

SECRETARY'S RECORD, NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Commission,) APPLICATION NO. RVF-8
on its own motion, seeking to)
determine the fees for the) ORDER SETTING FEES
Recreational Vehicle Program.)
)
) ENTERED: September 9, 2014

BY THE COMMISSION:

On July 29, 2014, the Nebraska Public Service Commission (Commission) entered an order opening the above-captioned proceeding to determine the appropriate fees for the Recreational Vehicle Program (Program) and to set a hearing. Notice of the proceeding appeared in The Daily Record, Omaha, Nebraska, on August 1, 2014.

The Commission is charged by statute to hold an annual public hearing to determine the level of seal fee and plan review fee necessary to carry out the provisions of the Recreational Vehicle Program (Program) pursuant to the Uniform Standard Code for Recreational Vehicles Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 71-4601 to 71-4620.01 (2012 Cum. Supp.). The seal fees are subject to a statutory minimum of Ten dollars (\$10.00) and a maximum of Seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) per recreational vehicle. The plan review fees are subject to a statutory minimum of Fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per hour and a maximum of Seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) per hour.¹

A Public hearing was held on August 26, 2014 in the Commission Hearing Room.

O P I N I O N A N D F I N D I N G S

Mark Luttich, Director of the Commission's Housing Department, testified on behalf of the Staff. Director Luttich testified regarding plans to hire a new full-time employee (FTE) in the Department due to increased requirements in the Manufactured Home Program instituted by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Director Luttich also discussed the Department's current utilization of the services of independent contractors. The current plan is to reduce the Department's usage of independent contractors as the new FTE becomes fully engaged in all three programs in the Department in the next year.

For the revenue generated by the present fees to cover the current expenses just in the Program, the current seal fee of

¹ Neb. Rev. Stat. 71-4604.01(3) (2012 Cum. Supp.)

Ten dollars (\$10.00) per seal and Fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per hour plan review fee would need to increase to Fourteen dollars (\$14.00) per seal and Nineteen dollars (\$19.00) per hour plan review fee. Director Luttich further testified that if the cost of the new FTE was shared evenly between the three programs in the Department, the fees would need to increase to Fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per seal and Twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per hour plan review fee.

Director Luttich also testified regarding the Public Service Commission Housing and Recreational Vehicle Cash Fund (Cash Fund). He reminded the Commission that in 2013, the fees in all three programs administered by the Department were set to generate less revenue than expenses to begin reducing the balance of the Cash Fund. However, even with the reductions to the Cash Fund, the Cash Fund currently contains more than required to fund the Department's needs with a reasonable reserve.

Therefore, based on his calculations, Director Luttich estimates that to continue to reduce the Cash Fund balance and fund the new FTE, the fees in the Program should remain at the current level of Ten dollars (\$10.00) per seal and Fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per hour plan review fee.

The Commission has been monitoring the situation regarding the funding of the Recreational Vehicle Program and finds that the recommendation of Director Luttich is reasonable and that the fees for the Recreational Vehicle Program should remain at Ten dollars (\$10.00) per seal and Fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per hour plan review fee.

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O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that, pursuant to the Uniform Standard Code for Recreational Vehicles, the fees for the Recreational Vehicle Program should be Ten dollars (\$10.00) per seal and Fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per hour plan review fee, effective October 1, 2014.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 9th day of September, 2014.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Aune Boyle
Tim Schram
Debra
David L. Vap

Frank E. Landis
Chairman

ATTEST:

Steve Meradith
Executive Director

//s//Frank E. Landis