

SECRETARY'S RECORD, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the)	Application No. B-1250.01r
Application of Omaha Ambulance)	
Service, Inc., Omaha, seeking)	
to establish its rates and)	ORDER GRANTING RATES IN PART
charges subject to the)	ON AN EMERGENCY BASIS, AND
Provisions of Neb. Rev. Stat.)	DENYING IN PART
Chapter 75, Articles 1 and 3.)	
)	
)	Entered: March 15, 2022

BY THE COMMISSION:

On January 13, 2022, Omaha Ambulance Service, Inc. ("Applicant"), Omaha, filed an application for authority to amend its rates and charges by reestablishing its base rate and mileage charge and incorporating other add-on charges. Emergency action is requested.

OPINION AND FINDINGS

Applicant is a Nebraska Corporation with its principal place of business in Omaha, Nebraska. Applicant is a certificated carrier that holds Certificate B-1250. The Certificate authorizes Applicant to provide transportation of handicapped or incapacitated passengers and their baggage between points in Nebraska over irregular routes.

Applicant is seeking to amend its existing rates previously granted under Rate Docket LR-286.¹ Applicant is seeking to reconfigure its base rate to \$45.00 and its per mileage charge to \$3.00 per mile. Applicant further seeks to increase its oxygen charge to \$15.00. Applicant also proposes the addition of a cleaning charge of \$50.00 applied only to the provision of services to those passengers that are COVID-19 positive. Lastly, Applicant seeks to establish a wait time charge of \$20.00 per every 15 minutes. A review of Applicant's proposed rate in comparison to rates offered by similar carriers for similar services finds that the proposed rate is reasonable.

In applications such as these, the Commission must find that an emergency situation exists. The Commission finds that the

¹ See Docket No. LR-286 *In the Matter of the Prescription of Reasonable Rates and Charges for Motor Carriers Passengers and Property for Hire* subject to the Provisions of Neb. Rev. Stat. (Reissue 1996), Chapter 75, Articles 1 and 3., Granted as Modified on an Emergency Basis (Entered: January 8, 2008).

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increase in fuel costs, employment costs, and operational costs are sufficient to find that an emergency basis exists for granting the reconfiguration of Applicant's base rate and per mileage charge. The proposed rates are in line with the increases experienced by the Applicant and the Commission finds that these increases should be approved on an emergency basis. However, in analyzing the proposed COVID-19 cleaning charge, the Commission is of the opinion and finds that rate cannot be approved without additional information from the Applicant to validate the rates and need for emergency action.

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 in part and denied in part on an emergency basis effective March 15, 2022. The Commission further finds that the Application should be processed pursuant to Commission rules regarding rate applications. Omaha Ambulance Service, Inc.'s complete list of approved rates and charges are attached to this Order as Appendix A.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the application filed by Omaha Ambulance Service, Inc., Omaha, Nebraska be, and it is hereby, granted in part and denied in part to amend its rates for its services as discussed herein effective March 15, 2022, attached hereto as Appendix A.

IT IS FINALLY ORDERED that public notice of this action be published in The Daily Record, Omaha, Nebraska, pursuant to the provision of Neb. Rev. Stat. § 75-121 and Commission Rules.

ENTERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 15th day of March, 2022.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Rod Johnson
Cystal Shroeder
Mary Kadden
Tim Schram

Don W. Golden
Chair

ATTEST:

Thomas W. Golden
Executive Director

Nebraska Public Service Commission
Prescribed Rates and Charges Subject to the Provisions of
Neb. Rev. Stat. Chapter 75, Articles 1 and 3

RATES AND CHARGES

<u>Description</u>	<u>Rates</u>
Wheelchair Van Service (one-way)	\$45.00
Mileage Rate	\$3.00/mile
Oxygen Charge	\$15.00
COVID positive Cleaning Charge	\$50.00/only when client is COVID positive
Wait Time	\$20.00/15 minutes
<i>LR-240 Effective 9/23/2003; LR-286 Effective 1/8/2008; B-1250.01r Effective 3/15/2022</i>	