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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING OF THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION HELD IN ITS OFFICES AND AVAILABLE VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS VIDEO CONFERENCING ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2025.

Commission Chair Daniel C. Scripps called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Executive Secretary Lisa Felice called the roll and declared there was a quorum.

PRESENT

Commission: Daniel C. Scripps, Chair

Katherine Peretick, Commissioner Shaquila Myers, Commissioner

Staff: Alissa Day

Matt Helms Lisa Felice Blair Renfro Chris Forist Ryan Wilson

Stephanie Fitzgerald

Jill Rusnak
Lori Mayabb
Andrea Taylor
Zoe Salamey
Mike Byrne
Andy Hannum
Kate Daymon
Jerry McClung
Ben Johnson
Zach Heidemann
Cathy Cole

Public: Andy Minegar, MIRS News

Suzy Westmoreland, MEGA

Additional Staff & Public Attending Telephonically/Video Conferencing: 161 Participants

Chair Scripps commented:

"Before we begin today, I want to note that today is September 11 and the anniversary of the attacks on the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, as well as the hijacking and crash of United Airlines Flight 93 in Pennsylvania on September 11, 2001. One theme in the wake of those attacks was to 'never forget' the lives lost or the heroism of first responders. In that spirit of remembrance, I invite you to join me in a moment of silence to honor those in 24 years ago today."

I. Commissioner Peretick moved to approve today's agenda, Commissioner Myers seconded.

Vote: Yeas – Scripps, Peretick, Myers Nays – None

The agenda was approved.

II. Commissioner Peretick moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Commission Meeting of August 21, 2025, Commissioner Myers seconded.

Vote: Yeas – Scripps, Peretick, Myers Nays – None

The minutes were approved.

III. Commissioner Peretick moved to take from the table the motion to amend to the Bylaws, Commissioner Myers seconded.

Vote: Yeas – Scripps, Peretick, Myers Nays – None

The motion to take from the table was approved.

Commissioner Peretick moved to approve the amendments to the Bylaws, Commissioner Myers seconded.

Vote: Yeas – Scripps, Peretick, Myers Nays – None

The proposed amendments approved.

IV. CONSENTED ORDERS

A. COMMUNICATIONS

1. U-21913 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF UP FIBER, INC. FOR A TEMPORARY AND PERMANENT LICENSE TO PROVIDE BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICES IN THE STATE OF MICHIGAN IN CERTAIN AREAS SERVED BY AT&T MICHIGAN (interim order)

- 2. MINUTE IN THE MATTER OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE SETTLEMENT ACTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN CMN-RUS, LLC d/b/a METRONET AND MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION STAFF, REGARDING UNIFORM VIDEO SERVICES LOCAL FRANCHISE ACT AND PROBABLE NON-COMPLIANCE LETTER DATED JUNE 20, 2025
- 3. MINUTE ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER ANNUAL RECERTIFICATION FOR 2025 (U-21836)

B. ELECTRIC

- 1. U-21670 IN THE MATTER, ON THE COMMISSION'S OWN MOTION, REGARDING THE REGULATORY REVIEWS, REVISIONS, DETERMINATIONS, AND/OR APPROVALS NECESSARY FOR ALPENA POWER COMPANY TO FULLY COMPLY WITH PUBLIC ACT 295 OF 2008, AS AMENDED (energy waste reduction reconciliation/proposed settlement agreement)
- 2. MINUTE NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION, ET AL. v. ACTION MIDCONTINENT INDEPENDENT SYSTEM OPERATION, INC. (FERC Docket No. EL25-109-000)

C. GAS

- 1. U-21614 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF SEMCO ENERGY GAS COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF A GAS COST RECOVERY PLAN AND AUTHORIZATION OF GAS COST RECOVERY FACTORS FOR THE 12-MONTH PERIOD ENDING MARCH 31, 2026 (proposed settlement agreement)
- 2. U-21677 IN THE MATTER, ON THE COMMISSION'S OWN MOTION, REGARDING THE REGULATORY REVIEWS, REVISIONS, DETERMINATIONS, AND/OR APPROVALS NECESSARY FOR MICHIGAN GAS UTILITIES CORPORATION TO FULLY COMPLY WITH PUBLIC ACT 295 OF 2008, AS AMENDED (energy waste reduction reconciliation/proposed settlement agreement)
- 3. U-21686 IN THE MATTER, ON THE COMMISSION'S OWN MOTION,
 REGARDING THE REGULATORY REVIEWS, REVISIONS,
 DETERMINATIONS, AND/OR APPROVALS NECESSARY FOR
 MICHIGAN GAS UTILITIES CORPORATION TO FULLY COMPLY
 WITH PUBLIC ACT 295 OF 2008, AS AMENDED
 (energy waste reduction plan/proposed settlement agreement)

Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve all the orders and minute actions on the consent agenda. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

Vote: Yeas – Scripps, Peretick, Myers Nays – None

The 5 orders and 3 minute actions were adopted.

V. OTHER ORDERS

A. **COMMUNICATIONS**

1.	U-21868	IN THE MATTER, ON THE COMMISSION'S OWN MOTION, TO COMMENCE FORMAL BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE LICENSE REVOCATION PROCEEDINGS AGAINST COMTECH21, LLC; OSIRUS COMMUNICATIONS, INC.; CRYSTAL AUTOMATION SYSTEMS, INC., d/b/a CASAIR, INC.; AND MCC TELEPHONY OF THE MIDWEST, LLC (final order)
	U-13994	IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF COMTECH 21, LLC FOR A LICENSE TO PROVIDE BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF MICHIGAN IN THE ZONE AND EXCHANGE AREAS SERVED BY VERIZON NORTH INCORPORATED, CONTEL OF THE SOUTH, INC., d/b/a VERIZON NORTH SYSTEMS, AND SBC MICHIGAN
	U-14494	IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF OSIRUS COMMUNICATIONS, INC. FOR A LICENSE TO PROVIDE BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF MICHIGAN IN THE ZONE AND EXCHANGE AREAS SERVED BY VERIZON NORTH INC., CONTEL OF THE SOUTH INC., d/b/a VERIZON NORTH SYSTEMS, CENTURYTEL OF MICHIGAN INC., CENTURYTEL MIDWEST-MICHIGAN INC., CENTURYTEL OF NORTHERN MICHIGAN INC., CENTURYTEL OF UPPER MICHIGAN INC., AND SBC MICHIGAN
	U-16812	IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF CRYSTAL AUTOMATION SYSTEMS, INC. d/b/a CASAIR, INC. FOR A TEMPORARY AND PERMANENT LICENSE TO PROVIDE BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICES THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF MICHIGAN
	U-18365	IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF MCC TELEPHONY OF THE MIDWEST, LLC FOR TEMPORARY AND PERMANENT LICENSES TO PROVIDE BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF MICHIGAN IN THE ZONE AND

EXCHANGE AREAS SERVED BY AT&T MICHIGAN, FRONTIER NORTH, INC., AND FRONTIER MIDSTATES INC.

Case No. U-21868 *et al.* involve matters, on the Commission's own motion, to commence license revocation proceedings for the following providers of basic local exchange service: ComTech 21, LLC; Osirus Communications, Inc.; Crystal Automation Systems, Inc., d/b/a Casair, Inc.; and MCC Telephony of the Midwest, LLC. The order before you revokes the licenses of the four providers. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its September 11, 2025 meeting. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

Chair Scripps commented:

"Before we vote on this matter, I just want to thank our telecommunications staff for their diligence in overseeing our telecommunications statutory framework. The four providers at issue under this order (all appear not to be doing business in the state of Michigan) were unresponsive to the many efforts at communication that our staff has initiated over the past years. Under our framework, when providers are non-responsive and appear not to be doing business in Michigan, or otherwise, in violation of the Commission's laws, it makes sense to formally revoke the licenses of those providers.

Again, I want to thank our staff for their attention to detail."

Vote: Yeas – Scripps, Peretick, Myers Nays – None

The order was adopted.

B. ELECTRIC

1. U-20629 IN THE MATTER, ON THE COMMISSION'S OWN MOTION, TO ESTABLISH A WORKGROUP TO REVIEW THE SERVICE QUALITY AND RELIABILITY STANDARDS FOR ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS AND TO RECOMMEND POTENTIAL IMPROVEMENTS TO THE STANDARDS (bill credit adjustment/final order)

Case No. U-20629 involves the amendment of the rules governing the service quality and reliability standards for electric distribution systems. The order before you adopts a revised customer accommodation amount as required under those rules. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the

order at its September 11, 2025 meeting. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

Commissioner Peretick commented:

"I'd like to note in the order before us, for the third year in a row, it raises the bill credit for customers who experience long or repeated electric outages. Any customer that experiences a long outage or frequent power outages will now receive an automatic bill credit of \$42 per day from their utility. Before 2023, customers were only eligible for a one-time credit of \$25, and they had to proactively request that credit from their utility when they thought that they were owed it. After our updates to the service quality rules, that credit is now \$42 for each day and it is credited to the customer automatically. While this isn't always enough to cover all costs that can be associated with a power outage, it does give the credit for the violation directly to the customers affected."

Chair Scripps commented:

"The increase now to \$42 per day is a 68% increase over the credit that were available to customers just three years ago prior to the updates to these rules. As a result of this updated approach, last year utilities in Michigan paid out more than \$8.9 million in outage credits to their customers. That's more than seven times the \$1.2 million customers received in 2022, the last year under the previous rules.

Finally, unlike typical fines, these credits that are paid out under this framework are paid directly to those customers who are most directly affected by the outages. That helps ensure that individual customers are compensated when their utility fails to meet the expectations for performance contained in Commission rules.

As such, I support this order and appreciate the effort that went into updating our Service Quality rules, and the ongoing work that has resulted in increasing benefits to utility customers as we continue our focus on improving system reliability."

Vote: Yeas – Scripps, Peretick, Myers Nays – None

The order was adopted.

2. U-20757

IN THE MATTER, ON THE COMMISSION'S OWN MOTION, TO REVIEW ITS RESPONSE TO THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PANDEMIC, INCLUDING THE STATEWIDE STATE OF EMERGENCY, AND TO PROVIDE GUIDANCE AND DIRECTION TO ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS PROVIDERS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS

(opportunity to comment/interim order)

Case No. U-20757 involves a matter, on the Commission's own motion, to review its response to COVID-19 and to provide guidance and direction moving forward. The order before you sets a deadline for comments to be filed on the Commission Staff's September 10, 2025 Energy Affordability Report recommendations, as described in this order. Commissioner Peretick moved that the

Commission approve the order at its September 11, 2025 meeting. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

Commissioner Peretick commented:

"I'd like to offer a big thanks to our staff for their thoughtful recommendations and their thorough Energy Affordability Report, particularly Elaina Braunschweig, Anne Armstrong, Mary Wilkins, and Jesann Gonzales-Cruz, who wrote the bulk of this report. Also, thanks to Dave Isakson, Heather Durian, Amy Rittenhouse, Mike Byrne, and Bill Stosik for their careful review of the report. This is truly important work to address customer shut-off protections and affordability and build on the continued work that the Energy Affordability and Accessibility Collaborative has done.

The order before us asks for public comment on the Staff's report and recommendations. Specifically, the Staff has recommended that the most targeted and effective solution for advancing home energy security is a monthly subsidy tailored to household income and usage for income-qualified customers. This order invites the public to engage with the Staff's detailed analysis and recommendations.

Comments are due by October 30 – and it's a long report, so I recommend starting your reading early! I would truly appreciate any and all people who have insight they would like to share, and I look forward to reading the comments."

Chair Scripps commented:

"A long report is maybe an understatement. It is more than 400 pages if you include the appendices and really does provide a comprehensive look at the Commission's efforts over the last several years to take a holistic approach to energy affordability, particularly for low-income households. Those recommendations really, I think, are driven by our approach based on the lessons learned from utility pilots, workgroup discussions, and other sources of information."

Vote: Yeas – Scripps, Peretick, Myers Nays – None

The order was adopted.

3. U-20889 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY FOR A FINANCING ORDER APPROVING THE SECURITIZATION OF QUALIFIED COSTS

(proposed true-up adjustment to securitization charge/interim order)

Case No. U-20889 involves an application filed by Consumers Energy Company for a financing order approving the securitization of qualified costs. The order before you approves the routine true-up of the securitization charges. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its September 11, 2025 meeting. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

Vote: Yeas – Scripps, Peretick, Myers

Nays - None

The order was adopted.

4. U-21682

IN THE MATTER, ON THE COMMISSION'S OWN MOTION, REGARDING THE REGULATORY REVIEWS, REVISIONS, DETERMINATIONS, AND/OR APPROVALS NECESSARY FOR INDIANA MICHIGAN POWER COMPANY TO FULLY COMPLY WITH PUBLIC ACT 295 OF 2008, AS AMENDED (energy waste reduction plan/motion to extend filing deadline/interim order)

Case No. U-21682 involves an application filed by Indiana Michigan Power Company regarding its 2026-2029 energy waste reduction plan. The order before you grants the utility's motion to extend the filing date to October 1, 2025. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its September 11, 2025 meeting. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

Vote: Yeas – Scripps, Peretick, Myers Nays – None

The order was adopted.

5. U-21816

IN THE MATTER OF CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY'S APPLICATION FOR THE REGULATORY REVIEWS, REVISIONS, DETERMINATIONS, AND/OR APPROVALS NECESSARY TO FULLY COMPLY WITH PUBLIC ACT 295 OF 2008, AS AMENDED BY PUBLIC ACT 235 OF 2023 (amended renewable energy plan/final order)

Case No. U-21816 involves an application by Consumers Energy Company requesting approval to amend the company's renewable energy plan. The order before you approves the renewable energy plan, in part. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its September 11, 2025 meeting. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

Commissioner Peretick commented:

"Michigan's new clean energy laws, signed by Governor Whitmer in November of 2023, required updates to our Michigan utilities' Renewable Energy Plans. This case before us is Consumers Energy's updated plan to conform with the new law, requiring a renewable energy standard of 50% by 2030 and 60% by 2035. Among many other things, this plan requires Consumers Energy to evaluate load growth scenarios, including energy storage and curtailment in its next integrated resource plan, and speed up acquisition of new wind resources, including soliciting power purchase agreements for wind outside of Michigan. It also requires the company to implement a competitive

bidding process for wind and energy storage resources and actively solicit third-party PPAs in its future requests for proposals.

Importantly, in this order, the Commission also indicates that we intend to review the existing competitive procurement guidelines, established in 2021 in the near future, in part, address concerns about utilities' market power raised by the Michigan Energy Innovation Business Council and Advanced Energy United. I look forward to initiating this process and continuing to ensure that our utilities' procurement processes are competitive and result in affordable outcomes for customers."

Vote: Yeas – Scripps, Peretick, Myers Nays – None

The order was adopted.

C. GAS

1. U-21847 IN THE MATTER, ON THE COMMISSION'S OWN MOTION, TO PROMULGATE RULES GOVERNING GAS SAFETY (notice of public hearing and comment/interim order)

Case No. U-21847 involves proposed amendments to the rules governing gas safety. The order before you approves the schedule for a public hearing and the receipt of written comments on the proposed amendments to the ruleset. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its September 11, 2025 meeting. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

Commissioner Peretick commented:

"This order announces a public hearing on Oct 21st where the Commission will take comments on proposed changes to the Michigan rules governing gas safety standards. These changes will adopt current federal gas safety standards and raise the threshold at which gas operators must report incidents to the Commission. If this is a topic of interest to you, please plan on attending. Details for how to join the public hearing are included in docket number 21847."

Vote: Yeas – Scripps, Peretick, Myers Nays – None

The order was adopted.

2. U-21961 IN THE MATTER, ON THE COMMISSION'S OWN MOTION, TO ADJUST THE ADMINISTRATIVE FINES UNDER MCL 483.161(1) FOR INFLATION (gas safety standards/final order)

Case No. U-21961 involves a matter, on the Commission's own motion, for adjusting administrative fines under Public Act 165 of 1969, as amended, for inflation. The order before you adopts administrative fines adjusted for inflation pursuant to Public Act 165 of 1969, effective October 1, 2025. Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission approve the order at its September 11, 2025 meeting. Commissioner Myers seconded that motion.

Vote: Yeas – Scripps, Peretick, Myers Nays – None

The order was adopted.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Aimee Reetz, Portage, on behalf of her late sister Amber Benedict. Ms. Reetz indicated that on April 3rd in Southgate her sister's home was filled with gas and exploded, resulting in her death. Ms. Reetz requested that the MPSC require DTE to implement a simple, automatic alert or a shutoff when it becomes clear that a home is filling with explosive gas.

Chair Scripps announced:

"I want to thank all of those who joined us on Tuesday evening in Grand Rapids for our public hearing on the planning parameters to govern future utility integrated resource plans. We had a nice turnout, and I was particularly impressed with the quality of the comments we heard – comments that will undoubtedly improve the final version of these planning parameters.

This is an important if wonky topic, as these guidelines establish what Michigan's electric utilities must consider in their required long-term modeling of future electricity demand, essentially a roadmap for ensuring they'll have enough electricity over a period of up to 20 years to meet residential and business customer demand, while meeting clean energy standards that are found in state law.

If you missed Tuesday's meeting, there is still a chance to have your say. We are having a second public hearing on the topic being held on October 27 at Oakland Community College's Auburn Hills campus in Building 7, Room 123, at 2900 Featherstone Road. That meeting on October 27 will take place from 6:00 -7:30 p.m. All of this information is available on our website. I don't expect that all of you were taking notes, but it is there on the website.

In addition, those interested may also file written or electronic comments on these issues by 5:00 p.m. on Oct. 31, 2025, with reply comments due on November 14.

As we do every September, this week is <u>Lifeline Awareness Week</u>, and I want to mark this week by urging eligible Michiganders to take advantage of the Lifeline telephone and broadband program. Lifeline is both a state and federal program that provides financial support for voice or broadband service to income-qualified veterans, seniors and more. The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners has designated September 8-14th as Lifeline Awareness Week to highlight these

Lifeline programs. While access to telephone and broadband service are a vital component of everyday life, each of these services can be out of reach for people with limited incomes.

Dozens of Michigan telecommunications providers participate in the Lifeline program, under which income-eligible people under age 65 get a minimum monthly discount on their bill of \$8.25. Those age 65 and older receive a minimum discount of \$12.35.

In 2025, nearly 300,000 Michiganders were Lifeline subscribers, according to the Universal Service Administrative Corporation.

I wanted to express my concern today with the alarming growth in political violence that has dominated recent headlines, including yesterday's assassination of Charlie Kirk in Utah, which followed the killing of former Minnesota House Speaker Melissa Hortman and her husband. We have also seen too many acts of violence against public officials in recent months. My sincere hope is that we use this anniversary of September 11th to recall and renew the shared sense of purpose and spirit of unity that drew so many of us together in the days and months that followed September 11th in 2001 and certainly to condemn and put an end to this growth in violence.

Finally, the regular Commission Meeting scheduled for September 26, 2025, is rescheduled to Tuesday, September 30th at 11:00 a.m. In addition, the Regular Commission Meeting that was scheduled for December 3, 2025, is being rescheduled to Friday, December 5, 2025, and that will be at 1:00 p.m. The revised Regular Commission Meeting schedule will be posted to the Commission's website and distributed shortly after today's meeting. Note those changes, including our next meeting, which instead of September 26th, will take place on September 30th."

Chair Scripps announced that the next regularly scheduled Commission Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 30, 2025 at 11:00 a.m.

Commissioner Peretick moved that the Commission adjourn, Commissioner Myers seconded.

Vote: Yeas – Scripps, Peretick, Myers Nays – None

The motion was approved.

The meeting adjourned at 1:29 p.m.

Lisa Felice
Executive Secretary

BYLAWS OF THE

MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

These Bylaws were adopted at a meeting of the Commission on September 11, 2025, effective immediately.

ARTICLE I – THE COMMISSION

<u>Section 1. Seal of the Commission</u>. The Commission may adopt an official seal and may use the seal to authenticate official documents and records. The seal shall bear the name of the Commission and be in such form as shall be determined by the Commission.

<u>Section 2. Office of the Commission</u>. The offices of the Commission shall be in Lansing, and all Regular or Special Meetings shall be held in these offices unless otherwise specified by the Commission. The Commission may maintain satellite offices for staff members in order to effectively perform its statutory duties.

ARTICLE II – OFFICERS

Section 1. Chairman. The Chairman of the Commission shall be the member of the Commission designated by the Governor under MCL 460.2. The Chairman shall preside at meetings of the Commission and shall be the chief administrative officer of the Commission, having general supervision over the business and affairs of the Commission. The policy of the Commission shall be set by the Commission.

<u>Section 2. Vice-Chairman</u>. The Commission may elect a member to serve as Vice-Chairman. If elected, the Vice-Chairman shall serve until replaced or his or her term ends and shall perform the duties of the Chairman when the Chairman is unavailable, except as otherwise provided by law.

ARTICLE III – MEETINGS

<u>Section 1. Open Meetings Act</u>. The Commission shall conduct meetings under these Bylaws in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, MCL 15.261 *et seq*. The Commission is exempt from the Open Meetings Act when deliberating the merits of a case, as set forth in MCL 15.263(7)(d).

<u>Section 2. Meetings</u>. Official actions shall be taken only at a meeting conducted in accordance with these Bylaws. The Commission shall conduct meetings as follows:

(a) <u>Organizational Meeting</u>. Within 60 days after the appointment of any new member to the Commission, the Commission shall conduct an Organizational Meeting, at which the Commission shall either reaffirm the Bylaws or entertain a motion to amend the Bylaws. If a member of the Commission moves to amend the Bylaws, he or she shall submit the proposed amendment for consideration in accordance with Article IV of these Bylaws.

Public notice of an Organizational Meeting shall be given in the same manner as a Special Meeting under the Open Meetings Act.

An Organizational Meeting may be conducted concurrently with a scheduled or re-scheduled Regular Meeting, if public notice is given in accordance with the preceding sentence.

- (b) <u>First Regular Meeting of Year</u>. At the first Regular Meeting of the year, the Commission shall announce its schedule of dates and times for remaining regular meetings for the calendar year and shall post public notice of the schedule within ten days. Public notice of the first Regular Meeting shall be given in the same manner as a Special Meeting under the Open Meetings Act. MCL 15.265(4).
- (c) <u>Regular Meetings</u>. The Commission shall meet in regular session as set forth in the schedule of meetings adopted under Section 2(b).
- (d) <u>Rescheduled Regular Meetings</u>. The Commission may announce revisions to the schedule of regular meetings at any prior meeting or may post revisions to the schedule on the Commission's website that is fully accessible to the public.

A Rescheduled Regular Meeting shall substitute for the originally scheduled Regular Meeting for purposes of these Bylaws, and all official actions taken shall have the same force and effect as those taken at a Regular Meeting.

(e) <u>Special Meetings</u>. The Commission shall, upon the request of any member of the Commission, call a Special Meeting. The Special Meeting shall be scheduled on any working day, giving due regard to the availability of all members to participate, but subject to any statutory deadline that requires disposition of items placed on the agenda of the Special Meeting.

All official actions taken at a Special Meeting shall have the same force and effect as those taken at a Regular Meeting of the Commission.

(f) <u>Emergency Meetings</u>. If severe and imminent threat to the health, safety, or welfare of the public exists and at least two members of Commission determine that a delay in Commission action would be detrimental to efforts to lessen or respond to that threat, the Commission may meet in an Emergency Session without giving public notice of that session as provided in MCL 15.265(5).

<u>Section 3. Public Notice</u>. Public notice of meetings shall be given as provided in the Open Meetings Act. The Executive Secretary of the Commission is designated as the person to give public notice.

<u>Section 4. Agenda</u>. The Commission may post a proposed agenda prior to or during the business day immediately preceding the meeting.

<u>Section 5. Quorum</u>. A majority of the duly appointed members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum as provided in MCL 460.2 and not less than a majority of such members may take any official action.

Section 6. Order and Conduct of Business at Meeting.

- (a) <u>Call to Order</u>. The Chairman shall call a meeting to order and may lead those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- (b) <u>Declaration of Quorum</u>. The Executive Secretary shall call the roll and declare whether there is a quorum.
- (c) <u>Approval of Agenda</u>. The Commission may amend and shall adopt an agenda by majority vote. Items may be added or deleted by amendment.
- (d) <u>Approval of Minutes</u>. At a Regular Meeting, the minutes of the previous Regular and any other prior meeting since the last Regular Meeting shall be corrected, if necessary, and approved by the Commission.
- (e) Manner of Voting. The Chairman or any member of the Commission may call for a vote at any time in a Regular or Special Meeting. In the normal course of business at a Regular or Special Meeting, each item designated for voting on the agenda (except items on the consent portion of the agenda) shall be announced, a member of the staff shall read a brief description of the proposed action, and such vote shall be held if the proposed action is moved and seconded. If the proposed action provides for the adjudication of an application, complaint, or other request within the Commission's statutory discretion or other disposition of, or direction of further proceedings on, a matter pending for decision before the Commission in accordance with law, it shall be presented in the form of an order or, in appropriate cases, a minute action. The voting shall be by voice call with the yeas and nays entered in the minutes of such meeting. If the proposed action receives the affirmative vote of a majority of the Commission, it shall issue as an official action of the Commission in accordance with the procedures set forth in subsection (f).

Before the voting, the Chairman shall recognize any member who wishes to make a brief verbal statement regarding the proposed action. After the voting, the Chairman shall also recognize any member who wishes to make a brief verbal explanation of his or her vote or abstention and afford the opportunity to do so before moving to other items of business.

(f) <u>Issuance of Orders and Minute Actions</u>. Each member shall sign the order or minute action in accordance with his or her vote. A signature without explanation indicates that member's unqualified assent to the order or minute action. In other cases, the signature shall be accompanied by an acknowledgement or brief explanation of the vote (e.g., concurrence, dissent, abstention). A member may also attach a separate, signed opinion explaining the basis for a concurrence or dissent. The Executive Secretary shall authenticate the order or minute action by his or her signature.

At the discretion of the Commission, the entry of orders, minute actions, and other documents memorializing official actions, including the affixing of signatures, may be completed electronically, without the issuance of a paper copy. Ministerial acts required under this subsection to formalize issuance and release the order or minute action to the public shall be completed by the end of the business day of the meeting.

(g) <u>Public Meetings</u>. Meetings of the Commission are public meetings and individuals shall have a reasonable opportunity to be heard.

At the time provided in the agenda, the Chairman or other presiding officer may recognize and extend an opportunity to speak to any person desiring to address the Commission.

The Commission may limit the period of time during which the public may address it and the Commission may also limit the portion of that period of time allocated to each individual desiring to address the Commission. The Commission may require individuals desiring to address the Commission to identify themselves.

The Chairman may warn any person or curtail an opportunity to speak for failure to be germane, for vulgarity, for redundancy, for speaking in excess of the allotted time, or for failure to address remarks to the Commission.

The parties to a contested case pending before the Commission may not comment on the case during the Public Comment period.

<u>Section 7. Remote Participation</u>. Any member of the Commission who is unable to be present in person at a meeting may remotely participate in, and vote on, business before the Commission only in accordance with the requirements of MCL 15.263(2).

<u>Section 8. Minutes</u>. Minutes of all the meetings including votes on all official actions taken at those meetings shall be kept by the Executive Secretary of the Commission. Approved minutes shall be available for public inspection not later than five days after the meeting at which the minutes were approved.

<u>Section 9. Procedures</u>. Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, as modified by these Bylaws, shall be observed by the Commission in the conduct of its business.

ARTICLE IV – AMENDMENTS

These Bylaws may be amended in accordance with the following procedure: The proposed amendment or amendments shall be submitted in writing at a Regular or Organizational Meeting and shall lay on the table between that meeting and the next Regular Meeting, at which time such amendment or amendments must be voted upon. The proposed amendment or amendments may only be adopted by the affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Commission at the Regular Meeting following the meeting at which such amendment or amendments were submitted.

ARTICLE V – SUSPENSION OF BYLAWS

Any of the provisions of the Bylaws may be suspended at any Regular, Special, Emergency, or Organizational Meeting by a unanimous vote of the members of the Commission if permitted by law.

ARTICLE VI – NONDISCRIMINATION

The Commission does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, education, familial status, gender expression, gender identity, height, income, marital status, military status, national origin, political beliefs, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or weight in the administration of any of its programs or activities, and does not intimidate or retaliate against any individual or group because they have exercised their rights to participate in or oppose actions protected by applicable laws and regulations, or for the purpose of interfering with such rights, and claims of intimidation and retaliation will be handled promptly if they occur.