

SECRETARY'S RECORD, NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Nebraska Public
Service Commission, Lincoln, Nebraska,
on its own motion to determine the
service area boundary between Wauneta
and Imperial. }

Application No. C-237

ORDER ON INQUIRY

Entered: April 27, 1982

APPEARANCES: Appearing for Central Nebraska
Telephone Company
Wyman Nelson, Attorney
1645 Front Street
Blair, Nebraska

Appearing for Wauneta Telephone Company
James A. Lane, Attorney
Ogallala, Nebraska

OPINION AND FINDING

BY THE COMMISSION:

Service area maps have been filed by the Central Nebraska Telephone Company, Blair, Nebraska for its Imperial, Nebraska exchange and by the Wauneta Telephone Company, Benkelman, Nebraska for its Wauneta, Nebraska exchange which overlap in the area of Enders, Nebraska.

The telephone companies were unable to agree upon a common boundary therefore the Commission, on its own motion, directed that public hearing be held on March 30, 1982, at 2:00 p.m. in the Commission Hearing Room, Lincoln, Nebraska, for the purpose of determining a boundary.

On March 3, 1982, the Secretary of the Commission sent by certified mail, a letter to all parties interested in this proceeding giving them notice of this hearing.

Two witnesses testified on behalf of the Central Nebraska Telephone Company. Leroy Sieckmeyer testified that the map currently on file by the Central Nebraska Telephone Company for its Imperial exchange has been approved by the Nebraska Public Service Commission through prior Commission proceedings particularly the boundary near Enders, Nebraska which was approved by the Commission in Docket 31775. Mr. Sieckmeyer further testified that facilities were installed to serve the Enders Trailer Court and the Enders Lake Recreation Association Clubhouse which had an initial total cost of \$7,072.00 pursuant to the order of this Commission. In regard to the town of Enders Mr. Sieckmeyer testified that the Imperial exchange serves 28 subscribers in Enders which include subscribers that also have Wauneta service, while he does feel the village of Enders is currently a duplicated service area he would like this duplication eliminated through an order of the Commission.

Mr. Lloyd Hazard testified that he was the local manager for the Imperial exchange of the central Nebraska Telephone Company and that he was not aware of any applications for service from residents of the Enders Trailer Court, which his company was unable to provide.

Mr. Roger Lauhead testified that he owns the Enders Lake Country Club and Trailer Park which he has telephone service from both the Wauneta exchange and the Imperial exchange. He also testified that at the time his residential service was established the Central Nebraska Telephone Company would only provide him a party line with the Country Club while he requested a private line.

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Testimony was presented by Paul Luchsinger engineer for the Wauneta Telephone Company concerning the present facilities owned by the Wauneta Telephone Company in the Enders area. He pointed out that a new 25 pair, 22 gauge T-Screen Cable was buried into Enders, along the route indicated on Exhibit 11, in the fall of 1980. Mr. Luchsinger testified that four subscribers were being served by the cable lead into Enders those being the bank, co-op and two residences. Under cross examination Mr. Luchsinger testified that the original design was for a 25 pair cable into Enders because of potential growth in that area due to lake activity.

Robert Bradley, former owner of the Wauneta Telephone Company, testified that he understood the agreement with the Central Nebraska Telephone Company allowed his company to maintain its service at the Country Club Clubhouse which was done subsequently to the date of the agreement.

Randall Raile, Secretary-Treasurer and local manager for the Wauneta Telephone Company, testified that his company has completed a rural service improvement program and is willing and able to serve any additional subscribers in the Enders area in question. He further testified that the Wauneta Telephone Company serves four subscribers in Enders, of which three also have dual service from the Imperial exchange. These subscribers have indicated they wish to maintain their dual service which Wauneta does not oppose. The four Wauneta services in Enders are provided to the First State Bank, the Farmers Co-op Exchange, C. O. Knotwell and a Mr. Fanning. The service to Mr. Fanning's residence is the only one which does not involve dual service with the Imperial exchange.

The Commission is of the opinion and finds that the Enders area shall be in the Imperial exchange and that all services in the village of Enders shall be provided by the Central Nebraska Telephone Company, however due to the fact service has been historically provided to subscribers in Enders by the Wauneta Telephone Company those subscribers who presently have service from Wauneta may continue such service until such time as they discontinue service or move to another location. At that time and in the future service shall be provided by the Central Nebraska Telephone Company from its Imperial exchange. The Commission is of the opinion that it would be in the best interest of all subscribers if the Wauneta Telephone Company and the Central Nebraska Telephone Company negotiate an agreement that would maximise the use of the cable owned and operated by the Wauneta Telephone Company in the area in question.

The Commission further finds that the Enders Lake Country Club has also historically received service from both telephone companies and may continue such service until such time as they discontinue service or move to another location. At that time and in the future service will only be provided by the Central Nebraska Telephone Company from its Imperial exchange.

The Commission has prepared a map of the area in question which delineates the boundary which is established by order on this inquiry. A copy of this map will be attached to and made a part of this order.

ORDER

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the boundary between the Imperial exchange of the Central Nebraska Telephone Company and the Wauneta exchange of the Wauneta Telephone Company shall be as set forth on the attached map which by this reference is made a part of this order.

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IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Wauneta Telephone Company shall maintain service to the following five subscribers until such time as they discontinue service or move to another location, subsequently these services will be provided by the Central Nebraska Telephone Company.

First State Bank
Farmers Co-op Exchange
C. O. Knotwell
Virgil Fanning
Enders Lake Country Club

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Wauneta Telephone Company shall file a boundary map for its Wauneta exchange which reflects the boundary established by this order.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 27th, day of April, 1982.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Harold D. Simpson
Chairman

ATTEST:

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Duane D. Gay

Terrence L. Hubert
Executive Secretary