

SECRETARY'S RECORD, NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Commission,) Application No. 911-060.64
on its own motion, seeking to)
investigate and determine)
whether additional funds from)
the Enhanced Wireless 911 Fund) ORDER MODIFYING FUNDING
should be made available to)
public safety answering points)
for costs to implement text to)
911 solutions: Sarpy County.) Entered: May 23, 2017.

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 January 27, 2015, the Commission entered an Order approving Sarpy County's funding request, in part, in an amount not to exceed \$26,307.90 for a Direct IP solution and staff training.¹ On June 16, 2016, the Commission entered an Order approving an increase in Sarpy County's funding authorization to an amount not to exceed \$29,620.50, in response to a revised funding request reflecting changes in the delivery of text to 911 service to Sarpy County by CenturyLink.²

¹ *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: Sarpy County, Order Approving Application, In Part, Application No. 911-060.64 (Jan. 27, 2015).*

² *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: Sarpy County, Order Approving Application, Application No. 911-060.64 (June 16, 2016).*

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On February 22, 2017, the Commission entered an Order approving Sarpy County's funding request in the amount of \$7,500.00 for the purchase and installation of equipment and software to create redundant network connectivity between the Sarpy County PSAP telephony system and the Text Control Center.³ Such redundancy had been recommended by technical subject matter experts, Mission Critical Partners (MCP), to address single point of failure risk in the Sarpy County Text to 911 solution.

On April 28, 2017, Sarpy County submitted an application to the Commission for additional funding of \$150.00 per month for 36 months, for a total of \$5,400.00, to cover a recurring monthly connection fee payable to West Safety Solutions Corp. for providing the redundant connection to the text control center. Such connection will be used solely for text-to-911 purposes.

The Wireless 911 Advisory Board considered Sarpy County's application for funding at its May 8, 2017, meeting and recommended that the Commission approve the request.

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 Commission finds that the funding request submitted by Sarpy County should be approved. PSAPs must submit invoices for

³ 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: Sarpy County, Order Approving Application, Application No. 911-060.64 (February 22, 2017).

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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 funding request submitted by Sarpy County for \$150.00 per month be and hereby is approved for 36 months as set forth herein, in a total amount not to exceed \$5,400.00.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Sarpy County 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 23rd day of May, 2017.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Mary Riddle

Crystal Unwaded

Bob Johnson

//s//Frank E. Landis

//s//Tim Schram

Tim Schram

Chairman

ATTEST:

Jeffrey J. Peltz

Executive Director