

MINUTES
of the
LEGISLATIVE CONSUMER COMMITTEE

November 21, 2006

State Capitol, Room 137, Helena, MT

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Senator Sam Kitzenberg, Chairman

Representative George Groesbeck, Vice Chairman, via conference call

Senator Ken Toole

Representative Walter McNutt via conference call

STAFF PRESENT

Robert A. Nelson, Consumer Counsel

Larry Nordell, Economist

Mary Wright, Attorney

Mandi Shulund, Secretary

VISITORS PRESENT

Cheryl Gillespie, Qwest

Pat Gervais, Legislative Fiscal Division

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Senator Kitzenberg. Senator Toole announced he had submitted his resignation from this committee to the President of the Senate due to Senator Kitzenberg changing parties, leaving the current bipartisan balance of the committee inaccurate. Bob said that he has enjoyed having Senator Toole on the committee and Senator Kitzenberg asked the committee if they felt the meeting

should continue. Representative McNutt asked Bob if he had any requests for outside counsel that needed approval. Bob said there are a few FERC cases he wanted to discuss and retain witnesses for but action could be delayed until the next meeting since the cases are currently not very active. Representative McNutt recommended that no action be taken at this time because he felt the committee needed to get reestablished with members from the Senate so the statutory makeup of the committee is followed. Senator Tooke agreed, stating that he felt it was important that the committee be properly appointed and comprised. Senator Kitzenberg asked Representative McNutt how he felt if he tended his resignation from the committee. Representative McNutt said that he was not making recommendations on what anyone should do, so resigning was up to Senator Kitzenberg. Senator Kitzenberg, due to his change in party and the new balance of the committee, submitted his resignation from the committee.

Adjournment

MOTION: Senator Toole moved to adjourn the meeting.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

_____, Robert Nelson, Consumer Counsel

Accepted by the Committee this _____ day of _____, 2007

_____, Chairman.