

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Nebraska) Application No. 911-042.72
Public Service Commission, on)
its own motion, seeking to)
administer funding for public) ORDER APPROVING USE OF
safety answering points for the) FUNDING, IN PART
implementation and provision of)
Enhanced Wireless 911 service:)
Kearney County.) Entered: May 27, 2015

BY THE COMMISSION:

On or about February 25, 2015, Kearney County filed a request to use the enhanced wireless 911 set aside funds toward the upgrade of existing Phase II 911 equipment, telephones and a recorder.

The costs sought are shared costs subject to the wireless/wireline ratio. Kearney County has a wireless ratio for the 2014-2015 funding year of 76% wireless. Therefore, Kearney County requested approval to use its set aside funds toward 76% of the total cost of \$111,002.05.

The Wireless Enhanced 911 Advisory Board considered the request at its March 2, 2015 meeting and recommended the request be approved with the exception of the costs related to the telephone upgrade.

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

The Nebraska Public Service Commission (Commission) adopted the permanent cost model to administer funding for public safety answering points for the implementation and provision of Enhanced Wireless 911 service under Docket No. 911-019/PI-118.

Based upon the request, supporting documentation, and in consideration of the recommendation of the Advisory Board, the Commission is of the opinion and finds that the costs requested are eligible under Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-465 as costs 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.

Pursuant to the permanent funding mechanism, PSAPs are permitted to retain up to seventy-five percent (75%) of the amount

allocated to that PSAP for the future purchase of equipment and software. Specifically, Kearney County is seeking authority to expend its set-aside funds as follows: a Positron Viper upgrade in the amount of \$56,281.85, an Eventide Recorder upgrade in the amount of \$13,592.60, and a Shortel telephone upgrade in the amount of \$14,487.10. However, only those telephones necessary for the receipt and processing of wireless 911 calls are eligible for funding. Therefore, only two (2) of the thirteen (13) telephones requested are eligible costs. Based upon the information provided, \$2,228.79 of the \$14,487.10 is eligible.

Based upon the above, the Commission finds that Kearney County's request to use set aside funds for the purchase of equipment and software should be approved, in part. The Commission finds that Kearney County may use set aside funds up to \$72,103.24 in costs representing 76% of the total costs based the wireless ratio on file with the Commission.

Because the purchase and installation of the equipment and software may span two funding years and the wireless/wireline ratio may change, Kearney County must enter into the contract for the purchase prior to June 30, 2015 in order to utilize its set aside funds at the current wireless/wireline ratio. Should the contract not be finalized by that time, Kearney County must resubmit its application so that the applicable ratio can be applied.

Pursuant to Docket 911-019/PI-118, Kearney County is responsible for paying for maintenance attributable to the provision of wireless enhanced 911 service from its allocation.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the funding request for Kearney County is hereby approved, in part, as set forth herein not to exceed \$72,103.24 in costs representing the wireless ratio on file with the Commission.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the contract for the purchase of the equipment and software must be prior to June 30, 2015.

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MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska this 27th day of May, 2015.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Crystal Knodes

Tim Schram

//s//Tim Schram

//s//Frank E. Landis

Tim Schram
Vice-Chairman

ATTEST:

Steve Meredith
Executive Director