

# MID-AMERICA REGULATORY CONFERENCE

# MINUTES

February 8, 2021 | Virtual Meetings

The following Commissioners attended the meeting

X	Kim O'Guinn	AR
X	Justin Tate	AR
X	Ted Thomas	AR
X	Maria Bocanegra	IL
X	Michael Carrigan	IL
X	D. Ethan Kimbrel	IL
X	Sadzi Oliva	IL
X	Carrie Zalewski	IL
X	Sarah Freeman	IN
X	Jim Huston	IN
X	Stefanie Krevda	IN
X	David Ober	IN
X	David Ziegner	IN
X	Josh Byrnes	IA
X	Geri Huser	IA
X	Richard Lozier	IA
X	Susan Duffy	KS
X	Andrew French	KS
X	Dwight Keen	KS
X	Katherine Peretick	MI
X	Tremaine Phillips	MI
X	Dan Scripps	MI
X	Valerie Means	MN
X	Matthew Schuerger	MN
X	Katie Sieben	MN
X	Joe Sullivan	MN

X	John Tuma	MN
X	Maida Coleman	MO
X	Jason Holsman	MO
X	William Kenney	MO
X	Scott Rupp	MO
X	Ryan Silvey	MO
	Rod Johnson	NE
X	Crystal Rhoades	NE
	Mary Ridder	NE
X	Tim Schram	NE
	Dan Watermeier	NE
X	Randy Christmann	ND
X	Julie Fedorchak	ND
	Brian Kroshus	ND
X	Bob Anthony	OK
X	Todd Hiett	OK
X	Dana Murphy	OK
X	Gary Hanson	SD
X	Kristie Fiegen	SD
X	Chris Nelson	SD
X	Shelly Botkin	TX
	Arthur D'Andrea	TX
	DeAnn Walker	TX
X	Tyler Huebner	WI
X	Ellen Nowak	WI
X	Rebecca Valcq	WI

## MARC



### President

Gary Hanson, SD

### Vice President

Sadzi Oliva, IL

### Treasurer

Katie Sieben, MN

### Secretary

Dan Scripps, MI

### Executive Committee

Ellen Nowak, WI

Arkansas • Illinois • Indiana  
Iowa • Kansas • Michigan  
Minnesota • Missouri • Nebraska  
North Dakota • Oklahoma  
South Dakota • Texas • Wisconsin

## **1. Call to Order/ Welcome New Commissioners**

The meeting was called to order at 4:00PM PM Eastern Time by President Hanson.

## **2. Minutes and Secretary's Report (Commissioner Scripps)**

The minutes from the January 7, 2021 MARC Board meeting were presented.

The minutes were moved by Commissioner O'Guinn (AR), seconded by Commissioner Ziegner (IN), and adopted by the Board.

## **3. Treasurer's Report (Commissioner Sieben)**

The Treasurer's report for January 2021 was presented by Treasurer Sieben, and was largely unchanged from the report presented at the January Board meeting, with a current net balance decreasing by \$210 to \$309,764. The Treasurer's report was moved by Commissioner Freeman (IN), seconded by Commissioner Oliva (IL), and adopted by the Board.

In addition, Treasurer Sieben reported that she and Commissioner Oliva are now officially signatories on MARC Wells Fargo account, and previous MARC officers have been removed as signatories.

## **4. President's Report (Commissioner Hanson)**

- Voting for NARUC 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President election

President Hanson turned the meeting over to Vice President Oliva for the purpose of conducting the election for NARUC's 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President.

Commissioner Nowak (WI) nominated Commissioner Nelson (SD) for the position, which was seconded by Commissioner Fiegen (SD).

Commissioner Keen nominated Commissioner Fedorchak (ND) for the position, which was seconded by Commissioner Kimbrel (IL).

Following a voting period and tabulation of the votes, Commissioner Fedorchak was announced as the winner and will be MARC's nominee to become NARUC 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President at the NARUC Annual Meeting. Commissioner Nelson was then recognized on a point of personal privilege, and he expressed his congratulations to Commissioner Fedorchak.

- Transition of MARC Accounting Support

President Hanson provided an update on transitioning of MARC's accounting support, including an overview of his conversations with some of the other regional conferences and the companies that provide similar services to those organizations.

## **5. Vice President's Report (Commissioner Oliva)**

There was no Vice President's report for this meeting.

## **6. Executive Committee's Report (Commissioner Nowak)**

Commissioner Nowak provided an update on the NARUC Ambassadors program for which she serves as coordinator. The Ambassadors program connects newly-appointed or elected Commissioners with Ambassadors who can serve as an informal mentor. Commissioner Nowak expressed that given Commissioner turnover, they are always seeking additional Ambassadors, and to contact her if interested.

Commissioner Nowak also provided an update on the amicus brief NARUC submitted to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit in support of the Wisconsin Commissioners in the litigation brought by the Driftless Area Land Conservancy, and expressed her appreciation for the support of this brief from MARC states.

## **7. Old Business**

Beyond the items covered in the President's report, there was no additional old business for this meeting.

## **8. New Business**

Commissioner Nelson (SD) reported that comments encouraging a rigorous RDOF long form review process were filed with the FCC by MARC. He reported that many other groups including 157 members of Congress had done likewise.

Commissioner Duffy (KS) raised the issue of prioritization of essential infrastructure workers in receiving the COVID vaccine, noting that FERC had recently sent a letter to the CDC asking for energy infrastructure workers to be included in Phase 1B. There was discussion about how different MARC states are prioritizing essential infrastructure workers.

## **9. Schedule of Upcoming MARC Meetings**

- MARC Annual Meeting
  - Date: June 15, 2021 @2pm Central Time
  - Date: Virtual

- MARC Business Meeting at NARUC Summer Policy Summit  
Date: July 19, 2021  
Date: Virtual
- MARC Commissioner Seminar  
Date: January 2022  
Date: Hotel Contessa, San Antonio, TX

## 10. Adjourn

Commissioner Coleman (MO) moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Huston (IN), and the motion was supported by the Board. The meeting was adjourned at 5:04pm Eastern Time.