

SECRETARY'S RECORD, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of Blair Blue) Application No. BR-617/B-1958
Community Transportation, LLC,)
Blair, seeking to establish)
its rates and charges subject) GRANTED ON AN EMERGENCY BASIS
to the Provisions of Neb. Rev.)
Stat. Chapter 75, Articles 1)
and 3.) Entered: August 31, 2021

BY THE COMMISSION:

On August 17, 2021, Blair Blue Community Transportation, LLC ("Applicant"), Blair, filed an application for authority to amend its rates by eliminating all previously granted rates and replacing those rates as follows:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Current</u>
Ambulatory Transportation	
Base Rate	\$4.00
Mileage Rate	\$2.25/mile
Standard Wheelchair Transportation:	
Base Rate	\$15.00
First 0 - 5 miles	No Charge
6 miles or more	\$1.66/mile
Attendant Fee	\$5.00/person
Escort/Wait time	\$10.00/hour
Bariatric Wheelchair Transportation:	
Base Rate	\$28.50
First 0-5 miles	No Charge
6 miles or more	\$1.66/mile
Attendant Fee	\$5.00/person
Escort/Wait time	\$10.00/hour
Multiple Stops (all fares that require driver to stop and wait more than 2 different locations for more than 15 minutes before completing round trip or one-way trip)	\$0.50/stop

<u>Description</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Transportation(per car load up to 6 passengers)	
Base Rate	\$10.00
Per mile	\$2.25/mile
Extra Escort/Extended Wait	\$20.00/hour
Multi stops	\$0.50/stop

SECRETARY'S RECORD, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Application No. BR-617/B-1958

Page 2

Event Shuttle

\$50.00 per
car/hour

Emergency action is requested.

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

Applicant is a Nebraska Limited Liability Company with its principal place of business in Blair, Nebraska. Applicant is a certified carrier that holds Certificate B-1958. The Certificate authorizes Applicant to provide transportation of passengers in open class service between points in Thurston, Dakota, Cuming, Burt, Dodge, Washington, Douglas, Sarpy, Saunders, Cass, Otoe, Butler, Colfax, Seward, and Lancaster counties over irregular routes. The transportation of railroad train crews is not authorized, and HHS Designation is yes.

Applicant is seeking to amend its existing rates previously granted under Rate Docket TR-215/B-1958.¹ Applicant proposes rates that consider expenses for providing both ambulatory and wheelchair transportation services without charging a separate, differential rate. Applicant is seeking to charge a base rate of \$10.00, which is an increase from its current ambulatory base rate but a decrease from its current wheelchair base rate. Applicant also seeks to keep its mileage rate at the current charge of \$2.25 per mile, but Applicant seeks to charge this rate beginning at the first mile rather than starting at the sixth mile. Applicant seeks to double its extra escort and extended wait charge to \$20.00 per hour. Applicant further seeks to include an event shuttle rate to its new rates. A review of Applicant's proposed rates in comparison to rates offered by similar carriers for similar services finds that the proposed rates are reasonable.

In applications such as these, the Commission must find that an emergency situation exists. In its request, Applicant states that COVID-19 has lead to an increase in fuel and employment costs that make this requested rate increase necessary to maintain a viable business. Therefore, the Commission finds that an emergency basis exists that allows the Commission to grant the application on an emergency basis.

¹ See Docket No. TR-215/B-1958 *In the Matter of Blair Blue Cab, LLC, Blair, seeking to establish its rates and charges subject to the Provision of Neb. Rev. Stat. Chapter 75, Articles 1 and 3, Granted on Emergency Basis* (Entered: January 28, 2020).

SECRETARY'S RECORD, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Application No. BR-617/B-1958

Page 3

Upon consideration of the application and being fully advised in the premises, the Commission is of the opinion and finds that the application should be granted on an emergency basis effective August 31, 2021.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that Blair Blue Community Transportation, LLC, Blair, Nebraska, be, and is hereby, authorized to amend its rates for its services effective August 31, 2021 as follows:

Description

Rates

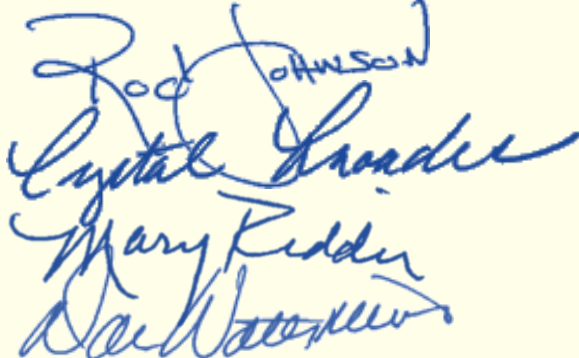
Transportation(per car load up to 6 passengers)	
Base Rate	\$10.00
Per mile	\$2.25/mile
Extra Escort/Extended Wait	\$20.00/hour
Multi stops	\$0.50/stop
Event Shuttle	\$50.00 per car/hour

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that public notice of this action be published in The Daily Record, Omaha, Nebraska, pursuant to the provisions of Section 75-121 and Commission Rules.

ENTERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 31st day of August, 2021.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:




Chair

ATTEST:


Executive Director