### BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the	)	APPLICATION NO. TR-151
Prescription of Reasonable	)	
Rates and Charges for Motor	)	GRANTED AS MODIFIED
Carriers Passengers and	)	ON AN EMERGENCY BASIS
Property for Hire Subject to	)	
The provision of Neb. Rev. Stat.	)	
(Reissue 2004), Chapter 75,	)	ENTERED: November 29, 2005
Articles 1 and 3.	)	

BY THE COMMISSION:

### OPINION AND FINDINGS

On October 28, 2005, Jim Blundell, d/b/a MG Taxi Service of York, Nebraska, filed an application for authority to amend its rates for its operations as follows:

Description	C	Current	Proposed	
(A) Within York City Limits I-80 Interchange		5.00	\$7.00	
Senior Citizen Rate (SCR)	\$	4.00	\$5.00	
(B) Any Town within a 10-mi Of York City Limits	\$	10.00 18.00 (RT)	\$18.00 \$30.00	
SCR	·	8.00 16.00 (RT)	\$15.00 \$20.00	
(C) Service York to Lancast County		35.00	\$78.00 \$132.00 E	R7
SCR	\$	30.00	\$65.00 \$110.00 F	RΤ
(D) Service York to Sarpy a Douglas County		60.00	\$150.00 \$250.00 F	₹T
SCR	\$	54.00	\$125.00 \$210.00 F	Т?
(E) Within Seward City Limi including I-80 Interchange	ts,		\$7.00	
SCR	(1) -		\$5.00	
(F) Within Milford City Lim including I-80 Interchange	its		\$7.00	
SCR	-		\$5.00	

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(G) Any town within ten miles		
of Seward		\$18.00
		\$30.00 RT
SCR		\$15.00
		\$25.00 RT
(H) Any town within ten miles		
of Milford		\$18.00
		\$30.00 RT
SCR		\$15.00
		\$25.00 RT
(I) Any other service not covered		
above is at a per mile rate	\$3.00 first mile	\$5.00 first
Additional miles	\$1.00	\$1.50
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If mileage radius is specified it is only to the extent of the area for which the authority has been granted.

Round trip (RT) include a minute wait. Any additional wait time will be charged \$1.00 per minute in accordance with the above rate.

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Emergency action is requested.

Applicant is a certificated common carrier which holds Certificate B-1665. The certificate authorizes the transportation of passengers and their baggage between points in York, Seward, Polk, Saline, Fillmore, Hamilton and Butler counties, on the one hand, and, on the other hand, points in Sarpy, Douglas, Lancaster, Hall and Adams counties over irregular routes.

In support of the application, the applicant stated to the Commission that the requested rates are based upon his costs of doing business and improving the business that he acquired through transfer on August 9, 2005.

The application requests increases that range from twenty percent to one hundred and fifty percent. These proposed increases are in this amount primarily due to the previous owner of the certificate holder not having applied for an increase since it last increase granted in June of 1995. The Applicant is also establishing rates to be used in Seward and Milford.

The Commission is of the opinion and finds that the proposed rates are not supported under the circumstances. Increases in the amounts proposed have too great an impact on the general public, and requests for increases must be made more often than every ten years.

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After consultation with Commission staff, the Applicant verbally amended its application. It has proposed that an adjustment as set forth below would help meet its initial needs. The increases set forth below range from twenty to around fifty percent. While the Commission does not usually approve of increases of this size, it understands that the Applicant did not create this situation and that the rates as set forth, if approved, would still be considerably under what many providers are currently charging. It is a proposal that relatively well-balances the needs of the public to avoid large increases with the needs of the current Applicant, who does need a major adjustment in his rates through no fault of his own.

The Applicant is encouraged to apply for timely rate increases in the future. Applying as necessary on a more frequent basis would allow for smaller increase that will minimize the impact of future increase on the general public while allowing for better cash flows for the Applicant.

The Commission finds that the rates set forth below are competitive with other companies providing similar services, and that they are found to be reasonable under the circumstances

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 as modified on an emergency basis effective September 29, 2005.

### ORDER

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that effective December 5, 2005, Jim Blundell d/b/a MG Taxi Service of York, Nebraska, be, and it is hereby, authorized to amend its rates for its use in Certificate No. B-1665 as follows:

Description		
(A) Within York City Limits including I-80 Interchange	\$7.00	-
Senior Citizen Rate (SCR)	\$5.00	
(B) Any Town within a 10-mile Radius Of York City Limits	\$15.00 \$25.00	
SCR	\$11.00 \$19.00	
(C) Service York to Lancaster County	\$50.00	
	\$83.00	RT
SCR	\$40.00 \$67.00	RT

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(D) Service York to Sarpy and Douglas County		\$90.00 \$150.00 RT
SCR		\$65.00 \$110.00 RT
(E) Within Seward City Limits, including I-80 Interchange		\$7.00
SCR		\$5.00
(F) Within Milford City Limits including I-80 Interchange	7	\$7.00
SCR		\$5.00
(G) Any town within ten miles of Seward		\$15.00 \$25.00 RT \$11.00 \$19.00 RT
(H) Any town within ten miles of Milford		\$15.00 \$25.00 RT
SCR		\$11.00 \$19.00 RT
(I) Any other service not covered above is at a per mile rate	\$3.00 first mile	\$4.00 first
Additional miles	\$1.00	\$1.50
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If mileage radius is specified it is only to the extent of the area for which the authority has been granted.

Round trip (RT) include a minute wait. Any additional wait time will be charged \$1.00 per minute in accordance with the above rate.

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IT IS FURTHER ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service that notice of this amendment to their rates be conspicuously displayed within each taxicab.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that public notice of this action be published in the <u>Daily Record</u>, Omaha, Nebraska, pursuant to the provisions of Section 75-121. R.R.S. 2003, and the Commissions Rules.

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MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska this  $29^{\text{th}}$  day of November, 2005.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Vice - Chairman

ATTEST:

//s// Rod Johnson

//s// Frank E. Landis

Executive Director