, 2022, at 10:00 a.m., with Chair Mitchell presiding.

The following were present:

COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Brown-Bland
Commissioner Clodfelter
Commissioner Duffley
Commissioner Hughes
Commissioner McKissick
Commissioner Kemerait

COMMISSION STAFF: Mr. Green, Ms. Fennell, Ms. Duffy, Ms. Webb-Shackleford, Ms. Hicks, Ms. Hilburn, Mr. Rhodes, Mr. Barber, Mr. McCoy

PUBLIC STAFF: Ms. Edmondson, Ms. Holt, Mr. Creech, Ms. Coxton, Mr. Junis, Ms. Bhatta, Ms. Proffitt

ATTORNEY GENERAL:

COURT REPORTER: Ms. Vines

COMMUNICATIONS

1. Docket No. P-100, Subs 133L, 133N, and 171 – Certification of Eligible Telecommunications Carriers to Continue to Receive Federal Universal Service High-Cost Support (*Proffitt/Coxton*)

The following 18 eligible telecommunications carriers have filed sworn affidavits attesting that all federal high-cost support funding has been and will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended:

- Atlantic Telecom Multimedia Consolidated, LLC
- Barnardsville Telephone Company
- Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company
- Central Telephone Company
- Citizens Telephone Company
- Ellerbe Telephone Company
- Frontier Communications of the Carolinas LLC
- Mebtel, Inc.
- North State Telephone Company
- Pineville Telephone Company
- Randolph Telephone Telecommunications, Inc.
- RiverStreet Communications of NC, Inc.
- Saluda Mountain Telephone Company
- Service Telephone Company
- Wilkes Communications, Inc.
- Windstream Concord Telephone LLC
- Windstream Lexcom Communications, LLC
- Windstream North Carolina, LLC

The Public Staff recommends that, pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.314 and Section 245(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, the Commission submit certification to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) by October 31, 2022, so that the named carriers may receive Federal Universal Service High-Cost Support for calendar year 2023.

It was moved and passed that the Public Staff's recommendation be adopted.

WATER AND WASTEWATER

NOTIFICATION OF INTENTION TO BEGIN WATER UTILITY OPERATIONS IN CONTIGUOUS SERVICE AREA

Carolina Water Services, Inc. of North Carolina

2. Docket No. W-354, Sub 379 – Notification of Intention to Begin Operations in Contiguous Service Area to Provide Water and Wastewater Utility Service in Amber Ridge, Area A, Subdivision (*Bhatta/Feasel/Little*)

On May 13, 2022, Carolina Water Service, Inc. of North Carolina (CWSNC) filed a Notification of Intention to Begin Operations in Area Contiguous to Present Service Area. On June 14, 2022, CWSNC filed a Revised Notification of Intention to Begin Operations in Area Contiguous to Present Service Area (Notification) to provide water and wastewater utility services in the Amber Ridge, Area A, subdivision in Wake County, North Carolina. Amber Ridge subdivision is contiguous to CWSNC's Sandy Trail subdivision service area. CWSNC proposes to charge the rates currently approved for that service area.

The Public Staff recommends that the Commission issue an order recognizing the contiguous extension and approving the requested rates.

It was moved and passed that the Public Staff's recommendation be adopted.

Minutes of the Regular Commission Staff Conference of September 12, 2022 were approved.

Minutes prepared by Le Anne Ackerman.