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BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of Friendship)
Village of West County for a Certificate of) Case No. TA-98-490
Service Authority to Provide Competitive Intra-)
state Interexchange Telecommunications Services.)
)

ORDER APPROVING INTEREXCHANGE CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE AUTHORITY
AND ORDER APPROVING TARIFF

Friendship Village of West County (Friendship Village) applied to the Public Service Commission on May 1, 1998, for a certificate of service authority to provide intrastate interexchange telecommunications services in Missouri under Section 392.440, RSMo 1994.¹ Friendship Village asked the Commission to classify it as a competitive company and waive certain statutes and rules as authorized by Sections 392.361 and 392.420. Friendship Village is a Missouri corporation, with its principal office located at 15201 Olive, Chesterfield, Missouri 63017.

The Commission issued a Notice of Applications and Opportunity to Intervene on May 12, directing parties wishing to intervene to file their requests by May 27. The requirement for a hearing is met when the opportunity for hearing has been provided and no proper party has requested the opportunity to present evidence. State ex rel. Rex Deffenderfer Enterprises, Inc. v. Public Service Commission, 776 S.W.2d 494, 496 (Mo. App. 1989). Since no one has asked permission to intervene or

¹ All statutory references are to the Revised Statutes of Missouri 1994 unless otherwise indicated.

requested a hearing, the Commission may grant the relief requested based on the verified application.

Friendship Village filed a proposed tariff in conjunction with its application and filed substitute sheets on May 27. The tariff's effective date is June 15. Friendship Village's tariff describes the rates, rules, and regulations it intends to use, identifies Friendship Village as a competitive company, and lists the waivers requested. Friendship Village intends to provide interexchange telecommunications services including 1+ services, directory assistance, debit card services, and travel card services.

In its Memorandum filed on June 5 the Staff of the Commission stated that Friendship Village's proposed services are similar to existing IXC offerings. Staff recommended that the Commission grant Friendship Village a certificate of service authority, competitive status, and waiver of the statutes and rules listed in the Notice. Staff recommended that the Commission approve the proposed tariff as amended to become effective on June 15.

The Commission finds that competition in the intrastate interexchange telecommunications market is in the public interest and Friendship Village should be granted a certificate of service authority. The Commission finds that the services Friendship Village proposes to offer are competitive and Friendship Village should be classified as a competitive company. The Commission finds that waiving the statutes and Commission rules set out in the ordered paragraph below is reasonable and not detrimental to the public interest.

The Commission finds that Friendship Village's proposed tariff details the services, equipment, and pricing it proposes to offer, and is

similar to tariffs approved for other Missouri certificated interexchange carriers. The Commission finds that the proposed tariff filed on May 1 shall be approved as amended to become effective on June 15.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That Friendship Village of West County is granted a certificate of service authority to provide intrastate interexchange telecommunications services in the state of Missouri, subject to all applicable statutes and Commission rules except as specified in this order.

2. That Friendship Village of West County is classified as a competitive telecommunications company. Application of the following statutes and regulatory rules shall be waived:

Statutes

392.240(1) - ratemaking
392.270 - valuation of property (ratemaking)
392.280 - depreciation accounts
392.290 - issuance of securities
392.310 - stock and debt issuance
392.320 - stock dividend payment
392.340 - reorganization(s)
392.330, RSMo Supp. 1997 - issuance of securities,
debts and notes

Commission Rules

4 CSR 240-10.020 - depreciation fund income
4 CSR 240-30.010(2)(C) - rate schedules
4 CSR 240-30.040 - Uniform System of Accounts
4 CSR 240-32.030(1)(B) - exchange boundary maps
4 CSR 240-32.030(1)(C) - record-keeping
4 CSR 240-32.030(2) - in-state record-keeping
4 CSR 240-32.050(3) - local office record-keeping
4 CSR 240-32.050(4) - telephone directories
4 CSR 240-32.050(5) - call intercept
4 CSR 240-32.050(6) - telephone number changes
4 CSR 240-32.070(4) - public coin telephone
4 CSR 240-33.030 - minimum charges rule
4 CSR 240-33.040(5) - financing fees

3. That the tariff filed by Friendship Village of West County on May 1, 1998, is approved as amended to become effective on June 15, 1998.
The tariff approved is:

P.S.C. MO. No. 1

4. That this order shall become effective on June 15, 1998.
5. That this case shall be closed on June 22, 1998.

BY THE COMMISSION



Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(S E A L)

Shelly A. Register, Regulatory
Law Judge, by delegation of
authority pursuant to 4 CSR
240-2.120(1) (November 30, 1995)
and Section 386.240, RSMo 1994.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 10th day of June, 1998.

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**COMMISSION COUNSEL
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**