

Phone rate confusion

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5½¢ for the first minute and 2½¢ for each additional minute; from 13-16 miles, 6¢ for the first minute and 3¢ for each additional minute, and for 17 miles and over, 6½¢ for the first minute, and 3½¢ for each additional minute.

Although Morris said a detailed breakdown of each call will not be included on the new PNB one-page bills sent out on October 1st and thereafter, business customers can obtain such a breakdown, but for a cost of ¼¢ per call.

During the first three months of the new rates, PNB will automatically select the lowest billing option for its business customers, Morris said, with a fee of \$2.50 per month after that for maintaining the lowest option up to

a maximum of a \$40 telephone bill. Morris said many of these changes are necessary because of the court-ordered breakup of the AT&T telecommunications system in January. "We're like the chef who's told to put the broken eggs back together, and the only way to do that is to make an omelette."

One member of the audience complained that customers have been encouraged for many years to use the telephone system, and now are being penalized for doing so. He said being charged for each and every outgoing call could boost significantly the costs of operating a small business.

"Some customers will pay considerably more," Morris responded, "and some customers will pay considerably less."



Portland Community College President John Anthony accepts \$14,400 from Stewart Rollins, U.S. Small Business Administration Portland district office manager for assistance in the Cascade Small Business Development Center.

Groups receive grants

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• **Chicano Affairs Center, Eugene:** \$1,150 and \$1,500 for two projects—one to hold educational meetings on issues important to the Hispanic community as the fall elections approach, and one to provide outreach to Hispanics in prison and public education about why there are so many Hispanics in Oregon jails;

• **Columbia River Fishers Defense, Portland and Hood River:** \$1,500 to help defend Umatilla and Hood River Native Americans arrested for alleged illegal fishing in traditional waters;

• **Comunidad Unida para Justicia (Community United for Justice), Woodburn:** \$1,700 to help investigate charges of police abuse against Hispanic people; insure fair hiring in the police force, and promote officer training in the Spanish language;

• **Oregon Human Serve Voter Registration, Portland:** \$1,400 to support a voter registration drive among low-income residents in the Tri-County area around Portland, where 80% of the state's voters live;

• **Oregonians Against the Death Penalty, Portland:** \$1,500 to provide public education on the disproportionately high number of ethnic minorities and poor people

executed for crimes, and

• **Vietnamese Association of Eugene:** \$1,500 for citizenship training and acculturation classes for refugees from Vietnam.


Other groups funded will spend their grants on such diverse projects as Portland's annual Hobo Parade; educational seminars on AIDS; canvassing drives on Central America issues; outreach to rural women on abortion rights.

In order to qualify for future MRG grants, recipient groups must evaluate their funded projects for quality of planning and success when the grant period of six months to a year is up.

MRG is increasing its donor base each year, according to Jensen, which he said emphasized the growing interest people have with investing money in productive purposes.

Reflecting this concern was MRG's Workshop on Socially Responsible Investment held in April here in Portland which attracted hundreds of participants.

MRG plans to hold another such workshop in Portland this fall. For more information on any of the foundation's activities, contact Jensen at 1-485-2790, or write to 454 Willamette, Eugene OR 97401.

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