

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Nebraska) Application No. 911-042.23
Public Service Commission, on)
its own motion, seeking to)
administer funding for public) ORDER APPROVING FUNDING,
safety answering points for the) IN PART
implementation and provision of)
Enhanced Wireless 911 service:)
Perkins County.) Entered: February 8, 2011

BY THE COMMISSION:

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

On or about January 6, 2011, the Perkins County Sheriff's Office on behalf of Perkins County (Perkins County) filed a request for funding to upgrade existing Phase II 911 equipment at a cost of \$26,984.20. Perkins County stated in its application that it does not have sufficient funds accumulated to pay for the purchase and asks that the Commission pay the costs based upon the PSAPs' filed wireless call volumes and deduct an appropriate amount from future allocations.

Therefore, Perkins County has requested actual costs of \$15,920.68 for the equipment upgrade, representing 59% of the total costs based upon wireless call volumes.

The Wireless Enhanced 911 Advisory Board considered the request at its January 24, 2011 meeting and recommended the request be approved.

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. Pursuant to the permanent funding mechanism, Perkins County is receiving a monthly payment in the amount of \$1,053.31.

Based upon the request for funding, supporting documentation, and in consideration of the recommendation of the Advisory Board, the Commission is of the opinion and finds that a portion of 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. However, PSAPs are not required to wait to apply for funding for these items until they have saved sufficient funds from their monthly allocation to cover the cost. To the extent that there is an insufficient balance in the PSAP's equipment and software fund, after an accounting is received of the funds the PSAP has available, the Commission will pay the appropriate percentage of the cost of the equipment and software and a deduction will be made from the future annual allocation to the PSAP until the expense is reimbursed to the Fund.

Based upon the above, the Commission finds that funding request for Perkins County should be approved in the amount of **\$15,920.68**. Consistent with the allocation determined in Docket 911-019/PI-118, a deduction in the amount of **\$265.35** shall be made from Perkins County's monthly allocation over a sixty-month period commencing once payment has been made.

The sixty-month deduction period allows Perkins County to continue saving funds from their monthly allocation to cover any future purchases of equipment and software and still reimburse the Fund. This reimbursement period should not be viewed as a standard repayment period for all funding requests for a PSAP's equipment and software. The Commission will determine the appropriate length of time for Fund repayment on a case-by-case basis based upon the amount requested, the PSAP's monthly allocation and other relevant factors.

Pursuant to Docket 911-019/PI-118, Perkins County must be responsible for paying for that portion of the maintenance attributable to the provision of wireless enhanced 911 service from its allocation as the equipment and software program established under the permanent funding mechanism does not contemplate advancing funds for maintenance agreements.

Should Perkins County wish to be heard by the Commission regarding those portions of the funding request denied herein it shall notify the Commission in writing **within fifteen (15) days** of this order and the matter will be set for hearing.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the funding request for the Perkins County Sheriff's Office is hereby approved, in part, as set forth herein in the amount of **\$15,920.68**.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a deduction in the amount of **\$265.35** shall be made from Perkins County's monthly allocation over a sixty-month period, commencing once payment has been made.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska this 8th day of February, 2011.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chairman

ATTEST:

Executive Director