



Janine L. Migden-Ostrander
Consumers' Counsel

**MINUTES OF THE
TWO HUNDRED SEVENTY-FIFTH MEETING
OF THE CONSUMERS' COUNSEL GOVERNING BOARD
July 15, 2009**

Members Present: Gene Krebs
Dorothy Leslie
Joe Logan
David McCall
Karen Osterfeld
Jerome Solove
Roger Wise

Members Absent: John Moliterno

Guests: Terry Williams, Attorney General's Office

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Solove called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. and thanked everyone for coming, and commented on the tour of the Duke Envision Center.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes from the May 27, 2009 meeting were approved.

CONSUMERS' COUNSEL REPORT

Ms. Migden-Ostrander reported that our budget was passed.

Karen Hardie will be retiring from OCC with 29 years of service effective July 31. Ms. Hardie was the Chair of the Telecom Team. Kathy Hagans was asked and has agreed to Chair the Telecom Team.

Oyango Snell has resigned his position as Director, Legislative and Government Affairs effective July 31. In 2010 Oyango will run for Senator Ray Miller's vacant senate seat.

Ms. Migden-Ostrander highlighted some of the case activity which included:

- AT&T Alternative Regulation – AT&T's tenth basic service alternative regulation case was filed on June 12, 2009. This filing covers the 16 exchanges that were not included in its other applications.
- Verizon/Frontier – A rural telephone provider, Frontier Communications, filed an application seeking approval for the takeover of Verizon territory in Ohio.

- Columbia Gas Exit the Merchant Function – The case is about whether Columbia will competitively bid the supply of natural gas to customers.
- Dominion Retail – OCC filed a complaint against Dominion alleging misleading and deceptive acts. The Company sent out a letter that implied that customers would lose service if they did not take action in picking a supplier, when in fact, no action was necessary.
- American Electric Power ESP – The Company was allowed to recover increases for rates that were not in effect. Additionally, the Company received from the PUCO much larger increases than OCC believed the record could reasonably justify.
- FirstEnergy Auction – The auction resulted in a rate decrease for all FirstEnergy operating companies. This demonstrated that a competitive market under some circumstances can provide benefits to customers.
- Ohio American Water Rate Case – The Company claims that dealing with water quality issues is the reason for yet another application for a rate increase.

Since the last meeting, the Communication Department issued 9 news releases, gave 47 speeches, and participated in 11 shows and fairs.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Krebs made a motion to enter Executive Session to conduct the performance evaluations for the Consumers' Counsel and the Deputy Consumers' Counsel. Mr. Logan seconded the motion and Mrs. Knight called roll. The motion passed unanimously.

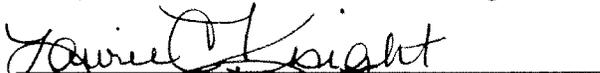
Executive Session began at 2:35 p.m. and concluded at 4:10 p.m.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

I verify that the above meeting minutes have been approved and ratified by the OCC Governing Board on this 16th day of September, 2009.



Jerome G. Solove, Chair
Ohio Consumers' Counsel Governing Board



Laurie C. Knight, Secretary
Ohio Consumers' Counsel Governing Board