

THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

Before Commissioners:                   Chairman Mark Sievers  
  Ward Loyd  
  Thomas E. Wright

In the Matter of the Application of Bluestem    )  
Telephone Company d/b/a Fairpoint    ) Docket No. 12-BSTT-621-TAR  
Communications to Increase the Basic Local    )  
Access Line Rates.                            )

**ORDER ASSESSING COSTS**

The above-captioned matter comes before the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas (Commission) for consideration and determination. Having examined its files and records and being fully advised in the premises, the Commission finds and concludes as follows:

1. K.S.A. 66-1502 authorizes the Commission to assess the expenses of an investigation, opened on its own motion, against public utilities if the expenses reasonably attributable to such investigation exceed the sum of \$100. The Commission will utilize members of its Staff in this investigation, and as deemed appropriate by the Commission, employ special assistants and consultants to investigate all matters connected with this proceeding. The Commission finds that the expenses reasonably attributable to this investigation will exceed \$100. The Commission concludes that the costs of this proceeding should be assessed to Bluestem Telephone Company d/b/a Fairpoint Communications. This order constitutes notice of the assessment of costs and the assessment will begin three days after the date this order is mailed. Bluestem Telephone Company d/b/a Fairpoint Communications is given notice that it

may request a hearing as to the necessity of the investigation or the assessment of costs, in accordance with the provisions of the Kansas Administrative Procedure Act.

IT IS, THEREFORE, BY THE COMMISSION ORDERED THAT:

A. Bluestem Telephone Company d/b/a Fairpoint Communications is assessed the costs of this investigation.

B. The parties have fifteen days, plus three days if service of this order is by mail, from the date this order was served in which to petition the Commission for reconsideration of any issue or issues decided herein. K.S.A. 66-118b; K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 77-529(a)(1).

C. The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and parties for the purpose of entering such further orders as it may deem necessary.

BY THE COMMISSION IT IS SO ORDERED.

Sievers, Chmn; Loyd, Com.; Wright, Com.

Dated: FEB 22 2012



ORDER MAILED FEB 22 2012

Patrice Petersen-Klein  
Executive Director

PLEASE FORWARD THE ATTACHED DOCUMENT (S) ISSUED IN THE ABOVE-REFERENCED DOCKET TO THE FOLLOWING:

NAME AND ADDRESS	NO. CERT. COPIES	NO. PLAIN COPIES
PATRICK MORSE BLUESTEM TELEPHONE COMPANY, INC. PO BOX 199 DBA FAIRPOINT COMMUNICATIONS DODGE CITY, KS 67801-0199		
OTTO NEWTON, LITIGATION COUNSEL 1500 SW ARROWHEAD ROAD TOPEKA, KS 66604 ***Hand Delivered***		
TOM MAURER, DIRECTOR TELCOM SUPPORT SERVICES 2800 SW WINDERMERE DRIVE TOPEKA, KS 66614-4895		

ORDER MAILED FEB 22 2012

The Docket Room hereby certified that on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, it caused a true and correct copy of the attached ORDER to be deposited in the United States Mail, postage prepaid, and addressed to the above persons.