

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Commission,) Application No. 911-051/
on its own motion, seeking to) PI-177
investigate payments from the)
Enhanced Wireless 911 Fund for) ORDER DETERMINING
certain contracts for) ELIGIBILITY FOR FUNDING
Geographical Information Systems)
(GIS) data services.)
) Entered: August 2, 2011
)

BY THE COMMISSION:

The Nebraska Public Service Commission opened the present docket on its own motion, seeking to investigate payments from the Enhanced Wireless 911 Fund for certain contracts for Geographical Information Systems (GIS) data and consulting services.

The Commission had received inquiries from public safety answering points (PSAPs) regarding whether funds from the Enhanced Wireless 911 Fund could be used to pay all costs of certain consulting contracts for GIS data services or whether the costs of such contracts are subject to the wireless/wireline allocation factor as outlined in Application No. 911-019/PI-118.

Hearing was held on the matter on July 12, 2011. Commission staff was represented by Angela Melton. Written comments were received from GeoComm and the Buffalo County Sheriff's office and entered into the record. Sue Vanicek testified on behalf of Commission staff recommending that all GIS related services be subject to the wireless/wireline allocation factor.

F I N D I N G S A N D C O N C L U S I O N S

The Commission previously stated with respect to the use of funds, "GIS data services are shared costs between wireless and wireline 911 and are therefore subject to the wireless/wireline ratio, unless a higher wireless call volume has been demonstrated by the PSAP."¹ Therefore, current costs related to GIS data services are subject to the allocation and may not be fully funded by enhanced wireless 911 funds. Although the costs

¹ *In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its own motion, to implement provisions of LB 1222 [2006] and to establish a permanent funding mechanism for wireless enhanced 911 service, Application 911-019/PI-118, Progression Order No. 1, at 2 (April 6, 2010).*

at issue may have been labeled wireless only, the fact remains that GIS data and mapping are utilized in receiving and mapping both landline and wireless 911 calls and should be maintained comprehensively. Parsing GIS services between wireless and landline 911 could lead to less efficient, piecemeal maintenance of the data resulting in higher costs and duplication of services. Based upon the record before us, we find no compelling reason to deviate from the current approach.

Therefore, the Commission finds that GIS data and consulting costs are subject to the wireless/wireline allocation factor or the individual call volume ratio demonstrated by the PSAP and may not be fully funded by the Enhanced Wireless 911 Fund.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that costs related to Geographical Information Systems (GIS) data and consulting services are subject to the wireless/wireline allocation factor or the individual call volume ratio demonstrated by the PSAP and may not be fully funded by the Enhanced Wireless 911 Fund.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 2nd day of August, 2011.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chairman

ATTEST:

Executive Director

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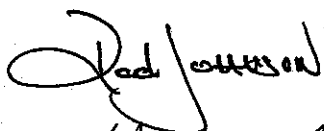

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NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

//s//Frank E. Landis
//s//Tim Schram


Chairman

ATTEST:

Executive Director