

**NMPRC NOMINATING COMMITTEE**  
**Tuesday, October 25, 2022 at 9:00 am**  
**State Capitol, Room 309**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The scheduled meeting of the NMPRC Nominating Committee was schedule to convene on October 25, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. The Committee was in recess until 10:00 a.m.

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. by Chairperson Brian Egolf.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Roll call indicated the presence of a quorum in person, as follows:

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

The Honorable Brian Egolf, Chairperson  
The Honorable Alonzo Baldonado, Secretary  
Member Ron J. Lovato  
Member Denise Ramonas  
Member Cydney Beadles  
Member Rikki Seguin  
Member William Brancard

**III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Member Brancard moved, seconded by Secretary Baldonado, to approve the agenda as published. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.**

**IV. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 29, 2022, AND OCTOBER 3, 2022 COMMITTEE MINUTES (ACTION ITEM)**

Member Seguin requested a change on page 6 of the September 29<sup>th</sup> minutes. Mr. Dugan Maried is the correct name, and the company is TimeGate Renewables. In the 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph of that page, it should say, "DC Service Commission."

Member Brancard requested a change on page 4, to say "Member Beadles" instead of "Cydney." And in the title of Item 6, "Recruitment" was misspelled.

**Secretary Baldonado moved, seconded by Member Brancard, to approve the minutes of September 29, 2022 as amended. The motion was approved without objection.**

**Member Brancard moved, seconded by Member Lovato, to approve the minutes of October 3, 2022 as presented. The motion was approved without objection.**

**V. REPORTS FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, KARLA SOLORIA (INFORMATIONAL ITEM)**

Ms. Soloria said the Attorney General's Office received a request for an Attorney General's opinion from Chairman Egolf on Monday, October 24. It has been assigned to an attorney who is reviewing it now and will render an opinion for the Committee.

At the last meeting, the Committee had requested an opinion in a scenario where two Commissioners had to recuse themselves. She did have an opportunity to counsel at the PRC about the issue. By statute, a majority of the Commission would be required to act on a matter. And in this scenario, the Commission would be stuck. She suggested two avenues to pursue: one would be some kind of statutory fix. She heard from the PRC General Counsel that such a fix had been attempted by the PRC. A bill was taken to a Legislative committee, but no bill was carried forward, so it was still at issue. She also suggested a temporary appointment by the Governor from a group of people on which the Governor could rely.

The second possible solution was suggested by Member Beadles: by invoking the *Rule of Necessity* but she knew it would be a challenge, given the statutes in place. She explained that the Rule of Necessity would allow less than a quorum to act on a matter.

**VI. CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS**

Chair Egolf said Mr. H. Ward Camp was to be interviewed next and the other interviewees for the day were Kenneth Costello at 11:00, Cynthia Hall at 2:00 p.m., and Arthur O'Donnell at 3:00.

Mr. Egolf asked Member Seguin to report on the subcommittee's decision regarding the four other requests for inclusion in the interview schedule.

Member Seguin reported the subcommittee recommended adding Scott Karnes and James Ellison.

**Chair Egolf moved, seconded by Secretary Baldonado, to add Scott Karnes and James Ellison to the interview list. The motion was approved without objection.**

### **H. Ward Camp**

The Committee welcomed Mr. Camp at 10:12 a.m. and began the interview.

Mr. Camp waived the introductory statement, but later described himself as an economic regulator. He responded to questions from the Committee.

The interview with Mr. Camp was took 46 minutes and ended at 10:58 a.m.

### **Kenneth W. Costello**

The Committee welcomed Mr. Costello at 11:00 a.m. and began the interview.

Mr. Costello introduced himself as a regulatory economist consultant for state regulatory commissions in the United States and several other nations, and then responded to questions from the Committee.

Mr. Costello preferred to serve a two-year term.

The interview with Mr. Costello ended at 10:48 a.m.

The Committee recessed at 10:49 a.m.

The Committee reconvened at 2:05 p.m.

### **Cynthia B. Hall**

The Committee welcomed Ms. Hall at 2:06 p.m. and began the interview.

Ms. Hall introduced herself as Chair of the Public Regulation Commission and served for almost six years on it. Prior to serving as a Commissioner, she was an employee of the PRC as an attorney, and at several other state agencies and for private companies both in research and attorney roles.

She responded to the questions of the Committee.

Ms. Hall was interested in serving a two-year term.

The interview with Ms. Hall ended at 2:53 p.m.

The Committee recessed and reconvened at 3:03 p.m.

### **Arthur O'Donnell**

The Committee welcomed Mr. O'Donnell at 3:03 p.m. and began the interview.

Mr. O'Donnell introduced himself as a Department of Energy Fellow in the Solar Energy Innovation Program and assigned to the Public Regulation Commission for almost two years. He briefly described his roles in energy fields since the 1980's.

Mr. O'Donnell was interested in serving a two-year term.

The interview with Mr. O'Donnell ended at 3:59 p.m.

## **VII. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL CANDIDATES TO BE INTERVIEWED (ACTION ITEM)**

Secretary Baldonado asked if Mr. Brian Moore could have an interview on Zoom, since another candidate has been allowed to interview on Zoom. He explained that Mr. Moore was unaware that he could be interviewed on Zoom. He asked if the Committee would consider interviewing him remotely.

Member Seguin was comfortable with that.

**Member Seguin moved, seconded by Member Lovato. The motion was approved without objection.**

## **VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

## **IX. OTHER BUSINESS**

Member Beadles asked for clarification on the remaining interview schedule.

Ms. Kepler said she had established a schedule with interviews on both November 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. She offered to add Mr. Moore to either of the schedules.

Chair Egolf preferred to have the longer day on November 7 because November 8 was election day.

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

The Committee meeting was adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

Approved by:

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Brian Egolf, Chair

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Date