

SECRETARY'S RECORD, NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the) Application No. C-4917
Application of Hershey)
Cooperative Telephone Company,) ORDER
Hershey, Nebraska, seeking a)
residential rate increase.) Entered: May 23, 2017

BY THE COMMISSION:

OPINION AND FINDINGS

On or about April 11, 2017, Hershey Cooperative Telephone Company of Hershey, Nebraska, ("Hershey" or "Applicant") filed an application to increase its basic local exchange rates from \$17.50 to \$20.00. Notice was provided as required by Section 86-141(2) and Neb Admin Code tit. 291 ch. 5 § 002.33 to all subscribers who would be affected by the proposed rate adjustment. Such notice was provided on January 12, 2017.

On May 19, 2017, the Director of the Communications Department and Hershey entered into a joint stipulation. The parties stipulated that the proposed rate increase is fair, just, and reasonable as required by Neb. Rev. Stat. §86-147. The parties noted the rates are consistent with or near the approved benchmark range of \$17.95 to \$19.95 established in NUSF-50.¹ The parties also noted that Hershey has not increased its basic local exchange rates in over 15 years. No petitions were filed by the affected subscribers on or before the deadline of April 12, 2017. The stipulating parties agreed a hearing was not necessary unless enough petitions were received to require a hearing.

Based on the foregoing information, the Commission finds that the stipulation should be approved. The Commission further finds the proposed rate should become effective June 1, 2017.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the stipulated agreement between Hershey Cooperative Telephone Company and the Communications Department shall be and it is hereby approved.

¹ See *In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its Own Motion To Make Adjustments To The Universal Service Fund Mechanism Established In NUSF-26*, Docket NUSF-50, Order (December 19, 2006) at para.17.

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IT IS FURTHER ORDERED the proposed rate shall become effective June 1, 2017.

ENTERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 23rd day of May, 2017.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Mary K. Ellis
Crystal Knoodis
Frank E. Landis
//s//Frank E. Landis
//s//Tim Schram

Tim Schram
Chairman

ATTEST:

LeRoy L. Puley
Executive Director