BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Commission, on its own motion, seeking to investigate and determine whether additional funds from the Enhanced Wireless 911 Fund should be made available to public safety answering points for costs to implement text to 911 solutions: Boyd-Holt Joint E-911 Dispatch.	) Application No. 911-060.32)))))) ORDER APPROVING APPLICATION))))) Entered: June 16, 2016

BY THE COMMISSION:

On May 6, 2014, the Nebraska Public Service Commission (Commission) entered an order on its own motion seeking to investigate and determine whether additional funds from the Enhanced Wireless 911 Fund should be made available to public safety answering points (PSAPs) for costs to implement text to 911 solutions.

On November 4, 2014, the Commission released Progression Order No. 3 in this docket, setting out the procedure to fund text to 911 outside the cost model for PSAPs ready to implement technology solutions on an interim basis. The staff proposal adopted, set out the application process for PSAPs seeking interim funding for text to 911 solutions.

On December 7, 2015, the Boyd-Holt Joint E-911 Dispatch ("Boyd-Holt") submitted an application in this docket requesting text to 911 funding for a Direct IP solution. The application listed $20,496.60 in non-recurring costs and $333.82 in monthly recurring costs for 36 months.

The Enhanced Wireless 911 Advisory Board considered Boyd-Holt's funding request at its February 22, 2016 meeting and recommended that the Commission approve the request. The Advisory Board also recommended that the Commission open a docket so that discussion could be had about the costs of text to 911.

Subsequent to the Advisory Board meeting, Boyd-Holt filed an alternative solution, VPN, to reduce costs of text to 911. The amended application requests $3,000.00 in non-recurring costs and $540.00 per month for 36 months in recurring costs.

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

According to Neb. Rev. Stat. 86-465(2), costs incurred by public safety answering points for the provision of enhanced wireless 911 service may be eligible for payment from the Enhanced Wireless 911 Fund, according to standards and criteria established by the Commission.

Pursuant to the staff proposal adopted in Progression Order No. 3 in this docket, the Commission may approve funding requests for text to 911 technology solutions costs such as text control center contracts, staff training, trunks necessary for additional text traffic, other costs related to the provision of text to 911 services not attributed more generally to 911 emergency response services. Progression Order No. 3 further specified that the Commission intended to limit approval of text to 911 related service contracts to no more than three years.

The application was reviewed by technical subject matter experts, Mission Critical Partners, who advised the Commission that the technology proposed by Boyd-Holt was Next Generation 911 compatible and covered all wireless carriers currently deploying text to 911. MCP held no reservation in the technical design of the solution.

The Commission finds the application submitted by Boyd-Holt contains eligible costs under the interim text to 911 funding orders. PSAPs must submit invoices for payment by the Commission or submit invoices with evidence of payment for reimbursement to the PSAP from the Enhanced Wireless 911 Fund.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the text to 911 technology solution funding request submitted by Boyd-Holt Joint E-911 Dispatch be, and is hereby, approved in an amount not to exceed **$3,000.00** non-recurring costs and **$19,440.00** in monthly recurring costs over a 36 month period.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Boyd-Holt Joint E-911 Dispatch submit required documentation to justify all expenditures for payment or reimbursement from the Enhanced Wireless 911 Fund.

ENTERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 16th day of August, 2016.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chairman

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

ATTEST:

Deputy Director