

SECRETARY'S RECORD, NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application) APPLICATION NO. BR-477
of Papio Transport Service,)
Inc., Papillion, Nebraska,)
seeking to amend its rates and) GRANTED ON AN EMERGENCY
charges subject to the) BASIS
Provisions of Neb. Rev. Stat.)
(Reissue 2014), Chapter 75,)
Articles 1 and 3.)
ENTERED: MARCH 24, 2015

BY THE COMMISSION:

OPINION AND FINDINGS

On March 19, 2015, Papio Transport Service, Inc., Papillion, Nebraska, filed an application for authority to amend rates for its use in its operations as follows:

Description	Current Rate	Proposed Rates
Regular Rate	\$20.00 one way	\$32.00 one way
Additional Passenger	\$10.00	Delete
Mileage Rate	\$1.66/loaded mi	\$1.66/loaded mi

Emergency action is requested.

Applicant is a certificated common carrier which holds Certificate Number B-1733. The certificate authorizes the transportation of passengers in open class service over irregular routes between points in Douglas and Sarpy counties and between points in said counties. HHS Designation: Yes. Transportation of Railroad Train Crews: No.

The Applicant received authority to operate from the Commission under Certificate Number B-1733 on April 21, 2009. The Applicant is amending its rates for use in this certificate.

The Applicant is seeking to raise its rates from \$20.00 per trip one way to \$32.00 per trip one way. The Applicant is also proposing the deletion of the Additional Passenger Charge. The proposed rates would not change the mileage rate of \$1.66 per mile.

The Applicant had rates that were approved by the Commission on June 18, 2013, that included a \$32.00 per one way trip charge in addition to the current mileage rate. On March 11, 2014, the Applicant proposed that its one way trip charge be reduced to the current \$20.00 per trip. The Applicant cited

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that it was changing the focus of the service it provided to one that was primarily for ambulatory individuals, as Handivan Transports had entered the market and was to provide wheelchair transportation in Douglas and Sarpy counties.

The primary justification for this increase is that the Applicant is reentering the wheelchair transportation market and is seeking to enter into contracts with entities seeking their services as a wheelchair provider that are willing to pay the requested \$32.00 per trip. In particular, the service is requested to be provided in Sarpy County.

The proposed rate for service of \$32.00 appears to be reasonable. Other companies are receiving \$33.00 or more for wheelchair transportation, and the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Service is able to authorize over \$39.00 per trip for one-way transportation of this service type. The Commission approved the rate of \$32.00 per trip on May 10, 2013, for Handivan Services, which also operates in the Omaha area. The proposed rate is also the same rate as was approved for this Applicant in 2013.

In applications such as these, the Commission must find that an emergency situation exists. Such a situation exists in this application. The Applicant has requested that the rate be changed so that it can take advantage of a contract that will allow it to benefit from the proposed rates. The Applicant should be placed in a position that will allow it to make use of the proposed rates for the contract and not place the Applicant in a position that will negatively impact its ability to pursue this contract fully.

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 April 3, 2015.

ORDER

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that effective April 3, 2015, Papio Transport Service, Inc., Papillion, Nebraska, be, and it is hereby, authorized to amend rates for its use as follows:

Description	Rates
Regular Rate (first 13 miles)	\$32.00 one way
Mileage Rate	\$1.66/loaded mile

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IT IS FURTHER ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that public notice of this action be published in the Daily Record, Omaha, Nebraska, pursuant to the provisions of Section 75-121. R.R.S. 2014, and the Commission's Rules.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 24th day of March, 2015.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Tim Schram

Frank E. Landis

//s//Frank E. Landis
//s//Gerald L. Vap

Chairman

Gerald L. Vap

ATTEST:

Steve Meredith

Executive Director