Service Date: November 13, 2019

# BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In re Joint Application for authority to transfer all rights under certificate of public convenience and necessity C-1075 from:

ISLAND AIRPORTER LLC,

to:

WEIGESHOFF TRANSPORTATION LLC, d/b/a ISLAND AIRPORTER

**DOCKET TC-190849** 

ORDER 01

**AUTHORIZING TRANSFER** 

## BACKGROUND

- On October 9, 2019, Island Airporter LLC (Island Airporter) and Weigeshoff Transportation LLC, d/b/a Island Airporter, (Weigeshoff Transportation) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) a joint application (Joint Application) for authority to transfer all rights under certificate of public convenience and necessity C-1075 (Certificate C-1075) from Island Airporter to Weigeshoff Transportation pursuant to Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 480-30-141(2).
- Commission staff (Staff) evaluated the Joint Application and recommends the Commission approve it. Staff's review shows that Weigeshoff Transportation has sufficiently demonstrated that it has the knowledge, experience, and resources to provide all services necessary under Certificate C-1075, and that it is fit, willing, and able to comply with state law and the requirements of chapter 480-30 WAC.

#### DISCUSSION

RCW 81.68.040 provides that auto transportation companies must apply for and obtain from the Commission a certificate declaring that the public convenience and necessity require its proposed operations. The statute also requires the Commission to authorize any transfer or sale of an existing auto transportation certificate. WAC 480-30-126 requires that the applicant purchaser have the knowledge, experience, and resources to provide the existing service, and that the applicant is fit, willing, and able to comply with state law and Commission rules.

- We agree with Staff's recommendation and approve the Joint Application. First, Weigeshoff Transportation states in the Joint Application that it will adopt Island Airporter's existing tariff, with the addition of flexible fare pricing. We are satisfied that Weigeshoff Transportation has the knowledge, experience, and resources to provide the existing service, and that it is fit, willing, and able to comply with state law and Commission rules.
- Second, no person objected to the Joint Application. As such, we find that the public convenience and necessity continue to require the operations described in Certificate C-1075.
- In light of these factors, we conclude that the proposed transfer of all rights from Island Airporter to Weigeshoff Transportation is consistent with the public interest.

## FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 7 (1) The Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate the rates, rules, regulations, practices, accounts, and affiliated interests of public service companies, including auto transportation carriers.
- 8 (2) Island Airporter is an auto transportation company and a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- 9 (4) Under RCW 81.68.040 and WAC 480-30-141(1), the Commission must approve any sale of an auto transportation company's certificate.
- WAC 480-30-141(2) requires parties to a transaction to file jointly an application with the Commission to obtain approval of any sale, assignment, lease, transfer, or mortgage of an existing auto transportation certificate.
- On October 9, 2019, Island Airporter and Weigeshoff Transportation filed with the Commission a Joint Application for authority to transfer all rights under Certificate C-1075 from Island Airporter to Weigeshoff Transportation.

12 (7) After reviewing the Joint Application and giving due consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission finds the proposed transfer of all rights under Certificate C-1075 from Island Airporter to Weigeshoff

Transportation is consistent with the public interest, and concludes that the Joint Application should be approved.

## **ORDER**

## THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- The Joint Application filed in Docket TC-190849 to transfer all rights in the state of Washington from Island Airporter LLC to Weigeshoff Transportation LLC, d/b/a Island Airporter, is approved.
- Certificate of public convenience and necessity C-1075 is reissued to Weigeshoff Transportation LLC, d/b/a Island Airporter, as described in the attached Appendix A.
- Granting authority for the transfer of rights under a certificate does not necessarily approve the amount involved in the transaction, nor does it bind the Commission to recognize the amount in placing a value for rate-making purposes on the property of the certificate holder.
- 16 (4) The tariff and time schedule for Weigeshoff Transportation LLC, d/b/a Island Airporter, filed in connection with this Joint Application, will become effective at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the service date of this Order.

The Commission has delegated authority to the Secretary to enter this Order under RCW 80.01.030 and WAC 480-07-905.

DATED at Olympia, Washington and effective November 13, 2019.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MARK LJOHNSON,

Executive Director and Secretary

# APPENDIX A

Weigeshoff Transportation LLC, d/b/a Island Airporter 213 Petrich Road Friday Harbor, WA 98250 Certificate No. C001075

PASSENGER SERVICE BETWEEN: San Juan Island and the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport via the Washington State Ferry Service in Anacortes.

Closed-door service between San Juan Island and the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport.

Note: All passengers must have Seattle-Tacoma International Airport as an origin or destination.