

Minutes of the Fairfax County Consumer Protection Commission

April 20, 2010

7:30PM Conference 7
Government Center
12000 Government Center
Pkwy. Fairfax, Virginia
22035
Chairman Fee, presiding

Attendance:

Commissioners: Bahhur,
Belkowitz, Bounacos, Douskalis,
Fee, Hargraves, Hine, Kirk
Mrowka, Rosier

Absent:

Commissioners: Boyd, Nguyen, Roark

Staff:

Michael S. Liberman, Director
Cable Communication and Consumer
Protection (DCCCP)
Ellen Posner, Assistant County Attorney
Steve Sinclair, Chief, Public Utilities
Branch Susan C. Jones, Branch Chief,
Consumer Affairs
Susan Hafeli, Utilities Analyst, DCCCP

Guests:

Steven T. Edgemon, Fairfax Water
Stuart Rafael, Legal Counsel, Fairfax
Water

The meeting was called to order at 7:34PM by Chairman Fee.

Minutes

The minutes of the March 16, 2010 meeting were approved.

Report of the Chairman

Chairman Fee informed the Commission that he attended the Virginia Supreme Court hearing in Richmond on Monday regarding jurisdictional towing.

Report of the Director

Director Liberman mentioned the Board of Supervisors conducted the budget mark-up today. Final approval will be on April 27, 2010.

Director Liberman provided copies of the *Informed Consumer* newsletter highlighting new credit card rules.

Commission Matters

Commissioner Bounacos referred to the "Lifelock," article in the *Informed Consumer* newsletter remarking he received a solicitation and would send the information to staff.

Commissioner Hine had no matters to bring before the commission.

Commissioner Kirk had no matters to bring before the commission.

Commissioner Rosier had no matters to bring before the commission.

Commissioner Bahhur had no matters to bring before the commission.

Commissioner Hargraves mentioned the Comcast versus FCC case on network neutrality heard in the US Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit.

Commissioner Belkowitz mentioned he purchased Turbo Tax from Staples and sent out the rebate form to the address listed, but the forms were returned. He followed up with Staples and discovered Staples had printed the wrong information on obtaining the

rebate, and he had to resend the forms.

Commissioner Douskalis had no matters to bring before the commission.

Commissioner Mrowka had no matters to bring before the commission.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

1. Staff Draft Report on Rates Charged by Water Systems

Susan Hafeli, Utilities Analyst, DCCCP, presented the draft copy of the staff report on rates charged by Water Systems serving Fairfax County residents. The presentation included the 2008 Board of Supervisor directive, report overview, background, water systems in the county, system comparisons, residential water rates, rate-setting framework, legal guidance, systems' water sources, water rates in the county, statewide rate comparison, regional rate comparison, rate differentials, revenue transfers, findings, additional considerations, and recommendations.

A discussion ensued on word usage in several areas, data corrections, using broad general terms, guidelines, and legal aspects.

Chairman Fee made the motion to adopt as amended by the Commission, the Staff Report "Rates Charged by Water Systems Serving Fairfax County Residents". Commissioner Kirk seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The nominating procedures were deferred until the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:01PM.