BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Nebraska	)	Application No. 911-042.61
Public Service Commission, on	)	
its own motion, seeking to	)	
administer funding for public	)	ORDER APPROVING FUNDING
safety answering points for the	)	
implementation and provision of	)	
Enhanced Wireless 911 service:	)	
Otoe County.	)	Entered: December 8, 2015

BY THE COMMISSION:

On or about March 30, 2010, the Nebraska Public Service Commission (Commission) opened the above-mentioned docket, on its own motion, seeking to administer funding for public safety answering points for the implementation and provision of Enhanced Wireless 911 service pursuant to the permanent funding mechanism.[1]

On June 30, 2015, Otoe County, along with Cass, Clay, Fillmore, Jefferson, Johnson, Nemaha, Nuckolls, Seward, and Thayer Counties; York County 911; the City of Beatrice; City of Falls City; and the Lincoln Emergency Communications Center (together, "Applicants") filed applications to use set aside funds for the purchase of new equipment that will result in fourteen PSAPs covering the city of Crete and fifteen counties: Cass, Clay, Fillmore, Gage, Jefferson, Johnson, Lancaster, Nemaha, Nuckolls, Otoe, Pawnee, Richardson, Saline, Seward, Thayer and York.

Each Applicant submitted a request to use set aside funds in order to share in the cost of new equipment for a networked/shared solution. According to the documentation, each PSAP will purchase equipment to integrate into the new system and provide answering stations for the individual PSAP. The network "backroom" equipment will be purchased in duplicate and networked for redundancy. The total one-time cost for the shared equipment is $2,280,822.86 with pro rata costs based upon the following formula: half of the shared costs will be divided based on the proportion of population served by the PSAP, and the other half of the shared costs will be divided based on the

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[1] Neb. Admin. Code Title 291, Ch. 15 (July 16, (2011); *In the Matter of the Commission, on its own motion, seeking to investigate and determine costs eligible for funding from the Enhanced Wireless 911 Fund pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-465(2)(b) and (c)*, Application No. 911-054/PI-181, Order Amending List of Eligible Expenses (Apr. 17, 2012).

proportion of the total number of 911 trunks utilized by the PSAP.

The costs sought are subject to the wireless/wireline ratio. The following is a summary of the amounts to be paid from wireless set aside funds subject to each PSAP's wireless ratio:

PSAP	Total Non-Recurring Costs	2015-2016 Wireless Ratio	Total Non-Recurring Eligible Costs
Cass County	$155,536.01	78%	$121,318.09
City of Beatrice	$114,873.89	72%	$ 89,747.28
City of Falls City	$ 81,264.21	67%	$ 54,447.02
Clay County	$ 84,679.70	70%	$ 42,085.81
Fillmore County	$ 84,275.81	56%	$ 47,194.45
Jefferson County	$115,551.72	65%	$ 75,108.62
Johnson County	$ 69,675.48	59%	$ 41,108.53
Lincoln Emergency Communications	$699,826.00	80%	$689,216.00
Lincoln Emergency Communications (Backup Center)	$134,324.00	80%	$107,459.20
Nemaha County	$ 90,157.39	71%	$ 64,011.75
Nuckolls County	$ 77,683.00	64%	$ 51,200.29
Otoe County	$130,707.66	70%	$ 91,495.36
Seward County	$105,282.01	76%	$ 83,600.00
Thayer County	$ 83,865.73	57%	$ 47,803.47
York County	$ 99,172.81	77%	$ 76,363.06
Total Costs	$2,280.822.86		$1,682,158.93

Applicants also filed documentation regarding monthly recurring costs for networking. These costs are eligible costs under Docket No. 911-019/PI-118. Monthly recurring costs of maintenance on the shared equipment and networking between shared "backroom" equipment is $11,565.00 and will be pro-rated in the same manner as the one-time costs. However, due to the fact that these costs will be paid with annual allocated funds, it is not necessary to approve those specific amounts in this Order.

The Enhanced Wireless 911 Advisory Board considered the request at its July 13, 2015, meeting and recommended that the Commission approve the funding requests subject to the wireless/wireline ratio.

On October 2, 2015, Mission Critical Partners provided the Commission with a technical review of the project. The Commission sent each PSAP a copy of the technical review via email on October 15, 2015.

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.

Based on the above, the Commission finds that Otoe County's request to use set aside funds for the purchase of equipment should be approved. The Commission finds that Nemaha County may use set aside funds up to **$91,495.36** for eligible non-recurring costs. Because funds may need to be expended across funding years and the wireless/wireline ratio may change, the Commission finds that funds should be expended at the wireless ratio established within the year that funds are expended.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the funding request for Otoe County is hereby approved as set forth herein.

ENTERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE at Lincoln, Nebraska this 8th day of December, 2015.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chairman

ATTEST:

Executive Director