

MID-AMERICA REGULATORY CONFERENCE
Business Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2004
MARC Winter Retreat
Menger Hotel
San Antonio, TX

The following MARC Commissioners were in attendance:

Daryl Basset	Arkansas	Ken Nickolai	Minnesota
Sandra Hochstetter	Arkansas	Phyllis Reha	Minnesota
David Hadley	Indiana	Robert Clayton	Missouri
Larry Landis	Indiana	Kevin Cramer	North Dakota
Judy Ripley	Indiana	Judy Jones	Ohio
David Ziegner	Indiana	Jim Burg	South Dakota
Diane Munns	Iowa	Gary Hanson	South Dakota
Elliott Smith	Iowa	Bob Sahr	South Dakota
Brian Moline	Kansas	Rebecca Klein	Texas
J. Peter Lark	Michigan	Ave M. Bie	Wisconsin
Bob Nelson	Michigan	Burnie Bridge	Wisconsin
LeRoy Koppendraye	Minnesota		

MARC President, Commissioner Ave M. Bie called the meeting to order at 10:15a.m. in the Cavalier Room of the Menger Hotel following the MARC "Family Picture." A quorum was established. Members were introduced.

Secretary's Report

The minutes of the November 18, 2003 meeting were presented by MARC Secretary Phyllis Reha . There was a discussion of the ongoing dispute with the Doubletree Hotel in Omaha. It was reported that MARC is incorporated in the state of Iowa and in the unlikely event of a lawsuit relating to the dispute, the extent of liability would be determined under Iowa law. Officers of MARC will be provided a copy of relevant incorporation documents. Following this discussion, the minutes were approved by voice vote.

Treasurer's Report

MARC Treasurer Judy Jones presented the Treasurer's Report for the period of November 1, 2003 through December 31, 2003. Overall net assets increased for the two month period by \$27,814.13. For the two month period MARC did not incur any expenses. The current checking account balance is approximately \$56,203.00. This amount includes \$26,300 in proceeds from the 2003 MARC Conference held in Omaha. The Nebraska PSC is still waiting for one outstanding deposit and will forward a final check and close this account after the deposit is received. Judy Jones reported that the Taxes for 2003 can be completed with current information, but the annual audit cannot proceed until MARC received the additional deposits of unknown origin. Included in that total is \$13,414 remaining in the Bank of the Ozarks in an account established for MARC. Arkansas has proposed this money be used as part of the seed money for the June 2005 MARC Conference in Arkansas, eliminating the need to close and then re-open an account. Additional sums will need to be transferred to that account to reach the seed money object of \$15,000. Judy Jones also reported that the MARC A.G. Edwards & Son's account managed by Dave Strutzel, had the Chase Capital 7.34% preferred issue called in full on November 10, 2003. This money was temporarily placed into a money market account and then reinvested on December 19, 2003 in GNMA II 5.5% taxable bonds. It was suggested that MARC may have to reconsider investments going forward. NARUC has a financial adviser that MARC will be able to consult with regarding investments. MARC President Bie appointed an Investment Finance Sub-committee of Judy Jones and Commissioner Daryl Basset of Arkansas to coordinate with the NARUC financial advisor and make recommendations to MARC regarding investments.

Following motion to approve and voice vote, the Treasurer's Report was approved.

By motion and approved by voice vote, the transfer of funds into the Bank of the Ozarks account to bring seed money for the 2005 Arkansas MARC Conference up to \$15,000 was approved.

By motion and approved by voice vote, the money market transaction made by A.G. Edwards & Sons on December 19, 2003 was approved.

Miscellaneous Financial matters approved by motion and voice vote (unless otherwise noted):

- 1) Letterhead costs for MARC were approved.
- 2) The cost of the MARC Breakfast in Atlanta of \$1,160 for 34 attendees was approved.
- 3) Expense reimbursement of \$50 per Commissioner staying over Saturday night in San Antonio was approved.
- 4) If a Commissioner is forced to cancel airfare and attendance due to illness or other unanticipated circumstance and is penalized with a cancellation fee from the airlines, MARC will pay actual losses if the money cannot be reasonably recouped. Approval of such reimbursement is left to the sound discretion of the MARC President and Secretary.
- 5) Each MARC State is allowed up to \$1000 as a stipend to defray travel expenses and costs to attend the 2004 MARC Conference in Madison, WI. Each State Commission must provide

receipts and documentation up to \$1000 supporting the reasonable use of the funds. The host state is not eligible for the stipend as the expenses of the host state are included in the seed money and expenses of the Conference.

6) Due to the healthy balance in the MARC treasury, there was a motion to waive the 2004 annual MARC State dues of \$100 per state. The motion was tabled until the MARC Annual Meeting to review MARC's Articles of Incorporation and By-laws and to consider other ethical concerns raised.

Wisconsin Conference Update

President Ave Bie passed out brochures about the Concourse Hotel in Madison. She also described the program activities, confirmed speakers of note, and extra curricula activities for conference attendees and their families. She further reported that the Edison Electric Institute was arranging the keynote speaker event at the Olbrich Botanical Gardens. There are two possible workshops being planned in conjunction with the MARC meeting. FERC will be hosting a regional workshop on Wednesday, and the National Council on Electricity Policy may also host a regional Tradable Renewable Credits Workshop either before or after the conference.

President Bie noted that there is approximately \$4000 left of the \$15,000 in initial seed money for the Madison Conference. Motion was made to allow Executive Committee to decide whether to tap into second \$15,000 seed money. Motion passed on voice vote.

Old Business

None

New Business

Commissioner Robert Clayton of Missouri provided a summary of the car accident and death on December 27th, 2003 of fellow Commissioner Brian Forbis. He is survived by his wife, Mary Beth, his 83 year old father and a brother. It was explained that Commissioner Forbis was the primary care giver to his handicapped wife who requires 24 hour a day care. Two memorials have been established in Commissioner Forbis' memory. The first is the Mary Beth Dobbs Forbis Trust. A trust fund to care for Commissioner Forbis' wife. The second is a memorial to Commissioner Forbis' church, St. John's Lutheran Church. Motion was made to contribute \$1000 on behalf of the MARC Commissioners to the Mary Beth Dobbs Forbis Trust Fund. Motion carried by voice vote. MARC will write a personal note on behalf of the MARC Commissioners to Commissioner Forbis' father and brother. A copy of the letter will be sent to the Missouri PUC.

NARUC and State Reports

Jim Berg reported on the activities of the NARUC Electricity Committee.

Becky Klein gave a review of the activities of the NARUC Triennial Review Task Force.

Bob Nelson summarized the activities of the NARUC Telecommunication Committee

Dave Hadley reported on the activities of the Clean Coal Technology Task Force.

Dianne Munns summarized the activities of the NARUC Finance and Technology Committee.

There was brief discussion about OMS and MISO activities.

Commissioners from each MARC state in attendance provided a summary of major dockets and activities of national and regional relevance followed by brief questions and discussion.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Phyllis A. Reha, Secretary