BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application of The Blair Telephone Company, Blair, and Arlington Telephone Company, Blair, seeking to transfer the authority granted to Arlington Telephone Company by the Commission to The Blair Telephone Company.	)	Application No. C-3404 GRANTED Entered: May 24, 2005

BY THE COMMISSION:

On March 23, 2005, The Blair Telephone Company (Blair) and Arlington Telephone Company (Arlington or, jointly, Applicants) both of Blair, filed a joint application seeking to transfer the authority granted to Arlington by the Commission to Blair. Notice of the application was published in The Daily Record, Omaha, Nebraska, on April 8, 2005. No protests were filed; therefore, this application is processed pursuant to the Commission's Rule of Modified Procedure.

O P I N I O N A N D F I N D I N G S

The Parties:

Blair and Arlington are Nebraska corporations with their principal offices located in Blair, Nebraska. HunTel Systems, Inc. (Huntel), also a Nebraska corporation, is the sole shareholder of both Blair and Arlington. The Commission approved Huntel's acquisition of control of Blair and Arlington on June 30, 1998, in Application C-1815.

Description of the Transaction:

Applicants request Commission approval for a transaction that will merge Blair and Arlington into a single corporation to be known as The Blair Telephone Company. The merger will also result in the transfer of authority granted to Arlington to Blair. Upon the merger becoming effective, the corporate existence of Arlington shall cease, and the issued and outstanding stock of Arlington shall be extinguished. The issued and outstanding stock of Blair at the time of the merger will continue to be owned by HunTel. Applicants anticipate that the merger will become effective on January 1, 2006, but acknowledge that the closing and transfer of authority is subject to, and contingent upon, approval of this application by the Commission.

Printed with soy ink on recycled paper

Applicants contend that granting of this application will serve the public interest, convenience and necessity particularly to the subscribers in Arlington. Furthermore, Blair is technically and managerially capable of providing service to Arlington's subscribers, and control of The Blair Telephone Company under HunTel will remain consistent.

The Blair Telephone Company shall continue to provide service to its customers and the proposed transaction will be seamless to customers of Arlington and Blair. Furthermore, the transaction will not change the rates, terms, or conditions under which Arlington provides service.

Based on the evidence, we find the application to be fair and reasonable and in the public interest. The application should be granted. The Commission further finds that the Blair Telephone Company must notify the Commission once the transaction has been consummated. The Blair Telephone Company shall provide an updated tariff and cancel any outdated tariffs within thirty (30) days from the date the merger is completed.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that Application C-3404 be, and it is hereby, granted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Blair Telephone Company notify the Commission once the transaction has been completed and that it file an updated tariff as prescribed herein.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 24th day of May, 2005.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chairman

ATTEST:

Executive Director

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

Printed with soy ink on recycled paper