

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of Custer County,) Application No. 911-023.04
Broken Bow, seeking funding)
approval for recurring and non-) ORDER APPROVING FUNDING FOR
recurring costs of Enhanced) EQUIPMENT
Wireless 911 implementation.)
) Entered: October 14, 2009

BY THE COMMISSION:

On or about April 14, 2009, Custer County, Broken Bow, (Custer County) filed a funding request seeking \$624.52 from the Enhanced Wireless 911 Fund (Fund) for the purchase and installation of IP phones. The amount requested represented fifty-five percent of the cost of the IP phones. The remaining forty-five percent would be borne by Custer County.

On April 25, 2007, after hearing, the Commission entered an order approving funding to Custer County for two IP phones located at the two 911 workstations but denying those portions of the funding request related to a single IP phones located at a supervisor's desk and used for backup purposes. Based upon information contained in Custer County's most recent funding request it was unclear whether the request is duplicative of the prior request or whether these are additional phones necessary for the operation of the 911 equipment beyond those already purchased. In order to make a determination regarding Custer County's funding request, the Commission held a hearing on the matter.

Representatives from Custer County explained that the IP phones requested were actually headsets necessary to avoid the delay caused by utilizing the current handset versions. Therefore, the request was not duplicative of the prior request and the installation of the headsets would improve the ability to receive and process 911 calls. Custer County has already paid the vendor in full for the cost of the headsets.

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

Based upon the information presented, the Commission finds that the two IP headsets located at the 911 workstations are an integral part of the 911 equipment installed to receive Phase II wireless 911 calls.

The Commission finds that costs for two IP headsets requested are eligible under Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-465 as they

have been incurred or will be incurred for the purchase, installation, maintenance or operation of telecommunications equipment and telecommunications services required for the provision of enhanced wireless 911 service. Therefore, the Commission finds that costs of two IP headsets as requested are approved and payment shall be made to Custer County to reimburse it for fifty-five percent (55.0%) of the cost of the equipment pursuant to their request.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Commission that request for funding for two IP telephones shall be and is approved and that payment in an amount requested shall be made to Custer County pursuant to their request.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska this 14th day of October, 2009.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chairman

ATTEST:

Executive Director