

# SECRETARY'S RECORD, NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

## BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the ) APPLICATION NO. BR-287  
Prescription of Reasonable Rates )  
and Charges for Motor Carriers ) GRANTED  
Passengers and Property for Hire )  
subject to the Provisions of ) ENTERED: October 7, 2003  
Neb. Rev. Stat. (Reissue 1996), )  
Chapter 75, Articles 1 and 3.

BY THE COMMISSION:

### OPINION AND FINDINGS

On July 14, 2003, Laidlaw Transit, Inc, Omaha, Nebraska, filed an application for authority to amend its charter bus rates as follows:

Description (See Note)	Current Rate	Proposed Rate
1. Rate per hour	\$30.00	\$32.50
2. Rate per mile (Loaded or unloaded)	1.80	1.85
3. Subject to a minimum charge	90.00	97.50

Note: Charges are based on either the mileage or the hourly rate, whichever is greater.

Notice of the application was published in The Daily Record, Omaha, Nebraska, on July 24, 2003, pursuant to the Commission's rules. The application was not protested.

Applicant is a certificated common carrier which holds Certificate B-1275. The certificate authorizes the transportation of passengers and their baggage by bus between points in Nebraska over irregular routes.

According to the Applicant, its expenditures for vehicle maintenance, facilities, and utilities continue to rise. Additionally, maintenance and staff wages have increase 7.5%, and charter driver wages have increased 3% with an additional 2.5% increase scheduled to be in place soon. The labor market in Omaha is such that a competitive wage is necessary to maintain quality employees.

Applicant's current rates were authorized in March 2002. The requested rates are an increase averaging approximately 5.5% (an increase of \$2.50 for the hourly rate and \$0.05 for the mileage rate). The proposed rates are similar to rates on file and authorized for use by other charter bus companies offering similar services and utilizing similar type of equipment. The

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requested rates are consistent with the Applicant's interstate charter bus rates.

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.

ORDER

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that Laidlaw Transit, Inc, Omaha, Nebraska, be, and it is hereby, authorized to amend its charter bus rates as follows:

Description (See Note)	Rate
1. Rate per hour	\$32.50
2. Rate per mile (Loaded or unloaded)	1.85
3. Subject to a minimum charge	97.50

Note: Charges are based on either the mileage or the hourly rate, whichever is greater.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

*Lowell Johnson*

Chair

*Anne C. Boyle*

ATTEST:

*James E. [unclear]*

*Adrian Pollack*

Executive Director

//s//Anne C. Boyle