

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH

In the Matter of the Application
For Rate Increase to State USF
Distribution for Gunnison
Telephone Company,

Docket No. 14-043-01

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PUBLIC MEETING  
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PLACE: Public Service Commission
 160 E. 300 S.
 Salt Lake City, UT

DATE: August 19, 2014

TIME: 5:00 p.m.

REPORTED BY: Kellie Peterson, RPR

50 West Broadway, Suite 900, Salt Lake City, UT 84101
801-983-2180

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A P P E A R A N C E S

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:
Melanie Reif

FOR THE DIVISION:
Justin Jetter, Esq.
Assistant Utah Attorney General
DIVISION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
160 E. 300 S.
Fourth Floor
Salt Lake City, UT 84111

FOR GUNNISON TELEPHONE:
Kira M. Slawson, Esq.
BLACKBURN & STOLL
257 E. 200 S.
Suite No. 800
Salt Lake City, UT 84111

APPEARING TELEPHONICALLY:
Kim Sanders

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E X H I B I T S

Ex. No.	Description	Page No.
1	Notice Provided to Gunnison Telephone Customers on July 1, 2014	6
2	Notice Provided to Gunnison Telephone Customers on August 1, 2014	6

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P R O C E E D I N G S

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE REIF: Good evening every one I am Melanie Reif with the Utah Public Service Commissioner. I serve as the Administrative Law Judge for the Commission. This evening, we are having the public witness hearing, in docket 14-043-01. This matter was originally set as a rate increase hearing and, subsequently, was heard as a stipulation hearing earlier today. So this evening is the date and time for the public witness portion of the hearing, and let's start by taking the appearances.

MS. SLAWSON: Kira Slawson from Blackburn and Stoll, on behalf of Gunnison Telephone Company, and with me, I have Natalie Gleave.

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE REIF: Ms. Slawson, will Ms. Gleave provide testimony this evening?

MS. SLAWSON: She can provide testimony regarding the notice but we also have copy of the notices.

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE REIF: Excellent, thank you very much.

MR. JETTER: Justin Jetter for the Utah Public Division of Utilities.

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE REIF: And Mr. Jetter will you be calling a witness this evening?

1 MR. JETTER: I will not.

2 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE REIF: Okay.

3 MS. MURRAY: Cheryl Murray with the Office
4 of Consumer Services, and I am just here to sign anyone
5 up who wants to speak.

6 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE REIF: Thank you,
7 Cheryl. I appreciate you being here.

8 And, sir, Mr. Sanders on the telephone,
9 could you please identify yourself for the record?

10 MR. SANDERS: This is Kim Sanders. I am the
11 president and manager, or the general manager, of the
12 Gunnison Telephone Company.

13 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE REIF: Okay. And
14 do you wish to provide testimony or comment this
15 evening, sir?

16 MR. SANDERS: I don't.

17 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE REIF: Okay, so you
18 are on the line to listen and observe; is that correct?

19 MR. SANDERS: Yes.

20 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE REIF: Okay, very
21 good.

22 MR. SANDERS: Natalie Gleave is there
23 representing the company.

24 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE REIF: Okay, thank
25 you. You may hold the line, sir.

1 Ms. Slawson, let's start with you and with
2 the exhibit that you mentioned in your opening.

3 MS. SLAWSON: We actually have two exhibits
4 because as you know, there was originally a hearing set
5 for September, and so the first exhibit that we have is
6 the notice that was first sent out by the company, and I
7 guess I will have Ms. Gleave authenticate that, if that
8 works for the Commission.

9 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE REIF: Either way
10 is fine.

11 MS. SLAWSON: Okay. I will proffer this
12 first exhibit was provided in the customers' bill on
13 July 1st of 2014.

14 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE REIF: Thank you.
15 Do you have a copy for the reporter?

16 MR. JETTER: She can have my clean copy.

17 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE REIF: Thank you,
18 that would be great. We will make that part of the
19 transcript. How did you want that to be marked?

20 MS. SLAWSON: We can mark that as Gunnison
21 Telephone Company Exhibit 1, Hearing Exhibit 1. Then I
22 also have what we would like marked as Gunnison
23 Telephone Company Hearing Exhibit 2.

24 (Exhibits No. 1 & 2 were marked for
25 identification.)

1 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE REIF: Thank you.

2 MS. SLAWSON: And this notice was provided
3 to the customers in their August 1st bill. This notice
4 also appears on the -- has appeared on the website since
5 August 1st and is currently on the website now, and has
6 also been a handout that customers can take when they
7 come into the office, and, finally, it was posted in the
8 office when customers appeared. And it shows that the
9 date and time for the public witness hearing is five
10 o'clock on August 19, 2014, room 454, Heber M. Wells
11 Building, Salt Lake City, Utah.

12 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE REIF: Thank you,
13 Ms. Slawson.

14 MS. SLAWSON: We don't have anything
15 further.

16 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE REIF: Okay, give
17 me just one moment. We will be off the record.

18 (A discussion was held off the record.)

19 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE REIF: Thank you,
20 again, Ms. Slawson, for providing these. The Commission
21 would like to have these included as part of the
22 transcript, if that's okay with you. I mean, typically,
23 you would be moving to do that.

24 MS. SLAWSON: Yes, we would move this to be
25 part of the transcript.

1 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE REIF: Okay, very
2 good. Any objection?

3 MR. JETTER: No.

4 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE REIF: Okay, they
5 are both admitted. And, Ms. Murray, thank you again for
6 being here this evening to help facilitate this hearing.
7 Are you aware of anyone who intends to speak this
8 evening?

9 MS. MURRAY: I am not.

10 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE REIF: Okay.
11 Ms. Slawson, typically what we would do is we would wait
12 probably a few more minutes longer, just in case
13 somebody is trying to get parked and into the building.
14 But in the meantime, do you wish to call either
15 Ms. Gleave or Mr. Sanders, inasmuch as it is a public
16 witness hearing, and they are welcome to give comment or
17 testimony, if you would like them to do so.

18 MS. SLAWSON: We don't need to give
19 additional testimony at this time. We have handled it
20 earlier. That will be fine, thanks.

21 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE REIF: Okay, all
22 right.

23 Mr. Jetter, if you don't mind me asking you,
24 please, are you aware of anyone who is going to be
25 appearing at this hearing?

1 MR. JETTER: No, we haven't received any
2 indication from anyone of an intent to appear.

3 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE REIF: Okay. And I
4 realize that you are not testifying, but we will take
5 you proffer on this; are you aware of anybody who has
6 opposed this stipulation, and inasmuch as there's a rate
7 increase and decrease, as well as an increase in USF as
8 part of this docket?

9 MR. JETTER: No, I am not aware of any
10 opposition.

11 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE REIF: Okay.
12 Ms. Murray, I realize that the Office isn't actively
13 involved with this docket, but, again, we really do
14 appreciate you being here to facilitate. And I may be
15 asking you the same thing I asked you before but in a
16 slightly different way; inasmuch as the Office interacts
17 with the public and with customers, in general, is the
18 Office aware of any opposition to the pending
19 application?

20 MS. MURRAY: We are not.

21 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE REIF: Or the
22 pending stipulation?

23 MS. MURRAY: We have not received any
24 inquiries even asking about the matter, so we are not
25 aware of any opposition or anyone who plans to come.

1 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE REIF: All right, I
2 appreciate that. And I also note that you are not under
3 oath but we will take that as a proffer, so thank you.

4 MS. MURRAY: Okay.

5 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE REIF: We will be
6 off the record for now and let's just wait for five
7 minutes and see what happens.

8 (Whereupon, a break was taken.)

9 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE REIF: It is now
10 5:16 and it is 16 minutes after the noted time for this
11 hearing, and we have had no one show for public comment
12 in this matter.

13 And, Ms. Murray, I understand that you have
14 made an extra effort to check to see if anyone has tried
15 to get into the building, or tried to get here, and
16 could you please state what you found when you went
17 downstairs?

18 MS. MURRAY: Yes. I checked with the
19 security guard on the first floor and he said no one has
20 tried to come into come to the hearing.

21 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE REIF: Okay, thank
22 you for doing that.

23 MS. MURRAY: You are welcome.

24 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE REIF: And thank
25 you for reporting on that. Well, everyone, this hearing

1 is adjourned. Thank you very much for being here, and
2 again, thank you again, Ms. Murray, for your help in
3 coordinating. I hope you have a very nice weekend -- or
4 evening, and an order will be forthcoming. Thank you.

5 (The hearing was concluded at 5:17 p.m.)
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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

State of Utah)
County of Salt Lake)

I hereby certify that the witness in the foregoing deposition was duly sworn to testify to the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the within-entitled cause;

That said deposition was taken at the time and place herein named;

That the testimony of said witness was reported by me in stenotype and thereafter transcribed into typewritten form.

I further certify that I am not of kin or otherwise associated with any of the parties of said cause of action and that I am not interested in the even thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I set my hand this 22nd day of August, 2014.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kellie Peterson", written over a horizontal line.

Kellie Peterson, RPR