

I. Meeting Packet



State of Florida

Public Service Commission

INTERNAL AFFAIRS AGENDA

Tuesday – December 7, 2021

Immediately Following Agenda Conference
Room 148 – Betty Easley Conference Center

1. Legislative Update
2. General Counsel's Report
3. Executive Director's Report
4. Other Matters

BB/aml

OUTSIDE PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION ON
ANY OF THE AGENDAED ITEMS SHOULD CONTACT THE
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AT (850) 413-6463.

III. Supplemental Materials for Internal Affairs

Note: The records reflect that there were no supplemental materials provided to the Commission during this Internal Affairs meeting.

IV. Transcript

BEFORE THE
FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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PROCEEDINGS: INTERNAL AFFAIRS

COMMISSIONERS
PARTICIPATING: CHAIRMAN GARY F. CLARK
COMMISSIONER ART GRAHAM
COMMISSIONER ANDREW GILES FAY
COMMISSIONER MIKE LA ROSA
COMMISSIONER GABRIELLA PASSIDOMO

DATE: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2021

TIME: Commenced: 11:32 a.m.
Concluded: 11:41 a.m.

PLACE: BETTY EASLEY CONFERENCE CENTER
ROOM 148
4075 ESPLANADE WAY
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

REPORTED BY: DANA W. REEVES
Court Reporter and
Notary Public in and for
the State of Florida at Large

PREMIER REPORTING
112 W. 5TH AVENUE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA
(850) 894-0828

1 PROCEEDINGS

2 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Call the internal affairs to
3 order. We're going to begin with our legislative
4 update. Ms. Slattery.

5 MS. SLATTERY: Good morning. The legislature
6 concluded its sixth and final committee week last
7 Friday ahead of the legislative session that is set
8 to begin on January 11th. One item of note that I
9 wanted to bring to you guys, the lifeline cleanup
10 language proposed by PSC staff was filed in the
11 House last week by Representative Bobby Payne.
12 House Bill 789 relating to lifeline services seeks
13 to conform Florida state laws to the FCC lifeline
14 updates released in 2016. We'll continue to update
15 your offices on the movement of this bill and
16 others we're tracking. If there's any questions,
17 please reach out to myself or Katherine. Thank
18 you.

19 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Thank you very much. Any
20 questions? Commissioners, questions?

21 All right. Thank you very much. We'll move
22 to general counsel's report. Mr. Hetrick.

23 MR. HETRICK: No report, Mr. Chair, except
24 that we, as you know, did just finish up oral
25 arguments in the Duke Bartow case. So we think

1 that went well this morning. And I haven't had a
2 chance to say, we're going to miss you as Chair. I
3 know our staff -- everyone's going to miss you as
4 Chairman, but we're happy to be getting
5 Commissioner Fay, and then normal succession of
6 things, and certainly thankful that you're going to
7 continue on and, you know, be with us. So thank
8 you for all you've done in the past two years.

9 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Thank you very much, Mr.
10 Hetrick.

11 All right. Executive Director's report Mr.
12 Baez.

13 MR. BAEZ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do want
14 to start off with a bit of sad news. And I don't
15 know if some of our folks have heard, but David
16 Swafford, who was a longtime executive director up
17 until the early '90s passed away yesterday after a
18 brief stay in Big Bend Hospice. And I just want
19 everyone to try and keep his wife Jean and his
20 children Ramsay, Alva and Hudson in their minds and
21 in their prayers. The funeral arrangements are to
22 follow. So we'll pass along information as we have
23 it.

24 There are -- there are fewer and fewer folks
25 in our universe that can say they knew and they

1 worked with Dave Swafford. I got to know him a
2 little bit after he had -- he still maintained a
3 presence here for many years, and I was fortunate
4 enough to meet him. Never -- there was never a
5 more affable guy, a more knowledgeable person about
6 bigger-picture things. And, on a personal note, I
7 started off by saying fewer and fewer of us
8 remember. To me, he's like our Frank Sinatra. And
9 I don't know if there's a movie, as you know, you
10 shook Sinatra's hand and that sort of dividing line
11 of who's who, and there are fewer of us left. But
12 I -- those of you that are here, please remember
13 him. I know I remember him fondly. So then thank
14 you for letting me pass along that sad news.

15 And, on a lighter note, Mr. Chairman, since
16 Commissioner Graham gave me a little bit of license
17 to, and although I shudder at the fact of being the
18 final word on things, I wanted to thank you
19 personally, as well, and bid you a fond farewell to
20 your chairmanship. I don't know whether I'm
21 paraphrasing, or it's an exact quote, but you've
22 all heard it is that, times make the man. Well,
23 you are a man way before the times that hit you.
24 And we're all very, very fortunate for that.
25 Again, with gratitude to Chairman Graham, who I

1 don't want to get sideways on, you know, I
2 really -- we were very fortunate that you were at
3 the helm. I, myself, want to thank you personally
4 for the support that you gave, or the wisdom that
5 you showed. When it was time to get involved and
6 engaged, you did. When it was time to not get
7 involved and engaged, you did, and that was
8 incredibly wise for all of us. And I think that
9 though I had known you precious little at the time,
10 and certainly your -- the way you were going to
11 evolve as our leader, you grew in dimensions that I
12 am grateful to have witnessed and to have
13 experienced, and to know, and I'm just -- on behalf
14 of all the staff, we thank you for that leadership.
15 We thank you for being there on the spot and for
16 stepping up and for guiding us through a very, very
17 difficult time.

18 For me, personally, I regret that you did not
19 get your chance to be as, you know, as proactive.
20 We were basically dodging one thing or another for
21 the balance of your time, but you did it so well,
22 and you always showed great grace and tremendous
23 generosity to us on the staff side, and we greatly
24 appreciate it. You will be missed. With any luck,
25 you will be back around at some point, knock on

1 wood. But, again, thanks again for all of it.
2 And, again, we do look forward to great things to
3 continue for our new chairman-to-be.

4 So, with that, I don't have much else to
5 report and I fear I'm getting in the way of big
6 doings later today. So we'll all reconvene later,
7 I suppose. Thank you.

8 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Thank you. Thank you for the
9 kind words. I greatly appreciate it.

10 Commissioners, any other comments?

11 Commissioner Graham.

12 COMMISSIONER GRAHAM: There's not as many
13 staff here now, but I just want to wish everybody
14 Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays. I know we're
15 going to see you all later on downstairs. I may
16 not have the opportunity to say that, say all of
17 this, but you guys are the lifeblood of this
18 agency, and I do -- I think we all do appreciate
19 what you guys do day in and day out, and I know you
20 guys -- I'm sitting here looking at all the masks
21 out here. You guys are putting yourself out to
22 keep this agency running and I appreciate it.

23 CHAIRMAN CLARK: All right. If there's no
24 other business to come before us, we stand
25 adjourned.

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(Proceedings concluded.)

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

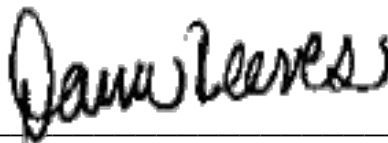
STATE OF FLORIDA)
COUNTY OF LEON)

I, DANA W. REEVES, Professional Court
Reporter, do hereby certify that the foregoing
proceeding was heard at the time and place herein
stated.

IT IS FURTHER CERTIFIED that I
stenographically reported the said proceedings; that the
same has been transcribed under my direct supervision;
and that this transcript constitutes a true
transcription of my notes of said proceedings.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not a relative,
employee, attorney or counsel of any of the parties, nor
am I a relative or employee of any of the parties'
attorney or counsel connected with the action, nor am I
financially interested in the action.

DATED THIS 20th day of December, 2021.



DANA W. REEVES
NOTARY PUBLIC
COMMISSION #GG970595
EXPIRES MARCH 22, 2024