



FEATURES |

Gov. Rick Snyder appoints Saari to MPSC |

Note: Gov. Rick Snyder's office issued the following Press Release on July 22, 2015.

LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the appointment of Norm Saari, of East Lansing, to serve on the state's three-member Michigan Public Service Commission.

The Commission provides regulatory oversight of Michigan's utilities and works to enhance the quality of life of the state's communities by assuring safe and reliable energy and telecommunications at reasonable prices. No more than two commissioners can represent the same political party. . . .

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Applications and Complaints |

- U-17851 Frontier Communications of Michigan, Inc. and Centurylink Communications, LLC (license)
- U-17906 Comcast Phone of Michigan, LLC (license)
- U-17907 Steven Beukema v AT&T (consumer complaint)

Gov. Rick Snyder appoints Saari to MPSC | continued from Page 1

... “Norm has had a distinguished career in the utility industry as well as in public service, and he brings decades of experience to the Michigan Public Service Commission,” Snyder said. “He will fairly and objectively help our state achieve its goal of an energy supply that is reliable, affordable, and protects our environment while safeguarding our consumers.”



“I also extend sincere thanks to Commissioner White for his service to Michigan and for his national leadership on issues important to our state.”

Saari retired in 2006 from Consumers Energy Co., having spent 20 years as executive director of governmental affairs. Saari was most recently chief of staff for the Michigan House of Representatives under Speaker Kevin Cotter as well as under former Speaker Jase Bolger. He also served as Snyder’s manager of appointments and chief of staff for former State Sen. Jason Allen. Saari earned a bachelor’s degree in journalism from Michigan State University, and served in the Michigan National Guard.

Saari represents Republicans and replaces Greg White on the Commission, who is retiring. He serves a six-year term commencing Aug. 2, 2015, and expiring July 2, 2021. His appointment is subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

#

2015 & 2016 LEGISLATION |

Copies of bills and public acts referred to in this column may be obtained by contacting your state Senator or Representative, on the Michigan Legislature Website, <<http://www.michiganlegislature.org/>>, or from the Legislative Service Bureau Document Room at (517) 373-0169.

Senate Bill # Primary Sponsor	Date Introduced	Description	Status (revisions in bold)
SB 0301 Warren	04/28/2015	Environmental protection; recycling; consumer electronic waste; expand to include cellular telephones and tablet computers. Amends secs. 17301, 17305, 17307 & 17309 of 1994 PA 451 (MCL 324.17301 et seq.) & repeals sec. 17313 of 1994 PA 451 (MCL 324.17313).	Referred to Senate Committee on Natural Resources.
SB 0336 Schuitmaker	05/15/2015	Law enforcement; other; public safety communications; create Michigan blue alert plan to broadcast information regarding attacks on peace officers. Creates new act.	06/10/2015 Passed Senate, 38 Yays, 0 Nays; Referred to House Committee on Criminal Justice.

Senate Bill # Primary Sponsor	Date Introduced	Description	Status (revisions in bold)
SB 0399 Schmidt	06/16/2015	Counties; boards and commissions; permit fee required for a government entity or telecommunication provider working within a county right-of-way; clarify limits, and clarify bonding and insurance requirements for telecommunication providers working within a county right-of-way. Amends sec. 19b, ch. IV of 1909 PA 283 (MCL 224.19b).	Referred to Committee on Local Government.

House Bill # Primary Sponsor	Date Introduced	Description	Status (revisions in bold)
HB 4006 Heise	01/15/2015	Law enforcement; investigations; disclosure of call location information by wireless providers to requesting law enforcement agency; require. Creates new act.	02/18/2015 Substitute H-1 reported with recommendation by House Committee on Criminal Justice; referred to second reading.
HB 4038 Forlini 2015 PA 36	01/21/2015	Housing; landlord and tenants; notification of evictions; allow by electronic mail. Amends sec. 5718 of 1961 PA 236 (MCL 600.5718).	05/21/2015 Signed by Gov. Snyder; assigned 2015 PA 36 with immediate effect; 05/12/2015 Passed Senate, 116 Yeas, 26 Nays, 11 Excused, 1 Not Voting; Returned to House without amendments; Ordered Enrolled.
HB 4291 Love	03/04/2015	Environmental protection; recycling; consumer electronic waste; expand to include cellular telephones and tablet computers. Amends secs. 17301, 17305, 17307 & 17309 of 1994 PA 451 (MCL 324.17301 et seq.) & repeals sec. 17313 of 1994 PA 451 (MCL 324.17313)	Referred to House Committee on Communications and Technology.
HB 4373 Geiss	03/24/2015	Education; public school academies; cyber schools; require posting educational materials on website and submission to department. Amends 1976 PA 451 (MCL 380.1 - 380.1852) by adding sec. 553b.	Referred to House Committee on Education.

House Bill # Primary Sponsor	Date Introduced	Description	Status (revisions in bold)
HB 4378 Cole	03/24/2015	Administrative procedure; contested cases; award of costs and fees to prevailing party in a case involving this state; remove certain restrictions. Amends sec. 123 of 1969 PA 306 (MCL 24.323).	Referred to House Committee on Government Operations.
HB 4781 Kosowski	07/14/2015	Education; technology; Internet filtering, technology utilization, and digital citizenship policies and education in schools; require. Amends 1976 PA 451 (MCL 380.1 - 380.1852) by adding sec. 1292.	Referred to House Committee on Education.
HB 4791 Zemke	07/15/2015	Education; school districts; policy regulating social media interaction between students and employees; require school districts to adopt and implement. Amends 1976 PA 451 (MCL 380.1 - 380.1852) by adding sec. 1319.	Referred to House Committee on Education.

House Resolution # Primary Sponsor	Date Introduced	Description	Status (revisions in bold)
HR 0017 Tedder	02/19/2015	A resolution to memorialize the President of the United States, the U.S. Congress, and the U.S. Federal Communications Commission to rescind the ruling which regulates broadband Internet services as common carrier services under Title II of the Communications Act of 1934	03/04/2015 Substitute H-1 Adopted by the House.
HR 0039 Townsend	03/17/2015	A resolution to memorialize the President of the United States, the U.S. Congress, and the U.S. Federal Communications Commission to stand firm on the decision to regulate broadband Internet services as common carrier services under Title II of the Communications Act of 1934 in the interest of preserving net neutrality.	03/17/2015 Referred to House Committee on Communications and Technology.

House Resolution # Primary Sponsor	Date Introduced	Description	Status (revisions in bold)
HCR 0004 Townsend	03/17/2015	A concurrent resolution to memorialize the President of the United States, the U.S. Congress, and the U.S. Federal Communications Commission to stand firm on the decision to regulate broadband Internet services as common carrier services under Title II of the Communications Act of 1934 in the interest of preserving net neutrality.	03/17/2015 Referred to House Committee on Communications and Technology.
HJR N	03/26/2015	Criminal procedure; warrants; search and seizure protections; expand to include electronic communications and seizures. Amends sec. 11, art. I of the state constitution.	05/26/2015 Reported by House Committee on Criminal Justice with recommendation and without amendment; referred to second reading.

Senate Resolution # Primary Sponsor	Date Introduced	Description	Status (revisions in bold)
SR 0016 Kowall	02/24/2015	A resolution to memorialize the President of the United States, the U.S. Congress, and the U.S. Federal Communications Commission to refrain from regulating broadband Internet services as common carrier services under Title II of the Communications Act of 1934.	02/25/2015 Adopted by the Senate.
SR 0031 Kowall	03/25/2015	A resolution to urge the adoption of Intelligent Transportation System technologies throughout the state, further research into vehicle communication systems, and the testing and operation of connected and automated vehicles.	03/25/2015 Adopted by the Senate.

PUBLIC ACTS OF 2015 & 2016 |

Listed below are Public Acts related to telecommunications that were passed during the current legislative session (2015-2016). Copies of Public Acts may be obtained by contacting your state Senator or Representative, on the Michigan Legislature Website, <<http://www.michiganlegislature.org/>>, or from the Legislative Service Bureau Document Room at (517) 373-0169. Acts passed since the previous edition of the Michigan Telecommunications Report are in bold.

Public Act #	Effective Date	Description	Enrolled Bill # and Sponsor
2015 PA 36	05/21/2015	Housing; landlord and tenants; notification of evictions; allow by electronic mail. Amends sec. 5718 of 1961 PA 236 (MCL 600.5718).	HB 4038 Forlini

ORDERS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSION |

The Michigan Public Service Commission (“Commission”) issued the following Orders at its regularly scheduled meeting held on Thursday, July 23, 2015, at 1:30 p.m. at the Commission’s offices located at 7109 W. Saginaw Highway, Lansing, Michigan.

Case No. U-17784

License

Peninsula Fiber Network Next Generation Services, LLC

<http://efile.mpsc.state.mi.us/efile/viewcase.php?casenum=17784>

On July 23, 2015, the Michigan Public Service Commission (“Commission”) issued an Order granting a temporary license to Peninsula Fiber Network Next Generation Services, LLC to provide basic local exchange service in the following exchanges: Birch Run, Byron, Clio-Mt. Morris, Fenton, Flint, Flushing, Fowlerville, Frankenmuth, Grand Blanc, Holly, Howell, Lapeer, Mayville, Oxford, Saginaw and Vassar, served by Michigan Bell Telephone Company, d/b/a AT&T Michigan; Bancroft, Clifford, Columbiaville, Davison, Durand, Gaines, Linden, Metamora, North Branch, Ortonville, Otisville, Owosso, Rankin and Swartz Creek, served by Frontier North Inc.; Fostoria and Millington, served by Wolverine Telephone Company, d/b/a TDS Telecom/Wolverine Telephone Co.; Lennon, served by Lennon Telephone Company; and Chesaning, Goodrich, Hadley, Montrose and New Lothrop, served by CenturyTel Midwest-Michigan, Inc. The temporary license shall expire upon issuance of the final order granting or denying Peninsula Fiber Network Next Generation Services, LLC’s June 3, 2015 Application for a permanent license.

Case No. U-17893

Interconnection Agreement

CenturyTel Midwest-Michigan, Inc., CenturyTel of Michigan, Inc., CenturyTel of Northern Michigan, Inc., and CenturyTel of Upper Michigan, Inc., all d/b/a CenturyLink, and Level 3 Communications, LLC

<http://efile.mpsc.state.mi.us/efile/viewcase.php?casenum=17893>

Application filed July 1, 2015, for approval of a traffic exchange Interconnection Agreement.

On July 23, 2015, the Michigan Public Service Commission (“Commission”) issued an Order approving the above-listed Interconnection Agreement.

APPLICATIONS AND COMPLAINTS |

Case No. U-17851

Interconnection Agreement

Frontier Communications of Michigan, Inc. and Centurylink Communications, LLC

<http://efile.mpsc.state.mi.us/efile/viewcase.php?casenum=17851>

On July 20, 2015, Frontier Communications of Michigan, Inc. and Centurylink Communications, LLC jointly filed an Application with the Michigan Public Service Commission (“Commission”) seeking approval of an Interconnection Agreement.

Case No. U-17906

License

Comcast Phone of Michigan, LLC

<http://efile.mpsc.state.mi.us/efile/viewcase.php?casenum=17906>

On July 23, 2015, Comcast Phone of Michigan, LLC filed an Application with the Michigan Public Service Commission (“Commission”) to expand the geographic scope of its license to provide basic local exchange service to include the entire State of Michigan.

Case No. U-17907

Consumer Complaint

Steven Beukema v AT&T

On July 28, 2015, Steve Beukema, of Grand Rapids, filed a formal Complaint with the Michigan Public Service Commission (“Commission”) against AT&T. According to the Complaint, Ms. Beukema alleges that AT&T misrepresented rates for telephone and internet services.

NOTICES OF OPPORTUNITIES TO COMMENT |

The following Notices of Opportunity to Comment have been issued by the Michigan Public Service Commission’s Executive Secretary. Any interested person may submit comments on the application by sending written comments to the Commission by mail to: Executive Secretary, Michigan Public Service Commission, P.O. Box 30221, Lansing, Michigan 48909. Electronic comments may be e-mailed to: <mpscfilecases@michigan.gov>. Any comments should reference the applicable docket number.

There are no known Notices of Opportunities to Comment on Telecommunications Proceedings pending before the Michigan Public Service Commission at this time.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS |

The following Notices of Hearings have been issued by the Michigan Public Service Commission's Executive Secretary. Unless otherwise noted, all hearings are held at the Michigan Public Service Commission, 7109 W. Saginaw, Lansing, Michigan.

Case No. U-17784

License

Peninsula Fiber Network Next Generation Services, LLC

<http://efile.mpsc.state.mi.us/efile/viewcase.php?casenum=17784>

Evidentiary Hearing: Tuesday August 18, 2015, 9:00 a.m.

The Michigan Public Service Commission ("Commission") will consider the June 3, 2015 Application of Peninsula Fiber Network Next Generation Services, LLC, as amended on June 24, 2015, for a temporary and a permanent license to provide basic local exchange service in the following exchanges: Birch Run, Byron, Clio-Mt. Morris, Fenton, Flint, Flushing, Fowlerville, Frankenmuth, Grand Blanc, Holly, Howell, Lapeer, Mayville, Oxford, Saginaw and Vassar, served by Michigan Bell Telephone Company, d/b/a AT&T Michigan; Bancroft, Clifford, Columbiaville, Davison, Durand, Gaines, Linden, Metamora, North Branch, Ortonville, Otisville, Owosso, Rankin and Swartz Creek, served by Frontier North Inc.; Fostoria and Millington, served by Wolverine Telephone Company, d/b/a TDS Telecom/Wolverine Telephone Co.; Lennon, served by Lennon Telephone Company; and Chesaning, Goodrich, Hadley, Montrose and New Lothrop, served by CenturyTel Midwest-Michigan, Inc. at an evidentiary hearing before Administrative Law Judge Sharon Feldman on Tuesday, August 18, 2015 at 9:00 a.m., at the Commission's offices located at 7109 West Saginaw Highway, Lansing, Michigan. Interested parties who wish to intervene in this proceeding must do so by Friday, August 14, 2015.

Case No. U-17891

Show Cause – TRS

CMS Telecom, Inc.

<http://efile.mpsc.state.mi.us/efile/viewcase.php?casenum=17891>

Show Cause Hearing: Tuesday, August 4, 2015, 9:00 a.m.

The Michigan Public Service Commission ("Commission") will hold a Show Cause hearing on Tuesday, August 4, 2015, at 9:00 a.m., at the Commission's offices, 7109 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing, Michigan, before Administrative Law Judge Martin D. Snider requiring CMC Telecom, Inc. to Show Cause why it should not be held in violation of Section 315 of the Michigan Telecommunications Act (MTA), MCL 484.2315.

CMC, Telecom Inc. will be required to respond to the following Staff conclusions that CMC Telecom, Inc. has not complied with MCL 484.2315 and the September 11 Order in the following respects:

- Staff believes that it is likely that CMC customers did not have access to TRS between February 7 and April 7, 2015, and possibly to the present;
- The Commission is not able to determine if CMC Telecom, Inc. is providing TRS to its customers on its own, jointly with other basic local exchange providers, or by contract with other telecommunication providers;

- Staff has concerns about the accuracy of the information that was provided to CMC Telecom, Inc. customers; and,
- From the information that has been provided by CMC Telecom, Inc., it is difficult to determine whether CMC Telecom, Inc. has complied with the order, and whether the company has properly obtained a contract and transitioned to a new relay provider.

MPSC HEARINGS SCHEDULE |

Note: Unless indicated otherwise, hearings are held at the Michigan Public Service Commission's new offices at 7109 W. Saginaw, Lansing, Michigan. Hearing dates and times are subject to change or cancellation. Please check with the Commission's Executive Secretary at (517) 241-6160 to confirm that a hearing will be taking place.

KNOWN TELECOMMUNICATIONS HEARINGS SCHEDULED FOR THE NEXT FORTNIGHT (AUGUST 2, 2015 THROUGH AUGUST 14, 2015)

*There are no known Telecommunications
Hearings scheduled during the current fortnight.*

August 4, 2015, 9:00 a.m.
Case No. U-17891/Show Cause
CMC Telecom (show cause - trs)

FUTURE TELECOM HEARINGS SCHEDULED

August 18, 2015, 9:00 a.m.
Case No. U-17884/Evidentiary Hearing
Peninsula Fiber Network Next Generation Services,
LLC (license)

2015 REGULAR MPSC MEETING DATES[†] |

MONTH & DATE	DAY	TIME
August 11 [‡]	Tuesday	1:30 p.m.
August 14 [‡]	Friday	11:00 a.m.
August 25	Tuesday	1:30 p.m.
September 10	Thursday	1:30 p.m.
September 24	Thursday	1:30 p.m.
October 7	Wednesday	1:30 p.m.
October 22	Thursday	1:30 p.m.
November 5	Thursday	1:30 p.m.
November 19	Thursday	1:30 p.m.
December 8	Tuesday	1:30 p.m.
December 22	Tuesday	1:30 p.m.

[†] Additional meetings of the Michigan Public Service Commission (“Commission”) may be scheduled, as needed, on 18 hours-notice as permitted by Section 5(4) of the Michigan Open Meetings Act, MCL 15.265(4).

All meetings of the Commission are open to the public and will be held at the Commission’s new offices, which are located at 7109 W. Saginaw, Lansing, Michigan, 48917, unless posted and notified in accordance with the Open Meetings Act. Visitors should park in the south side, rear parking lot, which is in the back of the building and enter through the doors posted for “Visitors.” The meeting site is accessible, including handicapped parking. People with disabilities requiring additional accommodations such as information in alternative formats in order to participate in the meeting should contact the Commission’s Executive Secretary at (517) 284-8090.

Agendas for all Regular and Special Meetings will be posted on 18-hours-notice. A posted agenda is subject to Amendment as determined by the Commission. Any person with a question about a Regular or a Special Meeting of the Commission may make an inquiry by calling the Commission’s Executive Secretary at (517) 248-8090.

[‡] On July 23, 2015, the Michigan Public Service Commission (“Commission”) announced that The next Regular Commission Meeting is scheduled for Friday August 14, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. and that the Regular Commission Meeting previously scheduled for August 11, 2015 will not occur.

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