



CITY OF RAPID CITY

RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA 57701-2724

Office of the Mayor


300 Sixth Street

605-394-4110

Fax 605-394-6793

E-mail: mayor@rcgov.org

MEMORANDUM

TO: Legal & Finance Committee
FROM: Mayor Steve Allender 
DATE: April 27, 2016
SUBJECT: Appointments to Airport Board of Directors

PURPOSE:

Please confirm the new appointments of Vance Crocker, Ron Johnsen, and Michelle Thomson to the Rapid City Regional Airport Board of Directors.

So as to avoid multiple terms expiring at the same time, Ordinance No. 6111 of Chapter 2.72 of the Rapid City Municipal Code has been amended to reflect 5 year term lengths, initially staggered, so that only one member's term expires each year. The balance of the ordinance related to membership on the Board has remained the same.

The following staggered terms of appointments are proposed.

Name	Position	Expiration	Voting
Vance Crocker	Board Member	5/1/2021	voting
Michelle Thomson	Board Member	5/1/2020	voting
Ron Johnsen	Board Member	5/1/2019	voting
Shawn Gab	Board Member	5/1/2018	voting
William G. Eldridge	Board Member	5/1/2018	voting
Jerry Wright	Council Liaison	7/01/2016	non-voting

CURRENT COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP:

Following is the current committee membership. Term Expirations are *italicized*.

Name	Position	Expiration	Voting
Dick McConnell	Board Member	05/01/2016	voting
Lisa Modrick	Board Member	05/01/2016	voting
Todd Ossenfort	Board Member	05/01/2016	voting
Shawn Gab	Board Member	05/01/2018	voting
William G. Eldridge	Board Member	05/01/2018	voting
Jerry Wright	Council Liaison	07/01/2015	non-voting



EQUAL HOUSING
OPPORTUNITY

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

The Citizen Interest Application was submitted from the City of Rapid City website. Here are the responses given.

Name: Vance Crocker

Street Address: 835 Enchanted Pines Drive

City, State, Zip Code: Rapid City, SD, 57701

City Resident: Yes

Ward (see link at the top of this page if you are not sure what ward you are in): 3

If you do not reside in City Limits, do you reside within a 3 mile jurisdiction of Rapid City? (Please put NA if you live in City Limits) : NA

Daytime Phone: 605-721-2226

Evening Phone: 605-381-9498

Email Address: vance.crocker@blackhillscorp.com

Please list the specific committee(s) for which you are applying: Rapid City Regional Airport Board

Work and/or business experience related to the committee(s): Foundation/Board of Trustees - Mitchell Technical Institute (MTI); Executive Committee and Board Member - United Way of the Black Hills; Board of Directors - Open Bible Christian Center (OBCC) and several other committees internal to our corporation.

Education, license, certification, & experience: BS Electrical Engineering - SDSU; Registered Professional Engineer (P.E.); Six Sigma Green Belt (business Process Improvement); Graduate Command and General Staff College, Graduate - Leadership Kansas.

Black Hills Power/BHC 1990 –Present: I started my career as a transmission and distribution engineer, moving up to Manager of Transmission Planning, and later to Director of Transmission Services with responsibility for our operations centers and long term high voltage transmission planning for three electric utilities. In 2011, I was promoted to General Manager for the company's gas utility that serves 110,000 customers across Kansas. In 2013, I was promoted to my current role as Vice President of BHP

Operations where I lead the company and am responsible for all aspects of the business. I have significant experience in areas of Legislative, regulatory, financial, operational, communications, safety, engineering and leadership.

Community involvement, activities, service organizations: Past activities include meal server at the Mission, Cosmopolitan Club, United Way fund raising, Walk for Warmth, Day of Caring volunteer, Story Book Island, Citizens Advisory Committee, Junior Achievement.

Additional information/qualifications relevant for the committee or committees to which you are applying: I have a diverse background which I feel would add value and provide contributions to the airport's mission. I am an avid learner and would be very interested in additional contributions to our community through a position on the Rapid City Regional Airport Board. Moreover, air travel is critical to my company which continues to grow and add employees to Rapid City.

The Citizen Interest Application was submitted from the City of Rapid City website. Here are the responses given.

Name: Michelle Thomson

Street Address: 1403 38th Street

City, State, Zip Code: Rapid City, SD 57702

City Resident: Yes

Ward (see link at the top of this page if you are not sure what ward you are in): 5

If you do not reside in City Limits, do you reside within a 3 mile jurisdiction of Rapid City? (Please put NA if you live in City Limits) : NA

Daytime Phone: 605-381-8555

Evening Phone: 605-381-8555

Email Address: michelleathomson@yahoo.com

Please list the specific committee(s) for which you are applying: Rapid City Regional Airport Board of Directors

Work and/or business experience related to the committee(s): 20 years experience in the tourism industry, with an emphasis on destination marketing through 16 years at the Rapid City CVB and my current position as president at Black Hills & Badlands Tourism Assoc.

Education, license, certification, & experience: MA in Tourism, Certified Travel Industry Specialist, Leadership RC graduate

Community involvement, activities, service organizations: Museum Alliance of Rapid City BOD, Rapid City CVB BOD liaison, RC Cultural Plan Steering Committee/Tourism & Local Audience Development Co-Chair

Additional information/qualifications relevant for the committee or committees to which you are applying: I've had a working relationship with airport management for many years, working with them on committees/projects including: Air Service Partnership marketing grant, RC CVB BOD, Air Service Task Force. I am a proud resident of Rapid City and the Black Hills and would be privileged to serve the community on the airport board.

Ronald P. Johnsen
1043 Mountain Springs Lane
Rapid City, SD 57702
Home: 605-719-9633
Fax: 605-719-9634

SUMMARY OF EXPERIENCE

Over twenty-five years of Washington experience and achievement with the legislative and executive branches of the federal government as a government affairs executive with vast experience as an issues director, legal counsel, legislative strategist and coalition builder, lobbyist, PAC manager and fundraiser. Experience and achievements on federal government relations realized in a wide variety of functions including:

- Issue management
- Policy development and implementation
- Political strategy development and implementation
- Development of public affairs policy positions with senior management
- Coordination of corporate internal and external communications
- Coordination of employee's political action committee
- Political Fundraising
- Grass Roots coordination
- PAC administration and fundraising

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

--LEGISLAIVE REPRESENTATIVE, THE COLUMBIA ENERGY GROUP (1974-1999)

Columbia (now a part of Nisource, Inc.) is a Fortune 500 company based in Reston, VA, and is one of the nation's leading energy companies, with assets of more than \$6 billion. Its operating companies are engaged in all phases of the natural gas business, plus marketing, energy management services, telecommunications, propane sales, and electric power, generation sales and trading. Columbia's interstate pipeline and distribution companies, directly or indirectly, serve more than 8 million gas customers—12 percent of the nation's total—in 15 states and the District of Columbia.

MAJOR LEGISLATIVE FOCUS:

Natural gas and other energy policy; taxation; pipeline safety; Public Utility Holding Company Act; electric restructuring; utility subsidies; Clean Air Act and other environmental legislation; FERC Order implementations; SEC orders; privatization opportunities; global climate change.

MISSION:

Represent Columbia and its 17 operating subsidiaries before Congress and federal agencies on key issues.

Establish and maintain liaison with the congressional delegations in the 15 states Columbia operates in, as well as key members from other states, such as congressional committee chairmen.

Analyze and evaluate emerging issues and political trends for their potential impact on Columbia, as well as their potential for significant business development.

Counsel key senior management members on emerging issues, and designed an internal communications system to provide Columbia's other subsidiary management members timely legislative and regulatory information and actions of interest.

Establish and maintain liaison with key professional staff members on key jurisdictional congressional committees.

Create and implement legislative and executive branch strategies for key pending issues.

Develop and maintain industry contacts with trade associations—the American Gas Association, the Interstate Natural Gas Association, US Chamber, National Association of Manufacturers, and the Business Roundtable.

SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS

Achieved favorable depreciation rates for Columbia and the natural gas distribution and pipeline industry in the 1986 Tax Reform Act.

Achieved language in the 1995 Omnibus Reconciliation measure passed by Congress obtaining favorable tax treatment of \$200 million in new Dividend Enhanced Common Stock Columbia planned to issue.

Provided key leadership role in a coalition composed of Columbia, one other gas utility holding company, and 11 electric holding companies, to repeal the New Deal Era Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 which unfairly limited the financing and growth for those 13 utilities under the Act's jurisdiction. In 1996 the jurisdictional Senate Banking Committee voted for the first time ever to repeal the Act. And in 1998 for the first time the full Senate debated another Senate Banking Committee approved repeal measure. Our coalition's efforts laid the foundation for the eventual repeal in the 2005 comprehensive energy bill.

Coordinated the successful gas industry lobbying efforts to defeat the Clinton administration's proposed broad-based Btu tax.

Chaired the American Gas Association's Washington Rep Tax Task Force from 1984 to 1994, and from 1994 to 1996 that of the Interstate Natural Gas Association of America.

EDUCATION

J.D., University of South Dakota School of Law, Vermillion, SD

B.A., University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, MN

RAPID CITY AREA COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITIES

Member of Rapid City Regional Airport Board (2007-13); Past President, and acted as interim airport executive director July-October 2008

Past President of the Rapid City Arts Council (the governing body of the Dahl Arts Center).

Past Vice-President of the Rapid City Community Health Center.

Past Chair of the Rapid City Economic Development Loan Fund

Charter member of the Black Hills National Forest Advisory Board

Administrator of the Catholic Diocese of Rapid City Priest's Retirement Center.